



# Infrastructure

To a large degree, a region's basic infrastructure — its water and energy supplies and transportation systems — can determine its economic viability. It can be the determining factor for business locations, drawing or attracting a talented work force and ensuring that residents of the area have a high quality of life.

The South Texas region has many infrastructural advantages, due in large part to its location. Like the rest of the state, however, the region also faces challenges in maintaining its infrastructure and expanding it to serve the needs of the area's growing population and economy.

## Water

In Texas' southernmost region, two famous rivers — one an international boundary, the other a historical territorial limit — account for almost 80 percent of its water supplies.<sup>1</sup> These rivers, the Rio Grande and the Nueces, receive supplies from their tributaries and the international reservoirs on the Rio Grande, as well as the Lavaca River basin north of the region.

The land between the two rivers is rich in early Spanish, Mexican and Texas history. From the days of the Texas Revolution onward, Mexico claimed the land from the Rio Grande to the Nueces as its own. The Rio Grande was not recognized as an international boundary until the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, which ended the Mexican War.<sup>2</sup>

*The Rio Grande was not recognized as an international boundary until the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, which ended the Mexican War.*



Anzalduas Bridge Construction, McAllen, Texas

PHOTO: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Barbara Schlieff



South Texas has distinct subregions. In the north, the southern reaches of the Edwards Plateau in Val Verde, Edwards, Real, Uvalde and Kinney counties provide the state and nation with cattle, sheep and goats. The nearby Winter Garden area in Dimmit, La Salle and Zavala counties includes vast fields of vegetables grown year-round. In the western region is the city of Laredo, the “Gateway to Mexico” and international commerce. The southernmost counties along the Rio Grande—Starr, Hidalgo, Willacy and Cameron—are collectively known as “the Lower Rio Grande Valley,” famous for citrus and other fruit crops. In between is the “Brush Country,” known for its hunting and its famous ranches, especially the King Ranch and the Kenedy Ranch.

In addition to the surface waters in the Rio Grande and Nueces rivers, four major aquifers in the region provide groundwater that is used primarily for crop irrigation. The region is much more dependent on surface water, however. In 2004, South Texas used almost four times more surface than groundwater.

Average annual rainfall in the region ranges from 20 to 35 inches, with rainfall increasing as one travels from northwest to southeast. Statewide rainfall averages range from 10 inches annually in far West Texas to 55 inches in the Beaumont and Port Arthur area.<sup>3</sup>

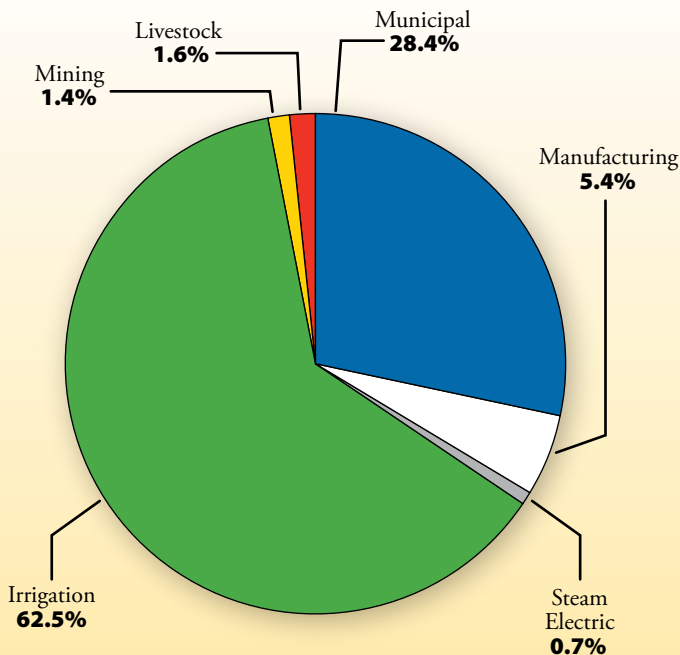
In 2004 (the most recent data available), irrigation accounted for 62.5 percent of all water use in the South Texas region (**Exhibit 30**). The region also uses water for municipal water systems, manufacturing, livestock, mining and electricity.<sup>4</sup>

The South Texas region covers all or parts of four water planning regions, as designated by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). This includes all of Region M (Rio Grande) from Maverick County to the Gulf, and Region N (Coastal Bend), centered on the city of Corpus Christi. Also included is most of Region J (the Plateau), except for Kerr and Bandera counties, and five counties (but only about 3 percent of the population) of Region L (South Central Texas), which extends north and east from Dimmit County through Bexar County and then south and east to the Gulf of Mexico (**Exhibit 31**).

Under state law, water planners must estimate their area’s water supply and use over a 50-year period; the current planning horizon ends in 2060. Based on actual data from 2000, the region’s planners project that overall water use in the South Texas region

Exhibit 30

**South Texas Region Total Water Use, 2004**

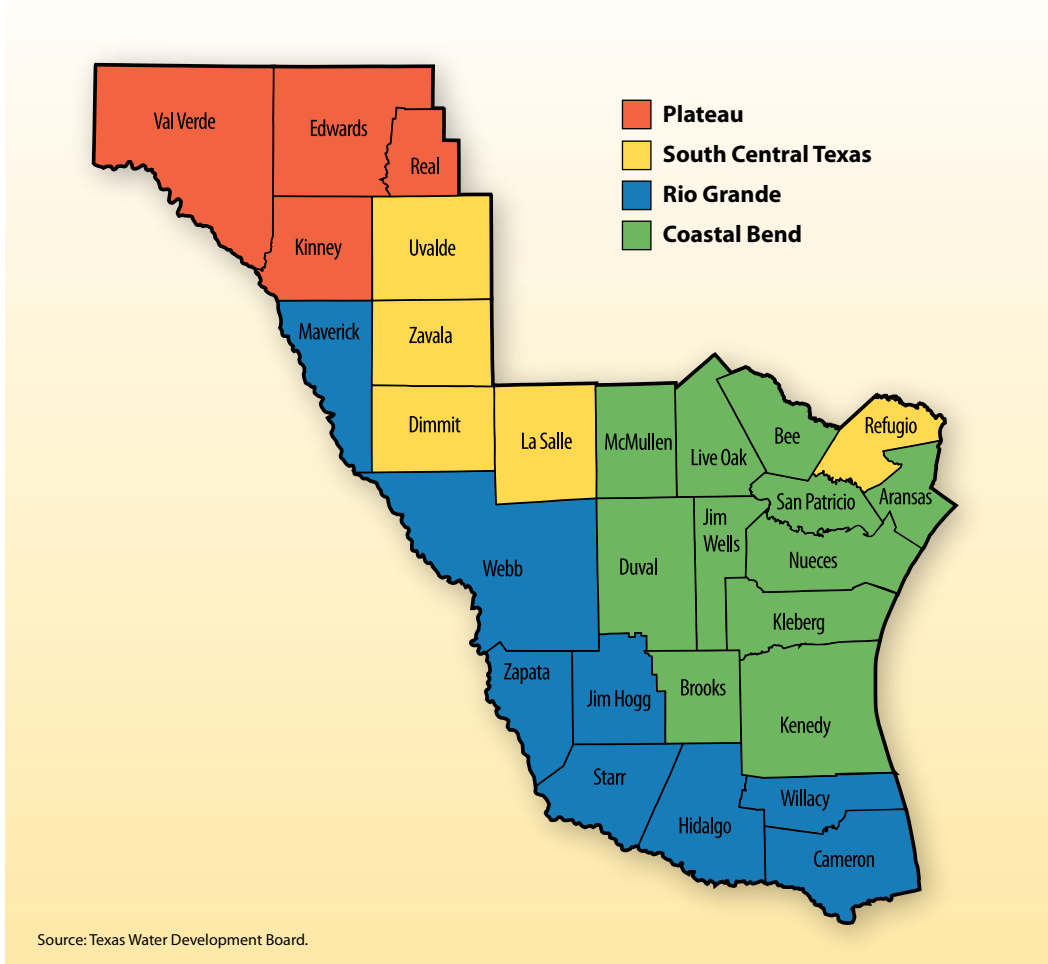


Sources: Texas Water Development Board and Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.



Exhibit 31

**Regional Water Planning Groups in South Texas**



South Texas accounts for nearly half of Texas' coastline along the Gulf of Mexico.

will increase by 68.3 percent by 2060, to 2,156,005 acre-feet. One acre-foot of water equals 325,851 gallons, roughly the annual consumption of two to three households in Texas. A regulation Olympic-sized swimming pool holds about two acre-feet.

Every economic sector is expected to increase its water consumption. The manufacturing and mining sectors combined are expected to account for about 6 percent of the region's water use in 2060, as was the case in 2000.

As a result of large urban and suburban population growth, the relative share of

regional water demand for livestock and irrigation is expected to decrease over time, scoring almost a 12 percent drop for the entire 2000-2060 period, while the share of water used for electricity generation and municipal consumption is expected to increase by roughly 12 percent (**Exhibit 32**).<sup>5</sup>

**Surface Water**

South Texas accounts for nearly half of Texas' coastline along the Gulf of Mexico. Fresh water flowing into coastal bays and estuaries is essential to the ecosystems that



Exhibit 32

**South Texas Actual and Projected Total Water Use by Sector, 2000-2060 (In acre-feet)**

Sector	2000 Actual	2020 Projected	2040 Projected	2060 Projected
Irrigation	810,470	1,254,880	1,139,880	1,126,486
Municipal	357,600	499,926	653,940	821,150
Manufacturing	61,964	79,090	89,715	101,034
Livestock	19,569	21,507	21,507	21,507
Mining	17,928	22,498	23,713	25,566
Steam Electric	13,874	31,176	42,875	60,262
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,281,405</b>	<b>1,909,077</b>	<b>1,971,630</b>	<b>2,156,005</b>

Source: Texas Water Development Board.

Exhibit 33

**South Texas Major Rivers, River Basins and Coastal Bays**



Source: Texas Water Development Board.



support the fishing, shrimp and oyster industries, in addition to tourism.

As noted earlier, the South Texas region depends heavily on the Nueces and Rio Grande rivers for its water. But these rivers also provide fresh water to the San Antonio, Aransas and Corpus Christi bays and the Laguna Madre (**Exhibit 33**).

South Texas water management has some unique features. The region contains the only two reservoirs Texas shares with Mexico, Falcon Lake and Lake Amistad, and the only channel dams on the Rio Grande that provide water for crop irrigation, Anzalduas and Retamal. These facilities, in addition to miles of levees and a weir (a low dam) in Brownsville, are owned and controlled by the International Boundary and Water Commission (**Exhibit 34**).

Amistad is one of Texas’ largest reservoirs, with more than three million acre-feet of capacity. The National Park Service maintains the Amistad National Recreation Area

(NRA) near Del Rio in Val Verde County. Amistad NRA is the U.S. portion of the reservoir and is known for excellent water-based recreation, prehistoric rock pictographs and a wide variety of plant and animal life.<sup>6</sup>

The Anzalduas Diversion Dam in the Lower Rio Grande Valley is designed to divert irrigation water into Mexico and floodwaters into the U.S. The Retamal Dam further downstream diverts Rio Grande floodwaters into Mexico.<sup>7</sup>

As of late June 2008, most major reservoirs and lakes in South Texas were in very good shape heading into the summer growing season. Amistad was 117 percent full; Falcon was at 52 percent, Choke Canyon, 92 percent and Lake Corpus Christi Reservoir, 84 percent.<sup>8</sup>

South Texas contains portions of two river authorities that manage the region’s intrastate surface water. The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority manages that river from its Hill Country origins down to its mouth in Refugio

*The South Texas region contains the only two reservoirs Texas shares with Mexico, Falcon Lake and Lake Amistad.*

Exhibit 34

**Major Reservoirs and Lakes in the South Texas Region**

Reservoir/ Lake Name	River Basin	Year 2010 projected yield (acre-feet)	Conservation storage capacity (acre-feet)
*Amistad Reservoir, International	Rio Grande	1,067,310	3,151,267
Anzalduas Channel Dam	Rio Grande	No water supply function	13,910
Casa Blanca Lake	Rio Grande	0	20,000
Choke Canyon Reservoir	Nueces	168,299	695,271
**Lake Corpus Christi	Nueces	NA	257,260
Delta Lake	Nueces-Rio Grande	No water supply function	14,000
*Falcon Reservoir, International	Rio Grande	NA	2,653,760
Loma Alta Lake	Nueces-Rio Grande	Storage	26,500
Upper Nueces Lake	Nueces	0	5,200
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,235,609</b>	<b>6,837,168</b>

\* Projected yield from the international reservoirs is the Texas portion only; storage capacity is that of the entire reservoir.  
 \*\*The lake is operated as part of a system, so no individual reservoir yield totals are available.  
 Source: Texas Water Development Board.



### International Water Management

The International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC), established in 1889, is responsible for managing all waters shared by the U.S. and Mexico from San Diego, California, to Brownsville, excluding maritime waters in the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. The U.S. section of IBWC is a federal agency headquartered in El Paso under the guidance of the U.S. State Department. With its Mexican counterpart, IBWC enforces provisions of the 1944 "Utilization of Waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande" treaty between the two countries, in addition to several earlier treaties and subsequent amendments (called "minutes").

Of particular interest to Texas is the IBWC's management of the 1,254 miles of the Rio Grande international border (known as the Rio Bravo in Mexico). The U.S. is entitled, under the treaty, to all the waters reaching the main channel of the Rio Grande from several specific creeks on the U.S. side; one-third of the flows from six specific tributaries in Mexico; and one-half of all flows into the main Rio Grande channel downstream from the abandoned Civil War-era Fort Quitman, which is itself about 80 miles downstream from El Paso (**Exhibit 35**).<sup>9</sup>

Given the importance of water to both countries, the treaties have been the subject of almost constant revision and interpretation since their signing.

Most recently, a dispute involving water-sharing arose between the two countries during a time of intense drought in the 1990s and early 2000s. The legal dispute was resolved when Mexico repaid 1.5 million acre-feet to the U.S. in September 2005. Some Texas farmers and irrigation districts in the Rio Grande Valley, however, have pursued damage claims in international courts under the provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), alleging that Mexico illegally withheld water owed to Texas, causing the parties severe economic losses.

The claims of the Texas parties were denied by a NAFTA arbitration panel and, in May 2008, a Canadian trial court refused a motion by the Texas interests to overturn that decision. In June 2008, the Texans decided not to appeal their case.

Exhibit 35  
**International Boundary Water Commission Facilities, 2004**



- 1. Amistad Dam
- 2. Laredo-Nuevo Laredo Sanitation
- 3. Falcon Dam
- 4. Anzalduas Dam
- 5. Retamal Dam
- 6. Aquatic Plant Control Projects
- Lower Rio Grande Flood Control

Source: International Boundary and Water Commission.



County; the Nueces River Authority manages water from the river’s northern origins in Edwards and Real counties down to the river’s mouth in Nueces and San Patricio counties.

### Groundwater

In all, the South Texas region relies less heavily on groundwater supplies than surface water, although its northern counties generally make greater use of the aquifers than the southern counties. In 2004, groundwater supplied a fifth (21.1 percent) of the region’s water (**Exhibit 36**).

Irrigation accounted for more than 65 percent of the region’s groundwater use; another

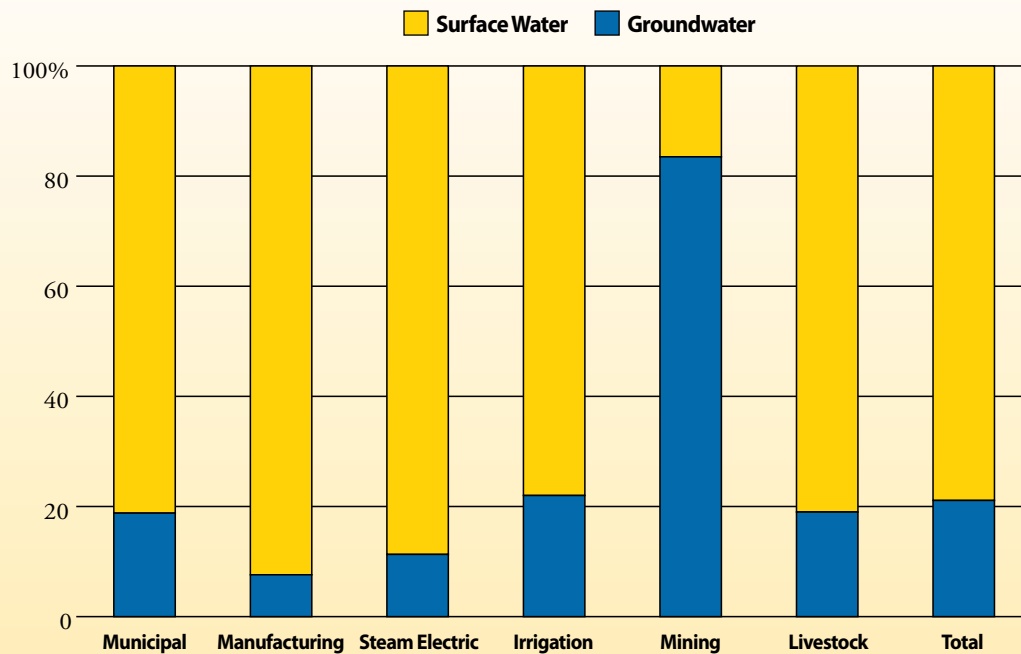
quarter went to municipal supplies. The mining sector used 5.5 percent of the groundwater total; it is also the only economic sector that used more groundwater than surface water.<sup>10</sup>

Groundwater comes from aquifers, water-bearing layers of permeable rock, sand or gravel within the earth. The South Texas region sits above portions of four major aquifers and small parts of three minor aquifers (**Exhibits 37 and 38**).<sup>11</sup>

State laws approved in 1999 and 2001 encourage the use of groundwater conservation districts (GCDs or GWCDs), led by locally elected or appointed officials, to manage groundwater sources. The South Texas region

Exhibit 36

### South Texas Region Water Sources, by Sector, 2004



In acre-feet:

	261,318	56,159	7,157	552,185	2,571	14,477	893,867
	60,663	4,625	908	155,964	13,024	3,394	238,578

Sources: Texas Water Development Board and Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.



Exhibit 37

### Major South Texas Aquifers

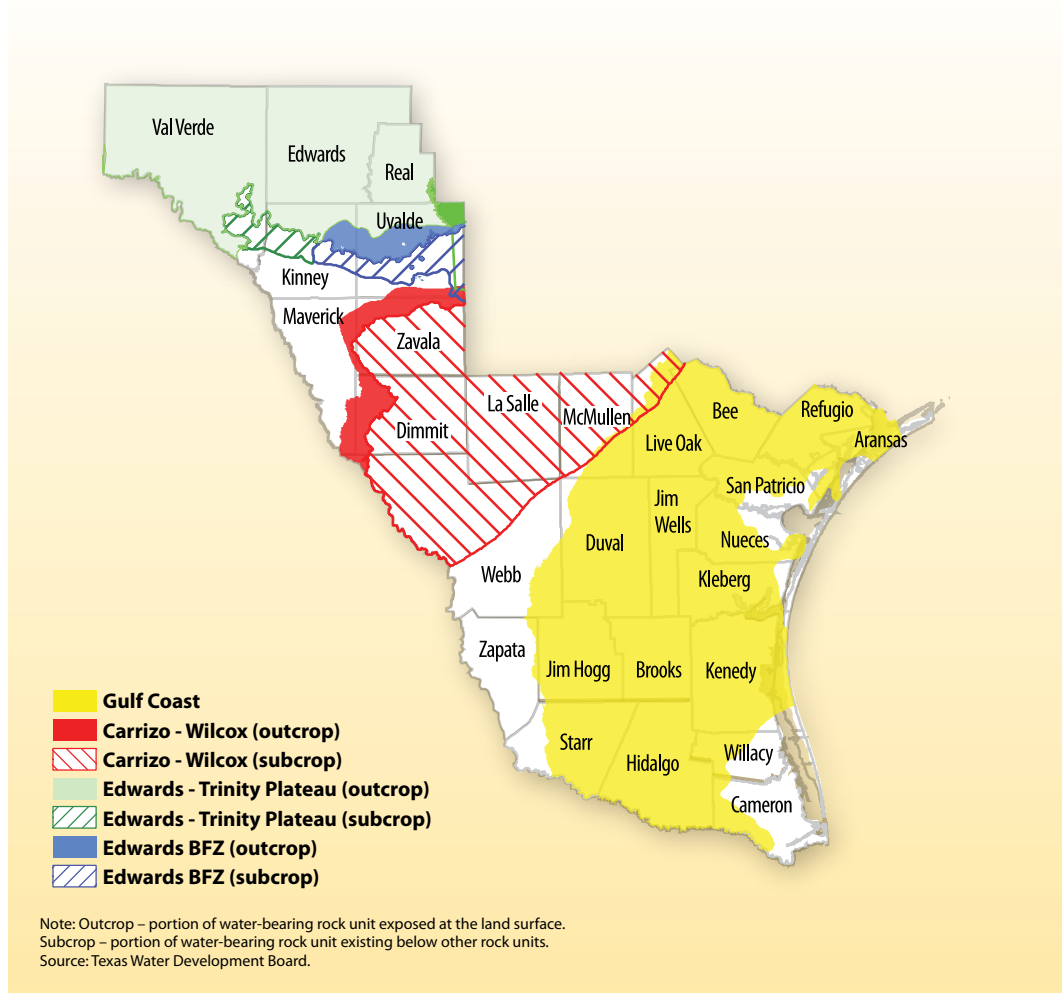


Exhibit 38

### Aquifers in the South Texas Region

Aquifer Name	Availability (acre-feet in 2010)
Gulf Coast	1,825,976
Carrizo-Wilcox	1,014,753
Edwards-Trinity Plateau	572,515
Edwards Balcones Fault Zone	373,811
Queen City*	295,791
Sparta*	50,511
Yegua-Jackson*	24,720

\*Designated a minor aquifer by TWDB.  
 Source: Texas Water Development Board.



## Desalination

The largest coastal cities in the South Texas region — Brownsville and Corpus Christi — plan to create municipal seawater desalination plants in the near future (**Exhibit 39**). The Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPGs) for both cities recommend desalination as a future water supply strategy.<sup>12</sup>

Desalination (“desal”) or the desalting of water is, as water treatments go, a fairly straightforward but energy-intensive enterprise. Two methods are employed — reverse osmosis or RO, which involves high-pressure membrane filtration, and distillation, which is a steam recovery system. RO is more useful for low-salinity waters; distillation is better for high-salinity seawater.<sup>13</sup> The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) estimates that the average annual cost of desalinating brackish or semi-saline water was \$429 to \$953 per acre-foot; desalinating seawater costs \$768 to \$1,390 per acre-foot.<sup>14</sup> These costs are roughly two to 10 times higher than the average costs of preparing non-saline water for human consumption.

The higher the source water’s salinity, the more energy is required to pressurize or boil it for desal operations. A recent study by TWDB estimated that energy costs could account for half of a desal system’s annual operating costs.<sup>15</sup>

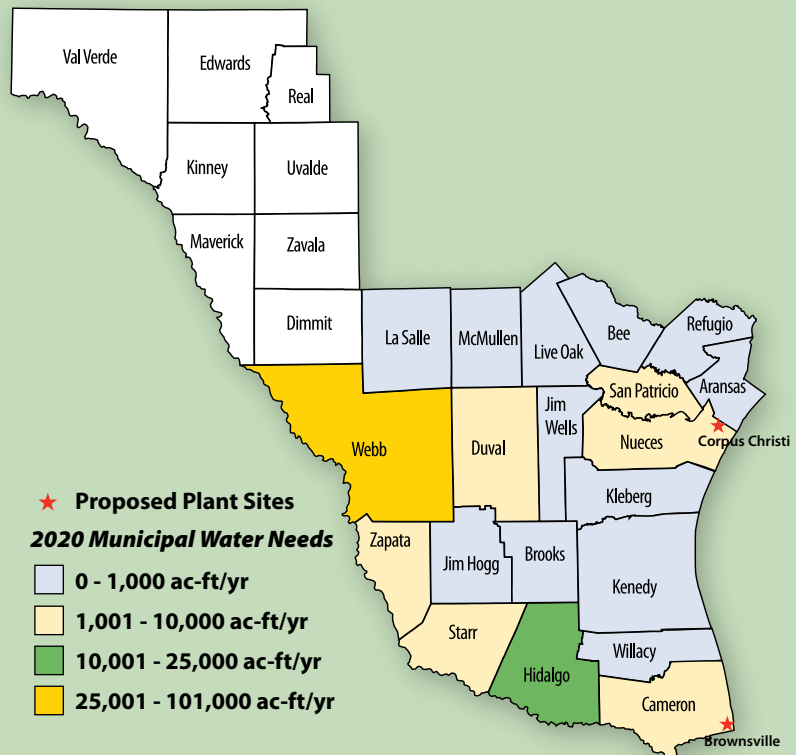
South Texas has several operating RO desal plants treating brackish groundwater to make it suitable for human consumption. The largest of these plants, operated by the Southmost Regional Water Authority in Brownsville, produces an average of four million gallons per day (MGD).<sup>16</sup>

The Brownsville Public Utilities Board, along with TWDB, is working on a plan to build a large-scale desalination plant demonstration project using water from the Gulf of Mexico that could produce 25 MGD of water fit for human consumption. Initial cost estimates for the project made in 2004 were \$150 million for capital costs and \$6.6 million to \$12.5 million for annual operation and maintenance costs.<sup>17</sup> Currently, Brownsville’s existing water plants have the capacity to produce 40 MGD.<sup>18</sup>

TWDB and local leaders believe a desal plant could be a significant part of a regional water system to relieve pressure on constrained surface and groundwater sources.

The City of Corpus Christi conducted an initial desal feasibility study a few years ago and is working on a strategy now that may include desal of either brackish groundwater or seawater. The city estimates that a brackish desal facility would cost \$3 per gallon to build, while a seawater desal plant could cost \$9-\$10 per gallon. Corpus Christi has enough raw water to meet current demand, according to the city’s director of the water department, but leaders are weighing the considerable costs of desal against other options, such as pipelines to other sources. Another potential strategy is pumping treated water into a nearby aquifer for storage. The aquifer contains brackish water, which would be pushed away by the treated water. Removing that water would mean desalting and treating it again, much like any water stored underground.<sup>19</sup>

Exhibit 39  
**Texas Seawater Desalination Sites and Water Needs 2020**



Source: Texas Water Development Board.



has 14 GCDs, including the state's smallest as measured by land area (31 square miles), the Red Sands GCD in Hidalgo County. Ten of these GCDs are single-county districts, and the Edwards Aquifer Authority also includes the South Texas county of Uvalde.<sup>20</sup>

Groundwater conservation districts have some ability to restrict groundwater pumping to sustain aquifer levels. Some South Texas districts, such as Wintergarden and Kenedy County GCDs, have ad valorem taxing authority, while others, such as the San Patricio County and the Starr County GCDs, do not. State law generally allows districts to receive revenue through bond proceeds, fees, investments, grants and loans, depending on the statute creating the district.

As noted earlier, current projections indicate that agricultural water use in the region inevitably will give way in part to lower-volume municipal demands, and this is true of groundwater as well as surface supplies. The South Texas region has a few large and growing cities, such as Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and McAllen, one of the fastest-growing cities in the nation. As these metropolitan areas grow, water demand will shift from irrigation to municipal use.

## Parks and Recreational Opportunities

The South Texas region has numerous recreational facilities and opportunities available to the public. From tubing the Frio River in Garner State Park to birding in the Rio Grande Valley to fishing in the Gulf of Mexico or boating in the numerous lakes in the region, the South Texas region has something for everyone.

## State Parks

The South Texas region offers a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities at its state parks, natural areas and beaches. The state parks with the most positive economic impact on the region are Garner State Park, Goose Island State Park, Lake Corpus Christi State Park and Mustang Island State Park.

Garner State Park, located 30 miles north of the city of Uvalde in Uvalde County, consists of about 1,420 acres as well as 10 water acres of the Frio River. The park was acquired by the state in 1934 and was named after U.S. Vice President John Nance Garner ("Cactus Jack") of Uvalde. The park offers visitors the opportunity to swim in the clear waters of the Frio River, ride the river's rapids on inner tubes and hike along nature trails. During the summer season, the park hosts jukebox dancing at its central concession building every night.<sup>21</sup>

In fiscal 2006, Garner State Park had more than 540,000 non-local visitors who spent more than \$4.8 million in the area. It had a total economic impact on sales in Uvalde County of more than \$7.8 million.<sup>22</sup>

Goose Island State Park, on the tip of Lamar Peninsula north of Rockport in Aransas County, is bordered on two sides by the St. Charles and Aransas bays. The park consists of about 321 acres and was acquired by the state in 1931 from private owners. Its mainland portion comprises live oak and red-bay woods, which also contain yaupon holly, American beautyberry, coral bean and wax myrtle trees. The largest live oak in Texas, estimated to be more than 1,000 years old, can be found here.

*Garner State Park had more than 540,000 non-local visitors who spent more than \$4.8 million in the area. It had a total economic impact on sales in Uvalde County of more than \$7.8 million.*



In addition, the park is home to a tall grass prairie and a coastal wetland area that provides a perfect habitat for the endangered whooping crane, which feeds on berries and blue crabs in the coastal wetlands around the park. A portion of the park is an oyster shell island consisting of a shell ridge and marshland. The bays around Goose Island are filled with sea grass beds and oyster reefs. The main recreational activities include camping, hiking, bird watching and fishing.<sup>23</sup>

In fiscal 2006, Goose Island State Park had more than 329,000 non-local visitors who spent more than \$4.9 million in the local area. The park had a total economic impact on sales in Aransas County of more than \$7 million.<sup>24</sup>

Lake Corpus Christi State Park is located in San Patricio, Jim Wells and Live Oak counties, southwest of the city of Mathis. It consists of about 14,112 land acres as well as 21,000 acres of water in the form of Lake Corpus Christi, formed by damming the Nueces River. The park is leased to the state by the city of Corpus Christi and has been operating as a state park since 1934. Recreational activities include camping, picnicking, boating, water skiing, fishing, swimming, bird watching and hiking. The park represents one of the few remaining stands of brush land in the area and provides habitat to a wide variety of animals.<sup>25</sup>

In fiscal 2006, Lake Corpus Christi State Park had about 180,000 non-local visitors who spent more than \$4.6 million in the area. The park had a total economic impact on sales in San Patricio, Jim Wells and Live Oak counties of just over \$6.7 million.<sup>26</sup>

Mustang Island State Park, in Nueces County south of Port Aransas, consists of 3,954 acres with about five miles of beachfront on

the Gulf of Mexico. The state acquired the park from private owners in 1972. Mustang Island was inhabited by the Karankawa Indians. The island was named Mustang Island because of wild horses brought to the island in the 1800s by the Spaniards. Recreational activities include camping, picnicking, fishing, swimming, surfing, hiking, biking and bird-watching during the spring and fall.<sup>27</sup>

In fiscal 2006, Mustang Island State Park had more than 172,000 non-local visitors who spent nearly \$1.7 million in the local area. The park had a total economic impact on sales in Nueces County of nearly \$3.7 million.<sup>28</sup>

**Exhibit 40** summarizes the economic impact of state parks and natural areas in the South Texas region.

In addition to the parks and natural areas listed above, the region is also home to the Devil's Sinkhole Natural Area and Kickapoo Cavern State Park in Edwards County; the Devil's River Natural Area in Val Verde County; and Falcon State Park in Zapata County. These areas had a combined fiscal 2007 visitation of more than 85,000 people.<sup>29</sup>

### Recreational Lakes and Reservoirs

The South Texas region has a number of lakes and reservoirs offering recreational activities, including boating and fishing.<sup>30</sup>

**Exhibit 41** shows the lakes and reservoirs in the region, their location and approximate size and maximum depth.

### Hunting and Fishing

In 2007, hunting and fishing enthusiasts in the South Texas region purchased more than 286,000 licenses at a cost of nearly \$11

*In 2007, hunting and fishing enthusiasts in the South Texas region purchased more than 286,000 licenses at a cost of nearly \$11 million.*



Exhibit 40

State Parks and Natural Areas, South Texas Region, Fiscal 2006

Name	Number of Out of Area Visitors	Total Economic Impact on Sales	Money Spent by Outside Visitors
Garner State Park	540,000	\$7.8 million	\$4.8 million
Goose Island State Park	329,000	7.1 million	4.9 million
Lake Corpus Christi State Park	180,000	6.7 million	4.6 million
Mustang Island State Park	172,000	3.7 million	1.7 million
Lost Maples State Natural Area	82,000	1.7 million	1.0 million
Seminole Canyon State Natural Area	43,000	1.7 million	980,000
Choke Canyon State Park	50,000	1.4 million	680,000
Lake Casa Blanca International State Park	42,000	1.2 million	370,000

Source: Texas A&M University.

Padre Island National Seashore

In addition to state parks, the South Texas region is home to the Padre Island National Seashore, located in Kleberg, Willacy and Kenedy counties about 30 miles south of the city of Corpus Christi. The seashore, established as a national seashore in 1962, consists of 130,434 land acres. It is the longest still undeveloped stretch of barrier island in the world.

The seashore is home to the Kemp's Ridley sea turtle, the world's most endangered sea turtle. It is also the perfect place to view more than 380 different species of birds and has been designated a World Birding Center because it is located on a major North American migratory bird route known as the Central Flyway. Recreational activities include camping, picnicking, fishing, swimming, hiking, biking and excellent bird watching during the spring and fall.

In addition to being a wildlife management area and a thriving tourist location, the Padre Island National Seashore is home to significant oil and natural gas deposits. Oil and natural gas development has occurred at the seashore since the early 1950s, before its designation as a national seashore. Today, high oil and gas prices have spurred new drilling throughout southern Texas, including Padre Island.<sup>31</sup>

In 2006, the National Park Service estimated that visitors to the Padre Island National Seashore spent nearly \$51.8 million in the surrounding area, adding nearly 1,000 jobs.<sup>32</sup>

million from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). All revenues collected from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses go to a dedicated state fund set up for the protection, regulation and conservation of the state's fish and wildlife.<sup>33</sup>

Every county in the South Texas region offers some sort of legal hunting, and several counties offer some type of hunting year-round (Exhibit 42).

In addition to hunting, the South Texas region has abundant saltwater and freshwater fishing opportunities available to the public. Some of the saltwater fish species that can be caught in the region include catfish, drum (black and red), flounder, mullet, sea trout, shark (nurse and hammer head), sheepshead, snook and tarpon. The freshwater species that can be caught in the area are bass (large mouth, small mouth and white), bluegill, catfish (blue, channel and flathead), crappie and sunfish. In addition to state parks and beaches, anglers can try their luck at deep-sea fishing and can fish on numerous private lakes and ponds in the region.



Exhibit 41

**Lakes and Reservoirs, South Texas Region**

Name	Location	Size	Maximum Depth
Falcon International Reservoir	40 miles east of Laredo	83,654 acres	80 feet
Lake Amistad	12 miles northwest of Del Rio	64,900 acres	217 feet
Choke Canyon Reservoir	4 miles west of Three Rivers	25,670 acres	96 feet
Lake Corpus Christi	20 miles northeast of Corpus Christi	18,256 acres	60 feet
Lake Casa Blanca	5 miles northeast of Laredo	1,680 acres	36 feet
Lake Findley (Alice City Lake)	1 mile north of Alice	247 acres	12 feet
Averhoff Reservoir	10 miles northeast of Crystal City	174 acres	28 feet

Source: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Exhibit 42

**Hunting Regulations in the South Texas Region**

Animal	Season
White-tailed Deer	Open season lasts from November 3 until January 20. Special late general season January 21 until February 3. The limit is five deer with no more than three bucks.
	Archery season lasts from September 29 until November 2. The limit is five deer, with no more than three bucks. Antlerless deer may be hunted without a permit unless TPWD has issued antlerless managed land deer Permits (MLDP) to help control the deer population.
	A special youth-only season occurs twice a year on October 27 - 28, and January 19 - 20.
Mule Deer	The season lasts from November 24 until December 9. The limit is two deer with only one buck. Antlerless deer may be taken only by MLDP.
	Archery season for mule deer lasts from September 29 until November 2. The limit is one buck.
Javelina	Javelina season is open year-round. The annual bag limit is two per year.
Squirrel	Squirrel season is open year-round with no limit.
Turkey	Open season lasts from November 3 until January 20, and until February 24 in some counties and March 15 until April 27. The annual bag limit for Rio Grande and Eastern turkey is four, no more than one of which may be an Eastern turkey.
	Archery season lasts from September 29 until November 2.
	Special youth-only season occurs twice a year on March 8 - 9 and May 3 - 4.
Quail	Open season lasts from October 27 until February 24. Daily bag limit: 15; possession limit: 45.
Dove	Much of the region is in the special White-winged Dove Area where the special season occurs on September 1, 2, 8 and 9 and the regular seasons last from September 21 until November 11 and December 26 until January 8. The remainder of the region has an open season from September 21 until November 11 and December 26 until January 12.

Source: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.



## Energy

Reliable energy is vital to the success and prosperity of the South Texas region. For nearly a century, the energy used by residents of the region came primarily from oil or natural gas. Today, fossil fuels continue to produce a significant portion of the region's energy, but new sources such as wind and nuclear power are being considered to supplement them.

### Oil and Natural Gas

The South Texas region is home to six of the state's top 25 natural gas fields — the Vaquillas Ranch Field, B.M.T. Field, Benavides Field, Bashara-Hereford Field and La Perla Field in Webb and Zapata counties and the Javelina Field in Hidalgo County. While South Texas does not contain one of the state's "top 25" oil fields, oil is found throughout the region.<sup>34</sup>

According to the Texas Railroad Commission, the region has about 5,900 active oil wells, with the largest concentrations in Refugio County (860 wells), Maverick County (842 wells) and Duval County (839

wells). The region also has about 16,700 active natural gas wells. The largest concentrations of natural gas wells are located in Webb County (4,491 wells), Zapata County (2,906) and Hidalgo County (1,491 wells).<sup>35</sup> In 2007, Webb County alone accounted for 3.7 percent of all natural gas produced in Texas, or about 216 million cubic feet.

The Comptroller's office has determined that the South Texas region's oil and natural gas industry accounted for more than 17,000 jobs and nearly \$1.2 billion in earnings in 2006.<sup>36</sup>

### Uranium

Texas has four permitted and active uranium mines, all in the South Texas region, one in Brooks County, two in Duval County and one in Kleberg County. In addition to these four, the state also has a pending mine set to open in late 2008 and a closed mine being reclaimed, both located in Duval County. The four currently active mines are operated by two companies; the Alta Mesa Project in Brooks County is run by Mesteña Uranium, L.L.C. while the Kingsville Dome in Kleberg County and the Rosita and Vasquez Mines in Duval County are run by Uranium Resources, Inc.<sup>37</sup>

The Alta Mesa Project is by far the largest uranium mining operation in Texas, producing more than a million pounds of yellowcake — a uranium concentrate used for fuel pellet fabrication — annually.<sup>38</sup> The state's total annual yellowcake output is about 1.3 million pounds.<sup>39</sup>

### Coal

The South Texas region has four lignite coal mines, three in Webb County (Palafox Mine, Rachal Mine and Treviño Mine) and

### ESPN Bassmaster Tournament at Falcon Lake

Zapata County and Falcon Lake hosted the April 2008 Bassmaster Elite Series-Lone Star Shootout Tournament, sponsored by ESPN. The tournament featured 110 of the world's best bass anglers and more than \$100,000 in prize money. The winner had the highest weigh-in in tournament history. The tournament was a family event offering a cook-off, dueling mariachi bands, a casting challenge, a kids' fishing tank and live music.



## World Birding Centers

The South Texas region has several state wildlife management areas, all in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and nine South Texas communities have developed nine tracts of land as wildlife management centers for the express purpose of providing a habitat for the birds that inhabit and fly over the Rio Grande Valley. These areas are called World Birding Centers (WBC).

The WBC at Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park, near the city of Mission, is known across the nation as the one place in the U.S. where birders can view green jays and plain chachalacas. Other rare birds such as the ferruginous pygmy owl and northern beardless tyrannulet can also be found in the park. The 760 acre Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park and more than 1,700 acres of federal refuge land provide year-round nature experiences.<sup>40</sup>

The WBC at Estero Llano Grande State Park located in the city of Weslaco offers 200 acres of varied landscape attracting a spectacular array of South Texas wildlife. The park offers a lake, woodlands and a thorn forest. It is an ideal spot for hundreds of waders and shorebirds, including the endangered wood stork and colorful coastal species such as the roseate spoonbill and ibis. The woodland and thorn forest provide an excellent haven to harbor groove-billed ani and the Altamira oriole. The park also has rare red-crowned parrots and green parakeets.<sup>41</sup>

The WBC at Resaca de la Palma State Park, located in the city of Brownsville, consists of 1,700 semi-tropical acres only a few miles away from an international urban center. The Resaca de la Palma is an especially good spot to see colorful neo-tropical migratory birds such as the summer tanager, American redstart and yellow-breasted chat. Dense ground vegetation provides an excellent habitat for the olive sparrow, long-billed thrasher and white-eyed vireo.<sup>42</sup>

In addition to these parks, the Valley has six other World Birding Centers (**Exhibit 43**).<sup>43</sup>

### Exhibit 43

#### Other World Birding Centers, South Texas Region

Name	Location	Size
Edinburg Scenic Wetlands	Downtown Edinburg	40 acres
Harlingen Arroyo Colorado	10 miles northeast of Harlingen	95 acres
Old Hidalgo Pumphouse	7 miles southwest of Hidalgo	600 acres
Quinta Mazatlan	Downtown McAllen	15 acres
Roma Bluffs	Downtown Roma	3 acres
South Padre Island Birding and Nature Center	South Padre Island	50 acres

Source: World Birding Center.

According to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the creation of the World Birding Center is estimated to generate more than \$100 million annually in new tourism dollars for the Lower Rio Grande Valley.<sup>44</sup>



### Liquefied Natural Gas

On November 28, 2007, a liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal developer and operator, 4Gas, announced its acquisition from ExxonMobil of the Vista del Sol LNG terminal and pipeline located at the La Quinta Ship Channel near Ingleside.

LNG is formed by cooling natural gas to negative 260 degrees Fahrenheit, or the point at which natural gas becomes a liquid. The liquid created is then loaded on specially made cargo ships and transported to a LNG terminal where it is heated, transformed back into a gas and placed in a pipeline. The liquefaction process reduces the volume of natural gas by a factor of 600, making it possible to ship large quantities. 4Gas' acquisition, coupled with the purchase of a 300-acre site adjacent to the terminal, will significantly increase the Port of Corpus Christi's LNG refining and storage capabilities.

The terminal's location will allow 4Gas to deliver natural gas to local Corpus Christi industrial businesses, utilities and merchant power generators who require substantial volumes of natural gas. In addition, the terminal is connected to a 25-mile pipeline with connections to six interstate and two intrastate natural gas pipelines. 4Gas' acquisition and investment in the LNG terminal and pipeline will help the local economy and make natural gas more readily available to the South Texas region.<sup>45</sup>

one in Maverick County (Eagle Pass Mine). The three mines in Webb County, all run by Farco Mining Company, have been shut down and are currently in a reclamation process. The mine in Maverick County, run by Dos Republicas Resources Company, is still producing coal, which is primarily sold to Mexico for use in coal-fired electricity generating facilities.<sup>46</sup>

In 2006, coal and uranium mining accounted for more than 12,000 jobs and more

than \$653 million in earnings in the South Texas region.<sup>47</sup>

### Wind

Texas leads the nation in installed wind capacity, with 4,296 megawatts (MW) or enough to power about 1 million homes.<sup>48</sup> Currently, all Texas wind energy projects producing electricity are located in the High Plains region or in West Texas. The South Texas region, however, also has strong winds and significant wind energy potential.

In 2008, construction began on Phase I of the 200 MW Peñascol Wind Power project in the South Texas region.<sup>49</sup> Located on the Kenedy Ranch, between the cities of Corpus Christi and Brownsville, the project will create up to 200 temporary construction jobs and more than 10 permanent operation jobs.<sup>50</sup> In addition, developer Babcock and Brown has announced plans to build a 283 MW project on the Kenedy Ranch.

### Climate

South Texas is Texas' warmest region. According to the Texas Almanac, the region's first freeze typically occurs between December 1 and December 16 and the last freeze generally occurs between January 30 and March 16. Most of the region passes its average last freeze date by Valentine's Day, and some parts of the region rarely reach freezing temperatures at all. The average South Texas lows in January range from 33.1°F in Real County to 50.5°F in Cameron County; the average highs in July range from 90.1°F in Aransas County to 101.6°F in Webb County.



Opposition to wind development on the Kenedy Ranch has arisen from concern for birds, bats and water permeability issues. The Coastal Habitat Alliance, a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting the Texas Gulf Coast, has sought an injunction to block construction of the Peñascol wind project claiming that the roads and concrete pads needed for wind turbines would make the soil impermeable thus impeding the flow of water that feeds the Laguna Madre. It could take several months for the federal court to make a decision on this case.

In addition to these projects, American Shoreline has announced plans to build two wind farms near the community of Hebbronville. The two facilities would produce 800 MW and would cover 35,000 acres in Jim Hogg, Webb and Zapata counties at a cost of about \$2 billion. When completed, the two wind farms could generate enough electricity to power about 220,000 homes.<sup>51</sup>

To date, all U.S. wind projects have been built on land, but interest in offshore wind development is growing. In October 2007, the Texas General Land Office awarded four competitively bid leases for offshore wind power. One of the leases would be located offshore from Cameron County in far South Texas.<sup>52</sup> The initial research and development phase for this project will take about four years.<sup>53</sup>

### Utility Rates and Services

Eight U.S. “reliability councils” manage the transfer of electricity across North America and ensure reliable electricity transmission. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) is Texas’ largest, managing the flow of 85 percent of the state’s electric

load over about 75 percent of its land area.<sup>54</sup>

All counties in the South Texas region are within the ERCOT power region.

Texas began deregulating the retail electricity market in 2002. This deregulation, however,

### Wind Turbine and Blade Testing Facility

In June 2007, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced it had selected Texas as one of two sites for a wind turbine research and testing facility. (The second site is in Massachusetts.) The Texas site, for a blade testing facility, will be located just north of Corpus Christi, at Ingleside.<sup>55</sup> The site includes docks and has access to the La Quinta ship channel and the Corpus Christi ship channel. This proximity to waterborne transportation was a key factor in the site’s selection; the facility will test wind blades up to 330 feet in length.

The University of Houston led the Lone Star Wind Alliance, a coalition of universities, government agencies and private companies, in making Texas’ bid for the testing site.<sup>56</sup> The Texas Alliance consists of the University of Houston’s Cullen College of Engineering, the University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, West Texas A&M University, Montana State University, Stanford University, New Mexico State University, Old Dominion University, the Texas General Land Office, the Texas State Energy Conservation Office, the Texas Workforce Commission, BP, Dow, Huntsman and Shell Wind.<sup>57</sup>

Both the Texas and Massachusetts sites will receive \$2 million from DOE’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). The public and private sectors will cover the remaining costs. In Texas, BP has donated 22 acres of land for the project site as well as \$250,000 toward facility construction costs. The Texas Legislature has pledged \$5 million for construction. Total project costs for the Texas facility at Ingleside are estimated at \$24 million.<sup>58</sup>

The wind blade testing facility is expected to create about six to 10 permanent jobs. Local officials say the primary economic benefit to the area will come from related businesses — construction, blade and turbine manufacturing and distribution — the testing site is expected to attract. Port of Corpus Christi officials are hopeful that the new facility will “bring name recognition to the area, and it will become a center of wind energy.”<sup>59</sup>



### Air Quality

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) monitors the Air Quality Index (AQI) for Corpus Christi, Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito, McAllen-Edinburg-Mission and Laredo on a daily basis. According to TCEQ, the AQI scores for these areas typically fall in the “good” range and occasionally the “moderate” range, with the critical monitored pollutants being ozone or small particulate matter. The South Texas areas have better air quality than many of the other major urban areas around the state, which more often see AQIs in the “moderate” range, and even the “Unhealthy for sensitive groups” range.

applies only to investor-owned utilities within the ERCOT region. Utilities owned by cities and rural cooperatives, also known as “non-opt-in entities” (NOIEs) are not required to join the deregulated market, although they may choose to. To date only one cooperative in the state—Nueces Electric Cooperative located in Nueces County—has opted to participate in the competitive market, while no municipal utilities have chosen to do so.

**Exhibit 44** shows municipally owned utilities and member-owned cooperatives in the South Texas region.

Residential electricity rates charged by municipally owned utilities and member-owned cooperatives in the region ranged from 10.7 cents to 13.0 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) for residential electricity service in May 2008.<sup>60</sup>

Up to 40 private companies provide retail electric service to customers in the deregulated areas of the region, including the cities of Laredo and Corpus Christi and parts of Webb, Nueces, Kleberg, Brooks, Duval, Zapata and Val Verde counties. The residential price per kWh, based on a 1,000 kWh per month service plan, ranges from 15.6 cents to 24.5 cents in these areas.<sup>61</sup>

The region uses a number of fuel sources to generate electricity. ERCOT reports that in 2007, the majority of its electricity was generated from coal and natural gas (**Exhibit 45**).<sup>62</sup>

### Transportation

Transportation is essential to the economic health and prosperity of the South Texas region. The region’s roads are one of the primary ways of moving goods and materials from its seaports, inland ports, border crossings and agricultural centers to urban markets inside

Exhibit 44

#### Municipally Owned Utilities and Member-Owned Cooperatives, South Texas Region

Entity Name	Service Area
Brownsville Public Utilities Board	City of Brownsville
Central Texas Electric Cooperative	Edwards and Real counties
Magic Valley Electric Cooperative	Cameron, Hidalgo, Kenedy, Starr and Willacy counties
Medina Electric Cooperative	Brooks, Dimmit, Duval, Edwards, Jim Hogg, La Salle, McMullen, Real, Starr, Uvalde, Webb, Zapata and Zavala counties
Rio Grande Electric Cooperative	Dimmit, Edwards, Kinney, Maverick, Uvalde, Val Verde, Webb and Zavala counties
Robstown Utility System	City of Robstown
San Patricio Electric Cooperative	Aransas, Bee, Jim Wells, Live Oak, McMullen, Nueces, Refugio and San Patricio counties

Sources: Public Utility Commission of Texas and Texas Electric Cooperatives.



the state and elsewhere. Its road network is vast, and roadway concerns and spending tend to center on a select few roads, including:

- Interstate Highway 37, running north from Corpus Christi through Nueces and Live Oak counties toward San Antonio;
- Interstate Highway 35, running northeast from Laredo through Webb and La Salle counties toward San Antonio;
- U.S. Highway 77, running north and then east from Brownsville through Cameron, Willacy, Kenedy, Kleberg, Nueces, San Patricio and Refugio counties toward Victoria;
- U.S. Highway 59, running northeast from Laredo through Webb, Duval, Live Oak and Bee counties;
- U.S. Highway 281, running north from McAllen through Hidalgo, Brooks, Jim Wells and Live Oak counties toward San Antonio; and
- U.S. Highway 83, running south from Laredo, parallel to the border, through Webb, Zapata, Starr, Hidalgo, Willacy and Cameron counties to Brownsville.<sup>63</sup>

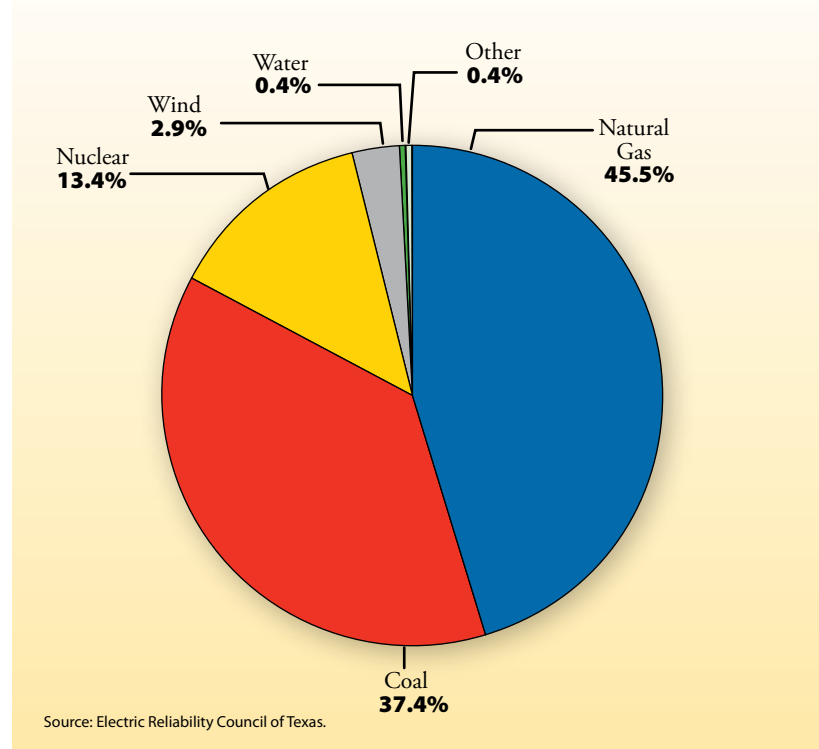
### Highways

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) builds and maintains the Texas state highway system through local offices and contractors located around the state. The South Texas region is served by four TxDOT district offices in Corpus Christi, Laredo, Pharr and San Antonio.

The South Texas region has 7,768 center-line miles (miles traveled in a single direction regardless of the number of lanes) and 18,515 total lane miles of state highways.

Exhibit 45

### Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Electricity Generated by Fuel Type, 2007



The region has about 1.5 million registered vehicles that travel more than 39.2 million miles daily. The state as a whole contains 79,696 centerline miles, 190,764 total lane miles and more than 20 million registered vehicles that travel more than 477.7 million miles each day (**Exhibit 46**).<sup>64</sup>

Road construction, engineering and maintenance for state, local and private sources accounted for about 10,000 jobs and more than \$379 million in earnings in 2006 for workers in the South Texas region.<sup>65</sup>

### Trade Corridors

The South Texas region contains 19 of the state's 26 international border crossings

*The South Texas region contains 19 of the state's 26 international border crossings with Mexico and five of the state's 16 seaports.*



Exhibit 46

**Highway Miles, Vehicle Miles Driven and Registered Vehicles, South Texas Region, 2006**

County Name	Centerline Miles	Lane Miles	Daily Vehicle Miles	Registered Vehicles
Aransas	84	205	489,180	22,801
Bee	292	643	697,615	20,696
Brooks	121	317	623,243	6,044
Cameron	642	1,644	5,597,186	238,765
Dimmit	250	507	322,892	7,813
Duval	312	630	459,629	10,775
Edwards	239	499	101,996	2,827
Hidalgo	794	2,158	9,616,246	415,187
Jim Hogg	143	288	201,238	4,947
Jim Wells	273	715	1,406,235	35,984
Kenedy	47	188	415,211	782
Kinney	203	407	197,391	3,106
Kleberg	149	369	916,496	27,308
La Salle	278	649	657,941	5,060
Live Oak	419	995	1,256,779	12,147
Maverick	218	488	695,846	32,276
McMullen	158	317	125,664	2,337
Nueces	516	1,474	6,069,385	261,282
Real	148	296	110,555	3,743
Refugio	194	465	862,011	7,351
San Patricio	364	945	2,235,261	60,223
Starr	233	494	1,078,313	37,413
Uvalde	338	729	727,197	23,754
Val Verde	312	713	499,653	40,137
Webb	435	1,110	2,704,467	144,165
Willacy	221	479	440,721	13,601
Zapata	119	248	390,486	9,861
Zavala	266	543	313,890	7,259
<b>South Texas Total</b>	<b>7,768</b>	<b>18,515</b>	<b>39,212,727</b>	<b>1,457,644</b>
<b>Statewide Total</b>	<b>79,696</b>	<b>190,764</b>	<b>477,769,968</b>	<b>20,084,036</b>

Source: Texas Department of Transportation.

In 2003, TxDOT estimated that Texas highways carried \$196 billion in NAFTA trade, 83 percent of all truck trade value between U.S. and Mexico and 10 percent of the value of all U.S. international trade.

with Mexico and five of the state's 16 major seaports. The implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in 1994 caused the traffic at these border

crossings to increase dramatically. According to the TxDOT, trade between the U.S. and Mexico increased by 90 percent between 1994 and 2001 reaching \$260 billion in 2001.<sup>66</sup>



Additionally, the increased trade created by NAFTA has fostered more north-south traffic, placing increasing demands on the domestic rail and highway system, which was initially developed for east-west trade. Furthermore, the transportation network has not increased at the same rate of growth as travel and commerce. For example, from 1990 to 2003 the number of lane miles of public road increased by 4 percent and the number of total vehicle miles traveled (VMT) increase by 52.8 percent.<sup>67</sup> In 2003, TxDOT estimated that Texas highways carried \$196 billion in NAFTA trade, 83 percent of all truck trade value between U.S. and Mexico and 10 percent of the value of all U.S. international trade. Furthermore, TxDOT estimates that medium to heavy truck VMT, miles traveled by trucks weighing 10,000 pounds or more, will increase by 330 percent by 2030.<sup>68</sup>

The border crossings in South Texas are where much of this traffic begins. The World Trade Crossing in Laredo is the most important truck crossing on the U.S. – Mexican border.<sup>69</sup> Texas border crossings handle approximately 70 percent of all surface trade between the U.S. and Mexico; 85 percent of this trade is moved by truck with the World Trade Crossing in Laredo handling over 60 percent of that truck traffic. The bridge receives a consistently high volume of truck traffic throughout the day. Annually, about 1.3 million trucks travel southbound through this border crossing, while about 1.1 million trucks travel northbound.<sup>70</sup> Up to 90 percent of the truck traffic at the World Trade Crossing consists of short distance shipments between warehouses in Laredo and Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. Typically, a long distance truck in either Mexico

or the U.S. unloads its cargo at a warehouse where it is transferred to a short haul truck for the trip across the border.<sup>71</sup>

While the implementation of NAFTA has brought more people, trade and economic development to the South Texas region it has also brought more traffic congestion issues to the region. To alleviate traffic congestion, promote economic development and better connect the region's agricultural, trade and economic centers with markets throughout the state and nation, TxDOT is developing three "trade corridors," or special transportation routes designed to make truck traffic more efficient. These include the Ports-To-Plains Trade Corridor, the Trans-Texas Corridor 35 (TTC-35) and the I-69/Trans-Texas Corridor (**Exhibit 47**).

### Ports-To-Plains

The Ports-To-Plains trade corridor is a multi-state effort to connect the inland "port" of Laredo to Denver and various locations in the Great Plains. The Ports-To-Plains Trade Corridor is different from other trade corridors proposed in Texas and elsewhere in that it probably would not be tolled nor involve the construction of any new roads, but instead would improve and expand existing roads and rights of way.<sup>72</sup> In the South Texas region, the corridor will run on U.S. Highway 83 north from Laredo to U.S. 277 west to Eagle Pass, then will follow U.S. 277 north through Del Rio toward San Angelo. In South Texas, the corridor will go through Webb, Dimmit, Maverick, Kinney, Val Verde and Edwards counties.<sup>73</sup>

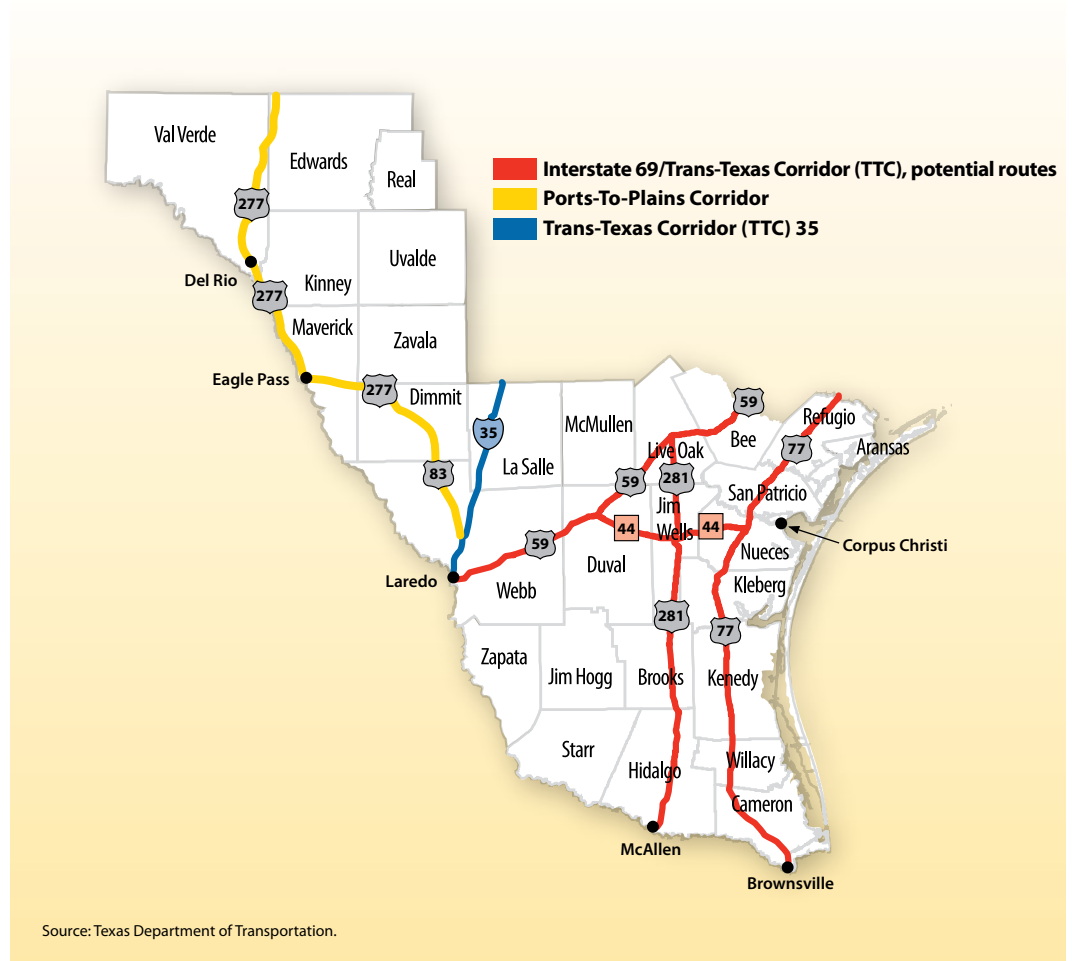
According to a 2004 Corridor Development Management Plan prepared jointly by

*Texas border crossings handle approximately 70 percent of all surface trade between the U.S. and Mexico; 85 percent of this trade is moved by truck with the World Trade Crossing in Laredo handling over 60 percent of that truck traffic.*



Exhibit 47

South Texas Trade Corridors



TxDOT and the transportation departments of Colorado, New Mexico and Oklahoma, the Ports-To-Plains Trade Corridor could generate 43,000 new jobs with a total income of \$4.5 billion in communities along the corridor from 2006 through 2030. The report estimated that Texas could see about 17,000 new jobs in manufacturing and transportation/warehousing by 2030 due to the corridor. These new jobs, along with increased tourism in the area, would generate just under \$2.2 billion in positive economic impact in Texas.<sup>74</sup>

*Trans-Texas Corridor 35*

TTC-35 will be a multi-use trade corridor incorporating existing and new highways, railways and utilities, and connecting Laredo with markets in central and north Texas and throughout the nation.<sup>75</sup> In the South Texas region, TTC-35 will run parallel to Interstate 35, northwest from Laredo toward San Antonio and then further north following I-35 to Oklahoma. TTC-35 will run through Webb and La Salle counties in the South Texas region.<sup>76</sup> Plans call for TTC-35 to be built over the next 50 years and to include:



- lanes for passenger vehicles and trucks;
- railways;
- commuter railways; and
- infrastructure for utilities (water, oil and gas, and transmission lines for electricity).<sup>77</sup>

TxDOT proposes to use state, federal and private (toll) dollars to construct TTC-35. In some areas of the state, TxDOT estimates that the corridor will require significant amounts of rights of way (land) to be acquired from landowners. This is expected to have only limited effects on South Texas land owners, however, because there are enough existing rights of way on either side of Interstate 35 to accomplish most of the additional building proposed for TTC-35.<sup>78</sup>

### Interstate 69/Trans-Texas Corridor

I-69/TTC would be another multi-use corridor improving and expanding existing highways to connect the trade areas of Laredo, McAllen and Brownsville to markets in east and northeast Texas and throughout the nation. First proposed back in the early 1990s, Interstate 69 or “Super Highway 69” was initially envisioned as a multi-state trade corridor linking the trade areas of South Texas and Houston with markets in Chicago, Illinois.<sup>79</sup>

The exact route for I-69/TTC has not yet been identified but TxDOT has recommended using existing highway facilities where possible. Potential routes include:

- U.S. 59 going northeast from Laredo toward Victoria and then on to Houston;
- U.S. 281 north from McAllen to U.S. 59 and then east to Victoria and Houston; and

- U.S. 77 north from Brownsville to Victoria and then U.S. 59 east to Houston.<sup>80</sup>

As with TTC-35, TxDOT plans on using state, federal and private toll dollars to build I-69/TTC. At this time, the need for additional rights of way from landowners has not yet been established.<sup>81</sup> Depending on I-69/TTC’s actual route, parts of Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Cameron, Duval, Hidalgo, Kleberg, Kenedy, Jim Wells, Live Oak, McMullen, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Webb and Willacy counties could be affected by the corridor.<sup>82</sup>

### Public Transportation

Numerous entities provide public transportation and special transit services in the South Texas region (**Exhibit 48**).<sup>83</sup>

### Railways

Four companies — one local railroad and three switching and terminal railroads (small operations primarily involved in transferring goods between major railroads) — are headquartered in the South Texas region, between them controlling about 150 miles of railway track in the area.<sup>84</sup> In addition, Union Pacific Railroad Company and the Kansas City Southern Railway operate tracks in the South Texas region; the majority of these railways run along the border with Mexico and the Gulf or connect to San Antonio (**Exhibit 49**).

Railways play an important role in transporting goods and are especially important in the South Texas region due to trade with Mexico. Rail is typically the least-expensive mode of transporting products.<sup>85</sup> For more

*The South Texas region contains nearly 35 public airports, including the commercial airports in Brownsville, Corpus Christi, Harlingen, Laredo and McAllen.*



Exhibit 48

**Public Transportation Resources, South Texas Region**

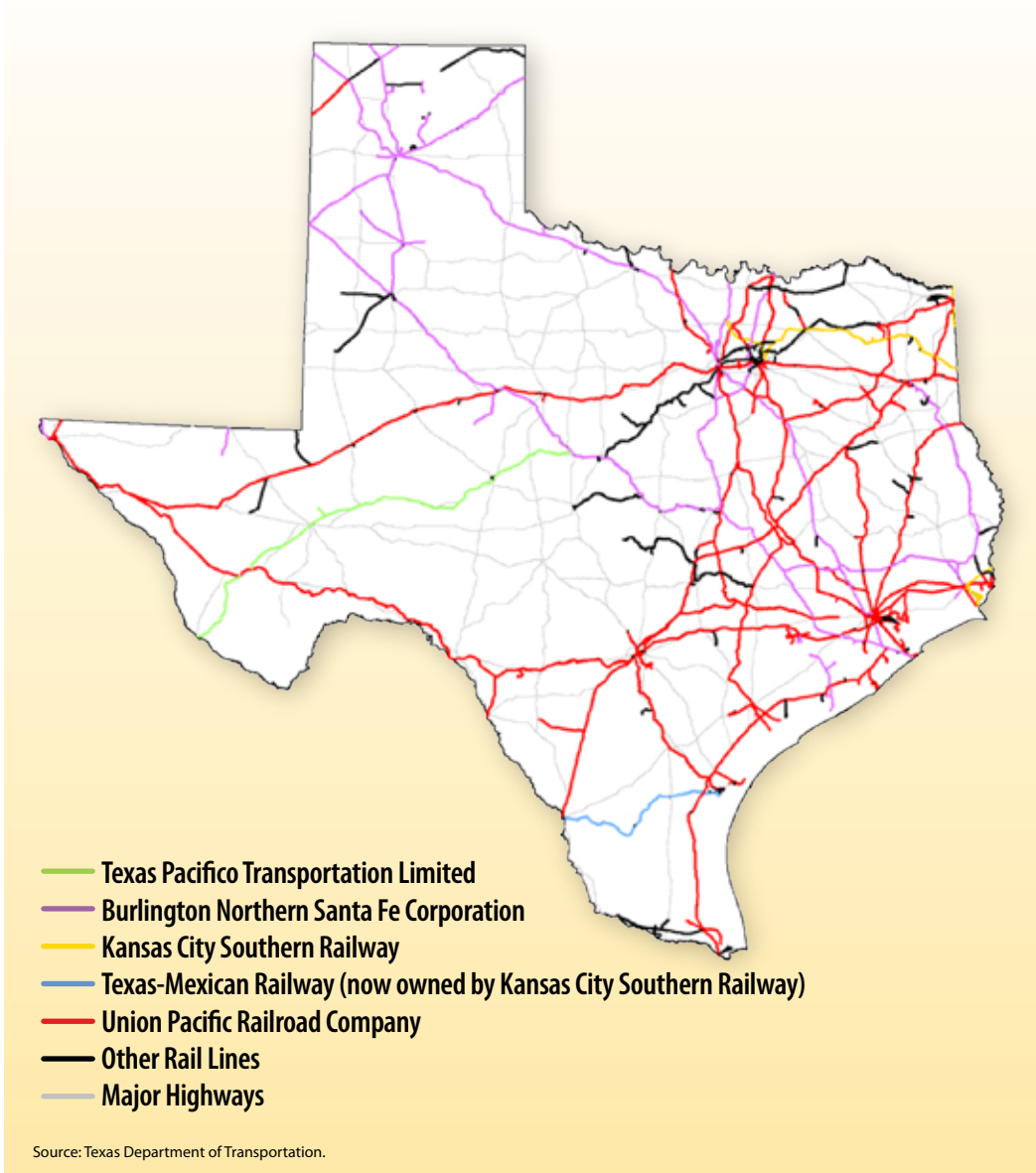
County Name	City Name	Public Transit Authorities
Aransas	Beeville	Bee Transit (Beeville Community Action Agency Public Transportation)
Aransas	Port Aransas	TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation)
Bee	Beeville	Bee Transit
Brooks	Alice	REAL (Rural Economic Assistance League)
Cameron	Brownsville	BUS (Brownsville Urban System)
Cameron	Harlingen	Rio Transit (Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Center Council, LRGVDC)
Cameron	Port Isabel	City of Port Isabel
Cameron	South Padre Island	The Wave (Town of South Padre Island)
Dimmit	Uvalde	CCST (Community Council of Southwest Texas)
Duval	Rio Grande City	Rainbow Lines (Community Action Council of South Texas, CACST)
Edwards	Uvalde	CCST
Hidalgo	McAllen	Rio Transit
Jim Hogg	Hebbronville	Jim Hogg County (JHC)
Jim Hogg	Rio Grande City	Rainbow Lines
Jim Wells	Alice	REAL
Kenedy	Kingsville	Paisano Express (Kleberg County Human Services, KCHS)
Kinney	Uvalde	CCST
Kleberg	Kingsville	Paisano Express
La Salle	Uvalde	CCST
Live Oak	Beeville	Bee Transit
Maverick	Uvalde	CCST
McMullen	Beeville	Bee Transit
Nueces	Alice	REAL
Nueces	Corpus Christi	ADART (Autonomous Dial-a-Ride Transit) and The B (Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority, CCRTA)
Real	Uvalde	CCST
Refugio	Beeville	Bee Transit
San Patricio	Corpus Christi	The B
San Patricio	Portland	City of Portland
San Patricio	Sinton	SPARTS (San Patricio County Community Action Agency)
Starr	Rio Grande City	Rainbow Lines
Uvalde	Uvalde	CCST
Val Verde	Del Rio	MIT (City of Del Rio Mobility Impaired Transportation)
Webb	Laredo	El Metro (Laredo Municipal Transit System, LMTS) and EART (Webb Community Action Agency, El Aguila Rural Transportation)
Willacy	McAllen	Rio Transit
Zapata	Rio Grande City	Rainbow Lines
Zapata	Zapata	Zapata County (ZC)
Zavala	Uvalde	CCST

Source: American Public Transportation Association.



Exhibit 49

**Texas Rail Lines and Major Highways**



information on railways and how they impact the economy of South Texas, see the Industry Profile on Ports and International Trade.

**Airports**

The South Texas region contains nearly 35 public airports, including the commercial

airports in Brownsville, Corpus Christi, Harlingen, Laredo and McAllen.<sup>86</sup>

Harlingen Valley International Airport is the region’s busiest, with 431,365 passenger boardings in 2006, up by just 0.46 percent from 429,396 boardings in 2005.<sup>87</sup> This airport is served by Continental Airlines, Southwest Airlines and Sun Country.<sup>88</sup>



## Helicopter Retrofitting in Beeville

Sikorsky Aircraft Corp. relocated from Florida to Beeville in August 2007. The facility has two 90,000 square-foot hangars and employs 70 people, with more employees expected in the near future. Workers refurbish and upgrade helicopters for military customers and repair helicopters after crashes.<sup>89</sup> The Bee Development Authority received a \$400,000 Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant from the Governor’s Office to build a facility for the Sikorsky plant. This grant should spur the creation of 60 jobs in the area.<sup>90</sup>

Corpus Christi International Airport is the region’s second busiest, with 429,394 boardings in 2006, up by 3 percent from 2005’s 417,022 boardings.<sup>91</sup> This airport is served by American Eagle, Continental Express, and Southwest Airlines.<sup>92</sup>

McAllen Miller International had 396,157 boardings; Laredo International had 97,331; and Brownsville/South Padre Island International had 90,580 boardings in 2006.<sup>93</sup>

### Endnotes

- 1 Texas Water Development Board, “Historical Water Use Information,” <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/wushistorical/DesktopDefault.aspx?PageID=1>. (Last visited June 17, 2008.) Custom query created.
- 2 Texas State Historical Association, *Handbook of Texas Online*, “Nueces River,” <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/NN/rnn15.html>. (Last visited June 27, 2008.)
- 3 Texas Water Development Board, *Water for Texas, 2007, Volume II* (Austin, Texas, 2007), pp. 132 and 135.
- 4 Data provided by the Texas Water Development Board on October 12, 2007.
- 5 Texas Water Development Board, *Water for Texas 2007, Volume II*, pp. 67, 79, 85, 91 and data provided by the Texas Water Development Board on March 3, 2007.
- 6 U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, “Amistad National Recreation Area,” <http://www.nps.gov/amis>. (Last visited June 27, 2008.)
- 7 International Boundary and Water Commission, *2004 Annual Report*, p. 3, [http://www.ibwc.state.gov/Files/2004\\_report\\_2.pdf](http://www.ibwc.state.gov/Files/2004_report_2.pdf). (Last visited June 27, 2008.)
- 8 Texas Water Development Board, “Reservoir Summary Report,” <http://wiid.twdb.state.tx.us/ims/>

[resinfo/BushButton/lakeStatus.asp?selcat=0](http://resinfo/BushButton/lakeStatus.asp?selcat=0). (Last visited June 18, 2008.)

- 9 International Boundary and Water Commission, “The International Boundary and Water Commission: Its Mission, Organization and Procedures for Solution of Boundary and Water Problems,” [http://www.ibwc.state.gov/About\\_Us/About\\_Us.html](http://www.ibwc.state.gov/About_Us/About_Us.html); and Texas State Historical Association, *Handbook of Texas Online*, “Fort Quitman,” <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/FF/qbf40.html>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- 10 Data provided by the Texas Water Development Board, October 12, 2007.
- 11 Texas Water Development Board, *Water for Texas, 2007, Volume II*, pp. 193, 195, 197, 199, 209, 213 and 217.
- 12 Texas Water Development Board, *Water for Texas, 2007, Volume II*, pp. 270, 273. Brownsville is in Region M; Corpus Christi is in Region N.
- 13 Texas Water Development Board, *A Desalination Database for Texas*, prepared by the Bureau of Economic Geology (Austin, Texas, October 2005; revised October 2006), p. 6.
- 14 Texas Water Development Board, *Water for Texas, 2007, Volume II*, p. 270.
- 15 Texas Water Development Board, *The Future of Desalination in Texas: Biennial Report on Seawater Desalination* (Austin, Texas, December 2006), p. 10, [http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/iwt/desal/docs/2006\\_Biennial-Final.pdf](http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/iwt/desal/docs/2006_Biennial-Final.pdf). (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- 16 Texas Water Development Board, “Desalination Database,” <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/iwt/desal/db/dbStart.aspx>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- 17 Texas Water Development Board, *The Future of Desalination in Texas: Biennial Report on Seawater Desalination*, pp. 10-11.
- 18 Brownsville Public Utilities Board, “Water & Wastewater,” <http://www.brownsville-pub.com/water.html>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- 19 Interview with Gus Gonzales, director, Corpus Christi Water Department, June 2, 2008.
- 20 Texas Water Development Board, “Mapping,” <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/mapping/index.asp>; and “GCD Facts,” <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/GwRD/GCD/facts.htm>. (Last visited June 27, 2008.)



- <sup>21</sup> Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, “Garner State Park,” <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/garner/>. (Last visited June 18, 2008.)
- <sup>22</sup> Texas A&M University, *The Economic Contributions of Texas State Parks in FY 2006*, by John L. Crompton & Juddson Culpepper (College Station, Texas, December 2006), p. 18, available in pdf format at <http://www.rpts.tamu.edu/Faculty/Crompton/Crompton/Articles/3.10.pdf>. (Last visited June 27, 2008.)
- <sup>23</sup> Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, “Goose Island State Park,” [http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/goose\\_island](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/goose_island). (Last visited June 27, 2008.)
- <sup>24</sup> Texas A&M University, *The Economic Contributions of Texas State Parks in FY 2006*, p. 18.
- <sup>25</sup> Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, “Lake Corpus Christi State Park,” [http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/lake\\_corpus\\_christi](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/lake_corpus_christi). (Last visited June 27, 2008.)
- <sup>26</sup> Texas A&M University, *The Economic Contributions of Texas State Parks in FY 2006*, p. 18.
- <sup>27</sup> Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, “Mustang Island State Park,” [http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/mustang\\_island](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/mustang_island). (Last visited June 27, 2008.)
- <sup>28</sup> Texas A&M University, *The Economic Contributions of Texas State Parks in FY 2006*, p. 19.
- <sup>29</sup> E-mail communication from Lacie Russell, Intergovernmental Affairs Division, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, February 28, 2008.
- <sup>30</sup> Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, “Freshwater Lakes: Gulf Coast Region,” <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/fish/recreational/lakes/ingulf.phtml>; and “South Texas Plains Region,” <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/fish/recreational/lakes/inscent.phtml>. (Last visited June 27, 2008.)
- <sup>31</sup> U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, “Padre Island National Seashore,” <http://www.nps.gov/pais>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>32</sup> National Park Service and Michigan State University, *National Park Visitor Spending and Payroll Impacts: 2006* by Daniel J. Stynes (Washington, D.C., October 2007), p. 24, <http://web4.canr.msu.edu/mgm2/parks/NPSSystem2006.pdf>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>33</sup> E-mail communication from Lacie Russell.
- <sup>34</sup> Texas Railroad Commission, “Top 25 Producing Oil and Gas Fields Based on 1999 Production,” <http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/divisions/og/activity/top251999.html>; and “Producing Oil and Gas Wells, October 2005,” <http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/divisions/og/maps/ogm0014.gif>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>35</sup> Texas Railroad Commission, “Oil and Gas Well Counts by County,” February 2008, <http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/divisions/og/statistics/wells/wellcount/index.html>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>36</sup> Based on North American Industrial Classification System Codes 21111, 21311, 23712, 32411, 32511, 33313, 48611 and 48621—Oil and Natural Gas Related Activities.
- <sup>37</sup> E-mail communication with John Santos, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, June 5, 2007.
- <sup>38</sup> Interview with Paul Goranson, Alta Mesa operations manager, Mesteña Uranium, L.L.C., Corpus Christi, Texas, June 22, 2007.
- <sup>39</sup> Interview with Paul Goranson; and interview with Mark Pelizza, vice president for health safety and environmental affairs, Uranium Resources, Inc., Lewisville, Texas, July 24, 2007.
- <sup>40</sup> World Birding Center, “Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park,” <http://www.worldbirdingcenter.org/sites/mission/index.phtml>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>41</sup> World Birding Center, “Estero Llano Grande State Park,” <http://www.worldbirdingcenter.org/sites/weslaco/index.phtml>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>42</sup> World Birding Center, “Resaca de la Palma State Park,” <http://www.worldbirdingcenter.org/sites/brownsville/index.phtml>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>43</sup> World Birding Center, “Sites,” <http://www.worldbirdingcenter.org/sites>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>44</sup> Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, “Texas’ World Birding Center Taking Wing,” Austin, Texas, May 14, 2007. (Press release.) <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/newsmedia/releases/?req=20070514c>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>45</sup> Reuters, “Exxon Mobil sells 4Gas Option on Texas LNG Site,” January 12, 2007, <http://www.reuters.com/article/companyNewsAndPR/idUSL127770420070112>; and Pegaz, “4Gas Acquires Vista del Sol LNG Terminal and Pipeline Project,” December 3, 2007, [http://www.pegazlng.com/?m=documents&doc\\_id=142](http://www.pegazlng.com/?m=documents&doc_id=142). (Last visited on June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>46</sup> Texas Railroad Commission, “Coal and Lignite Surface Mines,” <http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/divisions/sm/programs/regprgms/mineinfo/mines.html>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>47</sup> Based on North American Industrial Classification System Codes 212291, 212111 and 213113—Uranium and Coal Mining Related Activities.
- <sup>48</sup> U.S. Department of Energy, “Wind Powering America: Installed U.S. Wind Capacity,” [http://www.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/windpoweringamerica/wind\\_installed\\_capacity.asp](http://www.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/windpoweringamerica/wind_installed_capacity.asp). (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>49</sup> Presentation by Patrick A. Nye, American Shoreline, Inc., at the University of Texas School of Law 2007 Wind Energy Institute Conference, Austin, Texas, February 26-27, 2007, p. 2.
- <sup>50</sup> National Wind Watch, “Low Emissions, but Critics Claim Other Environmental Concerns,” <http://www.wind-watch.org/news/2008/04/20/>



- low-emissions-but-critics-claim-other-environmental-concerns. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>51</sup> Fanny S. Chirinos, “City Firm’s Wind Farm Plans May Be Boon,” *Corpus Christi Caller-Times* (March 29, 2008), <http://www.caller.com/news/2008/mar/29/city-firms-wind-farm-plans-may-be-boon>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>52</sup> North American Offshore Wind Project Information, “Additional Project Information,” <http://offshorewind.net/OffshoreProjects/WESTLEASETRACTD.html>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>53</sup> Texas General Land Office, “Texas Awards First Competitive Wind Leases in the United States,” October 2, 2007, <http://www.glo.state.tx.us/news/docs/2007-Releases/10-02-07-wind-lease.pdf>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>54</sup> Electric Reliability Council of Texas, “Company Profile,” <http://www.ercot.com/about/profile/index.html>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>55</sup> National Renewable Energy Laboratory, “Large Wind Blade Test Facilities to be in Mass., Texas,” June 25, 2007, <http://www.nrel.gov/news/press/2007/519.html?print>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>56</sup> University of Houston, “UH-Led Group Winds Wind Turbine Testing Facility,” <http://www.egr.uh.edu/wind/?e=news>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>57</sup> National Renewable Energy Laboratory, “Large Wind Blade Test Facilities to be in Mass., Texas.”
- <sup>58</sup> University of Houston, “UH-Led Group Winds Wind Turbine Testing Facility”; and “South Texas Picked as Site for National Wind-Energy Project,” *San Antonio Business Journal* (June 25, 2007), <http://sanantonio.bizjournals.com/sanantonio/stories/2007/06/25/daily6.html?t=printable>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>59</sup> Elvia Aquilar, “Wind Turbines: Ingleside gets \$20M plant,” *Corpus Christi Caller-Times* (June 26, 2007), <http://www.caller.com/news/2007/jun/26/wind-turbines-ingleside-gets-20m-plant>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>60</sup> Public Utility Commission of Texas, “Electric Utility Bill Comparison,” <http://puc.state.tx.us/electric/rates/NCrate/2008/may08r.pdf>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>61</sup> Electricity Texas, “Learn More About Available Electricity Providers in Your Area,” [http://www.electricitytexas.com/service\\_areas.html](http://www.electricitytexas.com/service_areas.html). (Last visited June 24, 2008.)
- <sup>62</sup> Electric Reliability of Texas, “ERCOT Quick Facts,” [http://www.ercot.com/content/news/presentations/2008/ERCOT\\_Quick\\_Facts\\_May\\_2008.pdf](http://www.ercot.com/content/news/presentations/2008/ERCOT_Quick_Facts_May_2008.pdf); and San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. “Electric Service,” <http://www.sanpatricioelectric.org/electricservice/electricservice.asp>. (Last visited July 1, 2008.)
- <sup>63</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, “Local Information,” [http://www.txdot.state.tx.us/local\\_information](http://www.txdot.state.tx.us/local_information). (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>64</sup> E-mail communication from Caroline Love, Government and Public Affairs Division, Texas Department of Transportation, March 20, 2008.
- <sup>65</sup> Based on North American Industrial Classification System Code 237—Heavy and Civil Engineering and Construction.
- <sup>66</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, *Texas Model Border Crossing Project* (Austin, Texas, January 2002), p. 1.
- <sup>67</sup> Texas Public Policy Foundation, *Texas Road Policy: Keeping Up With Demand*, by Byron Schlomach (Austin, Texas, February 2005), p. 6, <http://www.texaspolicy.com/pdf/2005-02-transportation.pdf>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>68</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, Division of Transportation Planning and Programming TxDOT NAFTA Study (Austin, Texas, October 17, 2007), pp. 2 and 33.
- <sup>69</sup> U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, “World Trade Bridge Crossing Summary,” [http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/freight\\_analysis/world\\_trade\\_brdg/wrld\\_trd\\_brdg\\_ovrww.htm](http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/freight_analysis/world_trade_brdg/wrld_trd_brdg_ovrww.htm). (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>70</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, *Texas Model Border Crossing Project*, p. 1; and Texas Department of Transportation, World Trade Bridge, [http://www.dot.state.tx.us/services/transportation\\_planning\\_and\\_programming/border\\_crossings\\_study/crossings/worldtrade.htm](http://www.dot.state.tx.us/services/transportation_planning_and_programming/border_crossings_study/crossings/worldtrade.htm). (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>71</sup> U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, “World Trade Bridge Crossing Summary.”
- <sup>72</sup> Ports-To-Plains Corridor Coalition, “Ports-To-Plains Trade Corridor,” <http://www.portstoplains.com>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>73</sup> Ports-To-Plains Corridor Coalition, “Maps,” <http://www.portstoplains.com/maps.html>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>74</sup> Ports-To-Plains Corridor, Corridor Development and Management Plan (December 2004), Chapter 5, pp. 133 and 143; Executive Summary, p. xv; and Appendix 5b, pp. 114-116, <http://www.portstoplains.corridor.com>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>75</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, Trans Texas Corridor, “Overview,” <http://ttc.keeptexasmoving.com/about>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>76</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, Trans Texas Corridor, “Interactive Map,” [http://ttc.keeptexasmoving.com/flash/interactive\\_map/interactive.htm](http://ttc.keeptexasmoving.com/flash/interactive_map/interactive.htm). (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>77</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, Trans Texas Corridor, “Overview.”
- <sup>78</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, Trans Texas Corridor, “Frequently Asked Questions,” <http://>



- ttc.keeptexasmoving.com/faqs/?faq\_type=1. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>79</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, Trans Texas Corridor, “TTC/I 69—Northeast Texas to Mexico,” <http://ttc.keeptexasmoving.com/projects/i69/milestones.aspx>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>80</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, Trans Texas Corridor, “Interactive Map.”
- <sup>81</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, Trans Texas Corridor, “Frequently Asked Questions.”
- <sup>82</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, Trans Texas Corridor, “Interactive Map.”
- <sup>83</sup> American Public Transportation Association, “Texas Transit Links,” [http://www.apta.com/links/state\\_local/tx.cfm#A11](http://www.apta.com/links/state_local/tx.cfm#A11). (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>84</sup> Association of American Railroads, “Railroad Service in Texas, 2006,” [http://www.aar.org/PubCommon/Documents/AboutTheIndustry/RRState\\_TX.pdf?states=RRState\\_TX.pdf](http://www.aar.org/PubCommon/Documents/AboutTheIndustry/RRState_TX.pdf?states=RRState_TX.pdf). (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>85</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, *Trans-Texas Corridor Rural Development Opportunities: Ports-to-Plains Case Study, Executive Summary*, by Cambridge Systematics, Inc. and R.J. Rivera Associates, Inc. (Austin, Texas, April 2007), p. ES-4, [http://www.portstoplains.com/FR1\\_TxDOT%20TTC%20Rur%20DevOps\\_Exec\\_Summary.pdf](http://www.portstoplains.com/FR1_TxDOT%20TTC%20Rur%20DevOps_Exec_Summary.pdf). (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>86</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, “Texas Airport Directory,” [http://www.dot.state.tx.us/services/aviation/airport\\_directory.htm](http://www.dot.state.tx.us/services/aviation/airport_directory.htm). (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>87</sup> U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, *Calendar Year 2006 Passenger Activity at US Airports* (Washington, D.C., October 1, 2007), p. 3.
- <sup>88</sup> Valley International Airport, “Airlines,” <http://www.flythevalley.com/airlines/airlines.php>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>89</sup> Sikorsky Aircraft Corp., “SSSI Delivers First Overhauled Aircraft from Chase Field,” Stratford, Connecticut, February 1, 2008, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/library/news/2008/02/mil-080201-sikorsky01.htm>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>90</sup> Office of the Governor, “Gov. Perry Awards Military Communities \$2.5 Million to Improve Efficiency and Competitiveness,” Austin, Texas, January 3, 2008, <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/press/pressreleases/PressRelease.2008-01-03.3647>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>91</sup> U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, *Calendar Year 2006 Passenger Activity at US Airports*, p. 3.
- <sup>92</sup> City of Corpus Christi, “Airline and Air Freight Information,” <http://www.cctexas.com/?fuseaction=main.view&page=872>. (Last visited June 30, 2008.)
- <sup>93</sup> U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, *Calendar Year 2006 Passenger Activity at US Airports*, pp. 4-5.

