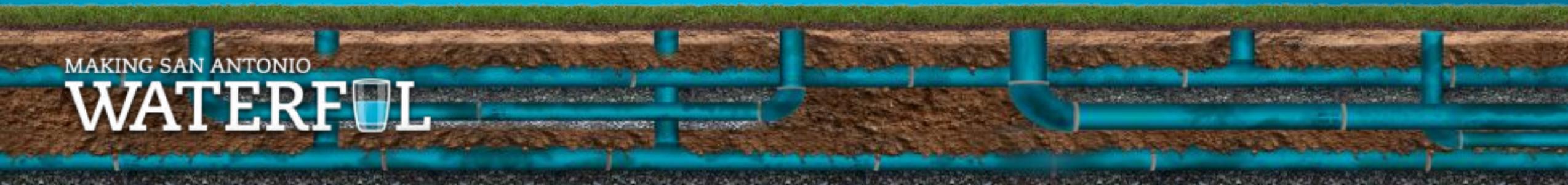


MAKING SAN ANTONIO  
**WATERFUL**



# RIVER SEWAGE 'DEPLORABLE'

By RICHARD SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

City officials say raw sewage being dumped into the San Antonio River can't be cleaned out in time to forestall a threatened lawsuit by the state, which calls the river's condition "deplorable."

The possible lawsuit is yet another problem plaguing the city stemming from its troubled sewer system.

The city also faces an investigation and possible lawsuit over the drowning death of a 12-year-old youngster who fell through an uncovered manhole while chasing a volleyball near Tafolla Middle School.

Charging the city with contaminating the San Antonio River with raw sewage to the point of causing fish kills, the Texas Department of Water Resources says it wants an explanation by Nov. 28.

TDWR wants to know why the city hasn't complied with orders to clean up the river.

TDWR Executive Director Charles Nemir said that information collected from city plants — particularly the Rilling Road Wastewater Treatment Plant — allege city facilities are dumping treated wastes into the river "with a quality approaching that of raw sewage."

## State demands clean-up

He also charged the city with not keeping its promise, made Oct. 14, 1982 by City Council, to act in good faith to meet state clean-water standards.

A letter from Nemir zeroes in on the 60-year-old Rilling Road plant, citing mismanagement and unsound solid waste operations.

"In light of this information, I am seriously considering a staff recommendation to request the attorney general to institute legal action against the city for permit violations," Nemir stated in the letter, which was sent to Mayor Henry Cisneros and city councilmembers.

### Monitoring

Nemir said the agency has been monitoring the city's sewerage treatment operations for several months and came to this opinion:

"These conditions and the deplorable condition of the San Antonio River has now led us to conclude the city has failed in its agreed-upon responsibilities regarding operation and maintenance of existing facilities," Nemir said.

"There's not enough time to comply," said City Councilwoman Helen

Dutmer, who is a member of wastewater treatment committees for both the city and the region.

She said steps are being taken by the city to obtain rights-of-way for the planned Dos Rios wastewater treatment plant seven miles south of the junction of the San Antonio and Medina rivers.

"It takes time to install this kind of equipment," Dutmer said, explaining the plant could be functional between 1986 and 1988.

However, another city official, who asked not to be identified, said the letter was a political instrument concocted by the city to help prove to the federal government it needs funds for the \$350 million project.

"The letter wasn't wholly unexpected. The city hopes to use this to show the federal government it needs the funding for the project," the official said.

Up to 80 percent of the federal funding for the project was cut by the Reagan administration last year.

Because of the cuts, the city has had to consider raising sewer rates five-fold over the next five years on the project in order to meet federal clean-water requirements.





it won't work





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 5, 1998  
 Contact: John Bogness  
 704-7481  
 603-5259 (pager)



**SA CITY COUNCIL APPROVES 50-YEAR WATER RESOURCES PLAN**



Today, the San Antonio City Council approved a citizen-driven, 50-year water plan for San Antonio. San Antonio Water System Board of Trustees had unanimously adopted the plan on October 20 before seeking Council approval. This is the first long-term water resources plan in the City's history.

"This is truly a giant step for San Antonio," said SAWS Board Chairman Juan Patlan. "The community has been working on this plan for nearly three years. I have firmly maintained that citizens will make good decisions if they are well informed and have a meaningful part in the planning process. As a result of our extensive public involvement at the outset of this effort, people now understand we have limits on how much water we can withdraw from the Edwards Aquifer. With that fact facing us, our community now sees the need of moving forward on a long-term water plan that is essential to our City's future."

"This is truly a giant step for San Antonio"

Juan Patlan  
 SAWS Chairman

Long-range water planning is critical because it sometimes takes 25 years to bring on a large water supply project. Nearly three years ago, San Antonio citizens and the City Council recognized the need to earnestly begin the long journey of securing our water future.

"The facts are fairly simple," said SAWS President/CEO Mike Thuss. "Our population and water needs in San Antonio are expected to double in the next 50 years. And now with regulated limits on how much water we can draw from the Edwards Aquifer, San Antonio needs to find and acquire other water resources to meet the needs of our growing community."

**Citizens and SAWS Working Together**

While the Edwards Aquifer will always be the cornerstone of San Antonio's water supply, 50 years from now the Edwards will supply slightly less than half of the water San Antonio needs for homes and businesses. Several citizens committees dedicated to discussing and recommending water

**SECURING OUR WATER FUTURE TOGETHER**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 6, 1998  
 Contact: Patti Larsen (229-2112)



**Chamber Urges City Council, SAWS to Privatize Wastewater Treatment Facility**  
*Ties Support of 2050 Water Plan to Privatization*

SAN ANTONIO - The Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce is urging City Council and the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) Board of Trustees to objectively evaluate the merits of competitive outsourcing for its wastewater treatment facility. The Chamber, which approved a policy statement in May recommending that SAWS seek outsourcing bids, is presenting the recommendations at tonight's public meeting on SAWS' 2050 Water Plan. According to Chamber Chairman Nelson Wolff, the 3,000 member business advocacy organization's support of the 2050 Water Plan is contingent upon the move toward open competition.

"The report on the 2050 Water Plan encompasses many components considered essential to a long-term water policy for our community and region," said Wolff. "The business community understands that the economy of the Edwards Aquifer region is interdependent. We will all prosper together or we will fail together. We need to recognize that our economies depend upon one another."

Wolff noted preliminary indications are that once the challenges to the pumping limits are resolved by the Edwards Aquifer Authority, the cap may be exceeded by as much as 100,00 acre feet. "We will soon find ourselves in the position of SAWS needing to buy down a portion of that excess water, at a cost of possibly \$35 million to \$70 million," Wolff stated. "I encourage SAWS to enter this dollar figure into the 2050 report as The Chamber believes it should be included. The problem is, where will SAWS 'find' this money either short term or long term? The obvious answer is the ratepayers, and The Chamber has one idea which may allow us access to additional revenue."

Wolff went on to state that last February, The Chamber coordinated a trip to Indianapolis to learn first hand of its competitive outsourcing experiences.

"We learned that its wastewater treatment facility is projected to realize a savings of \$189 million over 15 years through a private sector manager of its wastewater treatment facility," Wolff said. The initial savings over a five year period was \$65 million. Comparisons between the two cities are similar.

In addition, although our residential and commercial rates are the second lowest in the state, the U.S. Department of Commerce also ranks San Antonio's per capita income as the second lowest in the state among major metropolitan areas. A rate increase in San Antonio will disproportionately affect San Antonio's citizens. SAWS owes it to them to explore competition as a way to save money," Wolff said.

"We agree with the objectives, from aquifer optimization to surface reservoirs. We are concerned with the funding mechanism SAWS has outlined. The \$2.6 billion price tag on this long term water management plan may be significantly offset by competitive outsourcing. If significant savings can be realized, that is money in the pockets of the ratepayers," Wolff concluded.

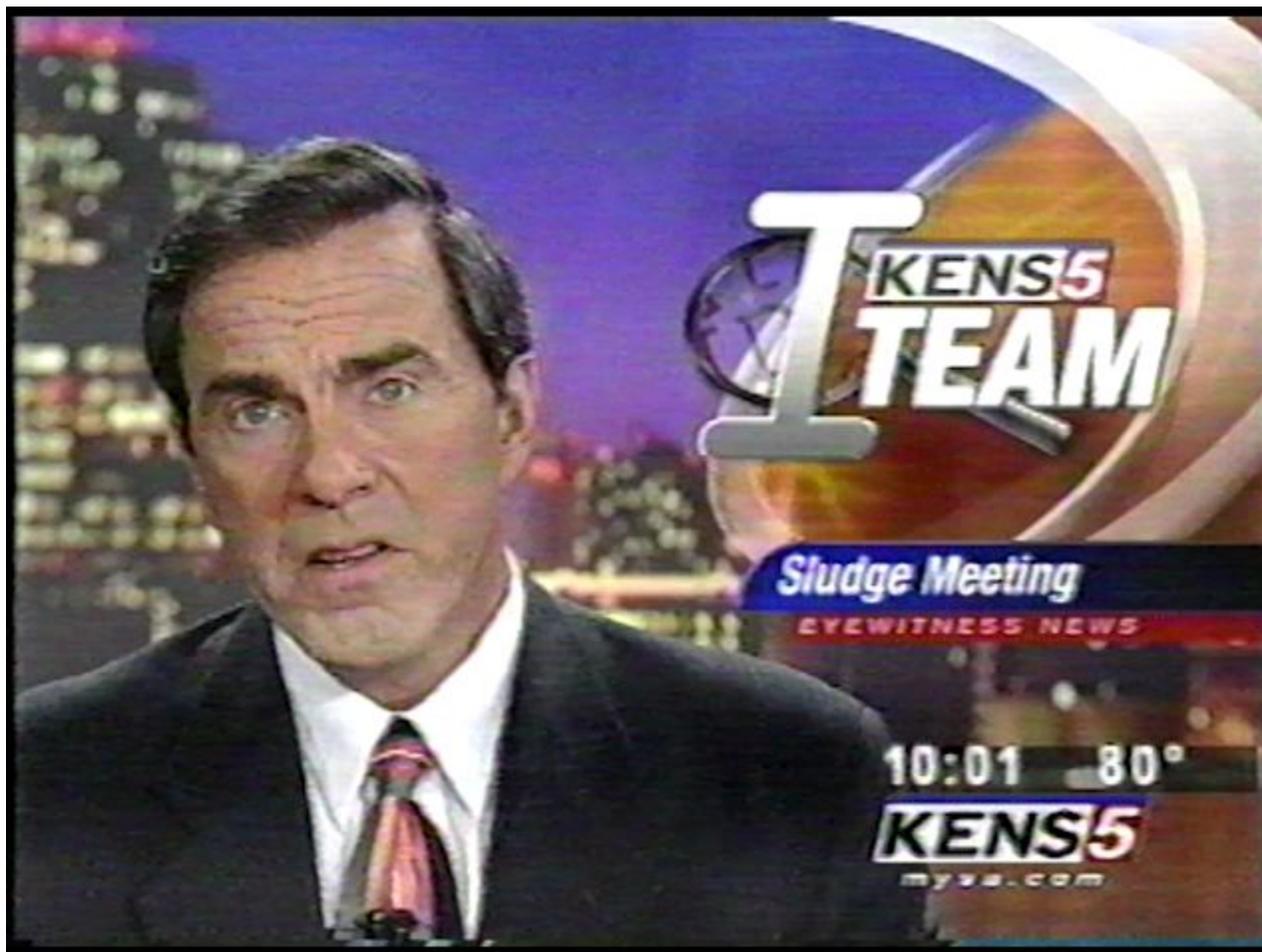
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Chamber Urges City, SAWS to Privatize Wastewater Treatment Facility, Ties Support of 2050 Water Plan to Privatization











NACWA  
A Clear Commitment to America's Waters  
2012  
Environment Award  
Steve Clouse



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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
2004 NATIONAL FIRST PLACE  
CLEAN WATER ACT RECOGNITION AWARD  
FOR EXCELLENCE IN WATER QUALITY AND  
WATER PROTECTION  
AWARDED TO  
THE BOYD CENTER FOR WATER RESEARCH  
AND TECHNOLOGY  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN



WWTQ  
ROBERT VILLE  
WATER QUALITY AWARD  
SAN ANTONIO, TX  
2010

WWTQ  
[Name partially obscured]

WWTQ  
BOB REEVA  
WATER QUALITY AWARD  
SAN ANTONIO, TX  
2010

WWTQ  
JAMES BROWN  
WATER QUALITY AWARD  
SAN ANTONIO, TX  
2010

WATER QUALITY AWARD  
2010  
Presented to  
[Name partially obscured]  
for outstanding performance in  
achieving the highest water quality  
standards in the region.  
WWTQ  
WATER QUALITY AWARD  
2010





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SAN MATEO  
WATER SYSTEM







## STEVEN M. CLOUSE WATER RECYCLING CENTER

FROM 1985 TO 2018, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER STEVEN M. CLOUSE VISIONARY LEADERSHIP THAT PROPELLED THIS PLANT TO NATIONAL RECOGNITION WHEN IT BECAME THE FIRST IN THE COUNTRY TO RECYCLE ALL THE RESOURCES PRODUCED BY THE TREATMENT PROCESS: BIOSOLIDS, AND METHANE GAS.

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OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AWARD  
WATER ENVIRONMENT FEDERATION, 2003

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OF THE YEAR  
WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS, 2003

PLATINUM AWARD FOR PERMIT COMPLIANCE  
AMERICAN METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE ASSOCIATION, 2004

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CLEAN WATER AGENCIES, 2004

TEXAS ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARD  
STATE OF TEXAS, 2011

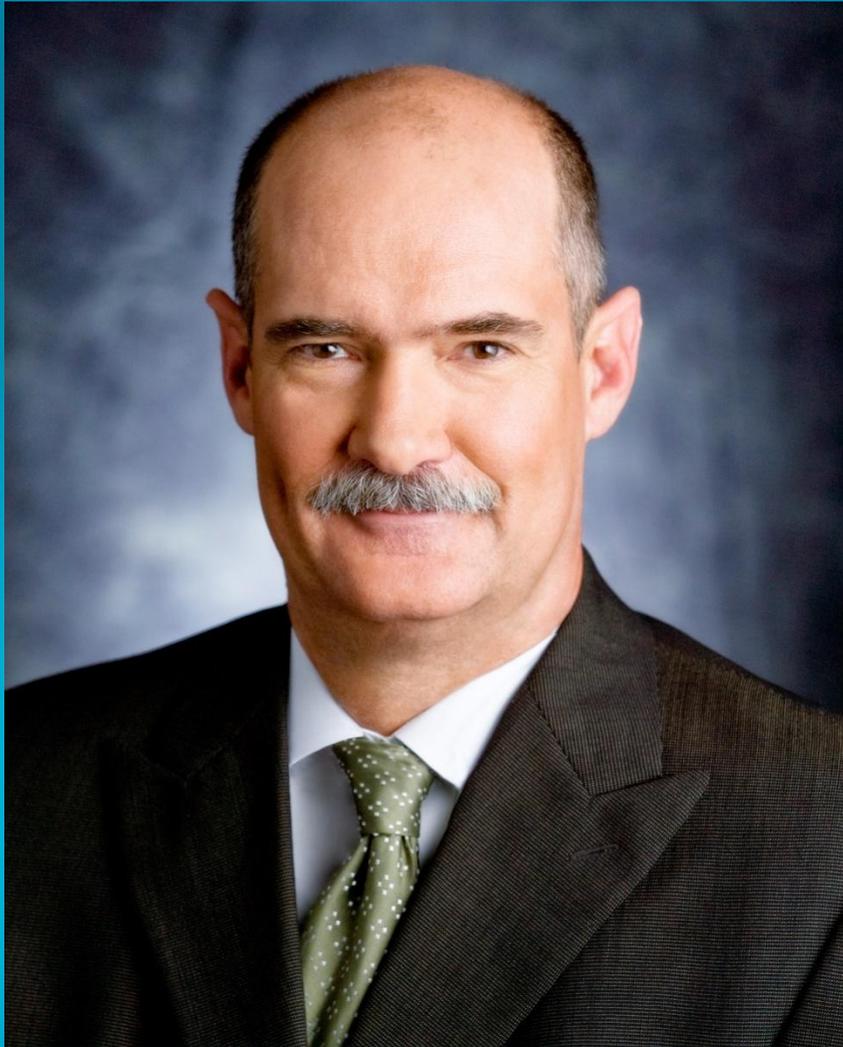




Antonio Water System



Antonio  
Water System



MAKING SAN ANTONIO  
**WATERFUL**

