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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Kerrville in full compliance with HGCD water permit

Kerrville, Texas (Nov. 8, 2023) – During recent meetings of City Council, a repeated claim was made regarding the current status of the City of Kerrville’s groundwater permit from the Headwaters Groundwater Conservation District. First and foremost, the City remains in full compliance with its permit from Headwaters, which per state law automatically renews prior to expiration. In response to a proposed permit issued by Headwaters, the City is seeking answers from Headwaters as to several questions and issues with this permit. Headwaters is the local agency that, per state law, is charged with regulating groundwater use within Kerr County.



Since the creation of Headwaters, the City has sought and received groundwater permits from Headwaters and complied with its conditions and other regulations. The City has been proactive in developing and using a number of different water resources in managing its water

system, including surface water from the Guadalupe River, water that the City stores in its aquifer storage and recovery wells, and groundwater. In addition, the City operates a reclaimed water system that supplies reclaimed water to a number of athletic facilities in Kerrville. This use of water resources is known as a conjunctive use system. Under this system, the City ensures that it has a firm water supply on hand for its customers when weather conditions or operational needs stress one or more of these resources.

In recent years, the City has used approximately 20 percent of its permitted groundwater rights on an average year. Per Headwaters' rules, the City collects and reports its groundwater use to Headwaters each month. Beyond that, the City seeks to use groundwater, and its other water resources, in ways that are reasonable and responsible, taking into effect current weather conditions and operational needs.

In the coming weeks, the City plans an additional meeting with Headwaters in hopes of receiving a renewal permit from Headwaters that both complies with state law and meets the needs of the City and most importantly, its customers. The City remains hopeful that after discussing these issues with Headwaters, the two sides can resolve their differences in ways that comply with state law and Headwaters' rules.

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