

A RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE VITAL IMPORTANCE OF THE EDWARDS AQUIFER TO THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO; AND DIRECTING STUDY REGARDING LEGISLATIVE AND LEGAL ACTIONS AVAILABLE TO PROTECT THE COMMUNITY FROM POSSIBLE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF PIPELINES BEING LOCATED OVER THE EDWARDS AQUIFER.

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WHEREAS, the City of San Antonio (City) is committed to the safety, health, and welfare of all of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the City has an interest in the protection of its natural resources, including the Edwards Aquifer; and

WHEREAS, the Edwards Aquifer serves as a source of drinking water for the City and the surrounding region and is a vital resource to the general economy of the region; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that pipelines that traverse through the Edwards Aquifer area pose a potential danger and threat to people, wildlife, and ecosystems along their route; and

WHEREAS, the risk of potential harm to the Edwards Aquifer and consequent negative impact on the residents and economy far outweighs any benefit from a pipeline traversing through or in close proximity to the aquifer.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. City Council opposes the permitting or routing of any oil or gas pipeline carrying substances with the potential to negatively impact groundwater quality over or adjacent to areas that have been designated as contributing, recharge, transition or artesian zones to the Edward Aquifer.

SECTION 2. City Council directs the City Manager and staff to study legislative and other legal avenues to protect landowners, landowners' property rights, and communities from the potential negative impact of oil and gas pipelines, including:

- (1) Creating a state regulatory process for oil and gas pipeline routing that enables affected landowners and communities to provide input on the routing process, similar to the practice followed by the Public Utility Commission of Texas regarding the routing of electric transmission lines.
- (2) Requiring environmental and economic impact studies for all intra-state oil and gas pipelines, including the participation of local governmental entities, and making these studies available for review by the public.

- (3) Requiring governmental oversight over the power of eminent domain delegated to private companies and/or rescinding the unlimited power of eminent domain delegated to private companies.

SECTION 3. This Resolution is effective immediately upon the receipt of eight affirmative votes; otherwise, it is effective ten days after passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this ____ day of _____, _____.

M A Y O R
Ron Nirenberg

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

Andy Segovia, City Attorney