

**Justin S. Greene**  
*Commissioner, District 1*

**Lisa Cacari Stone**  
*Commissioner, District 2*

**Camilla Bustamante**  
*Commissioner, District 3*



**Adam Fulton Johnson**  
*Commissioner, District 4*

**Hank Hughes**  
*Commissioner, District 5*

**Gregory S. Shaffer**  
*County Manager*

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** July 3, 2025

**To:** Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Scott Kaseman, Project Manager III

**Via:** Gregory S. Shaffer, County Manager  
Leandro Cordova, Deputy County Manager  
Brian Snyder, Public Works Department Director  
Phillip “PJ” Montano, Facilities & Projects Division Director  
Curt Temple, Projects Section Manager

**Subject:** **July 29, 2025, BCC Meeting**  
Pojoaque Basin Regional Water System Quarterly Report for June 30, 2025

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### QUARTERLY REPORT Pojoaque Basin Regional Water System June 30, 2025

The Pojoaque Basin Regional Water System (PBRWS) is the product of the AAMODT Settlement Agreement, which was reached between the United States of America, the State of New Mexico, Santa Fe County, the City of Santa Fe and the Pueblos of San Ildefonso, Nambe, Pojoaque, and Tesuque.

The System is currently being designed and constructed by the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Reclamation and will have the capacity to deliver water from the Rio Grande to the four Pueblos and non-Pueblo customers in the Pojoaque Basin and Santa Fe County.

- Water will be diverted from the Rio Grande on Pueblo of San Ildefonso land above Otowi gauge.
- The PBRWS will provide up to 2,500 acre feet of water per year for consumptive use with the ability to expand in the future.
- The Bureau of Reclamation will build the system. The Regional Water System will consist of:
  - A Water Treatment Plant to treat water to meet Safe Drinking Water Act standards
  - 22 water storage tanks and 6 pump stations
  - A 4-mile-long raw water pipeline from the Rio Grande to the WTP
  - Potable water transmission and distribution system consisting of 151 miles of pipelines
  - Approximately 7 miles of new power lines

## **Design & Construction Status**

*Phase 1* is 100% designed and construction is 45% complete based on BOR expenditures as of February 28, 2025. The Estimated Completion Date is August 2027.

Activity:

- Water Treatment Plant Main Building and Raw Water Transmission Pipelines
- Collector Wells, Mechanical & Engineering (M/E) Building (Complete)
- Construction of Caissons for Collector Well (Complete)
- Pipe from Collector Wells to Mechanical/Electrical Building; (Complete)
- Electric duct bank from CWs towards the Mechanical/Electrical Building; (Complete)
- Access roads from M/E building to CWs (Complete)

*Phase 2 Stage 1* is 100% designed. BOR only received 1 bid to construct Stage 1 that was more than double the engineer's cost estimate. Stages 1 and 2 will be combined into 1 bid package to hopefully encourage multiple larger contractors to bid on the project and provide better pricing.

*Phase 2 Stage 2 design plans* are at 90%. The plans were reviewed by the County and Pueblos and comments provided to the engineers. Additional value engineering is being conducted to determine if the scope of work can be scaled back sufficiently to construct Phase 2 with the available budget and still meet the current demands of the intended service area.

*Phase 3* is at 30% design requiring input from the County as to location of the distribution lines based on landowner participation in the system. Staff are analyzing Well Election data and Survey results from the Office of the State Engineer to help make these determinations.

## **Easement Acquisition Status**

*Phase 1* – Approximately 70 Easements required - ROW Acquisition Consultant under contract and preparing Offer Packets.

*Phase 2 Stage 1*– 20 easements required, 15 are signed, 1 is being finalized, 4 on hold pending realignment feasibility during Phase 2 value engineering process.

## **Interconnect and Reverse Flow Between PBRWS and Rest of County Water Utility**

A “T” junction has been designed into the Project near the Village of Tesuque to allow the PBRWS to connect with the Santa Fe Basin Water System.

Benefits of Interconnect Between PBRWS and Rest of County Water Utility:

- Addresses critical need of the System regarding Water Quality
  - Disinfection byproducts (DBPs) can form if water sits in system for an extended period of time.

- o Interconnect ensures water quality without waste by allowing water to be timely used.
- PBRWS Operational, Maintenance, Repair, and Replacement (OMRR) Costs
  - o *Initial* customer base in Pojoaque Basin is inadequate to support PBRWS's OMRR Costs at reasonable rates.
  - o Interconnect allows up to 1,000 acre feet per year of County water to be used elsewhere in County until it is needed in the Pojoaque Basin.
  - o Interconnect, thus, provides non-Basin customers to help shoulder PBRWS's OMRR Costs.
- Future reverse flow enhancements will allow the rest of the County system to provide backup supply to PBRWS

### **Santa Fe County PBRWS Anticipated Costs**

#### **Santa Fe County 611(g) Contribution**

	<b>Total</b>
Corrected 611(g) Amount Including Upsize of Line and Infrastructure to the Interconnect with the Santa Fe Basin Water System - Indexed to 2024 County Contributions through June 2025	\$24,400,000.00 <u>\$ 14,400,000.00</u>
<b>Outstanding Balance Due - Subject to Indexing</b>	<b>\$10,000,000.00</b>

#### **Interconnect with Santa Fe Basin Water System**

	<b>Total</b>
Engineering Design & Oversight Services for Interconnect & Reverse Flow Connection To the Santa Fe Basin Water System	\$800,000.00
Construct Interconnect with Santa Fe Basin Water System & Reverse Flow Infrastructure	TBD

### **Phase 3 Distribution Lines & Connections**

	<b>Total</b>
Phase 3 Distribution Lines & Connections (Deferred: 2018 Dollars)	\$24,000,000.00

### **Project Ceiling and Indexing Status**

Previously, the BOR Project Ceiling was \$522,000,000.00. In October 2024, the Project Ceiling was indexed to \$734 million using a project specific index. Assuming 3.5% escalation per year, by 2026 the Ceiling is estimated to be \$777.5 million.

BOR continues to work with the County and other partners on the details of the project specific indexing, Project Ceiling, non-contract costs that BOR believes to be in addition to the Project Ceiling, and plans to address such non-contract costs (which are estimated to be substantial).

### **Partners Agreements Status**

Counsel and staff for the County and Pueblos are finalizing the Operations Agreement and are preparing a schedule of all documents and activities necessary to assume control of the System.

BOR's construction contractor CDM Smith is updating the Draft Operations & Maintenance Plan for the System, it is expected in August 2025.

### **Communications and Coordination Status**

The County is working with NMED and the Office of the State Engineer to conduct a Water Fair to provide information about the project and encourage landowners to connect to the system once available.

County staff conduct biweekly meetings with BOR's Project Manager, host multiple monthly meetings with all Project partners and attend the biweekly on-site construction meeting at the Water Treatment Plant.

### **Santa Fe County Point of Contact**

Scott Kaseman, Santa Fe County Project Manager  
505-992-9887  
[skaseman@santafecountynm.gov](mailto:skaseman@santafecountynm.gov)

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Exhibit A – Bureau of Reclamation Quarterly Report



# United States Department of the Interior



## BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Albuquerque Area Office  
555 Broadway NE, Suite 100  
Albuquerque, NM 87102-2352

IN REPLY REFER TO:

ALB-800  
2.2.4.21

June 18, 2025

VIA U.S. AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Gregory Shaffer  
Santa Fe Country Manager  
102 Grant Avenue  
Santa Fe, NM 87501  
[gshaffer@santafecountynm.gov](mailto:gshaffer@santafecountynm.gov)

Subject: Pojoaque Basin Regional Water System (PBRWS) – Quarterly Report

Dear Mr. Shaffer:

Thank you for your continued support to the PBRWS Project. Phase 1 construction has made significant progress at the Water Treatment Plant, Tank Sites, and pipeline construction. Interior plumbing, equipment pads, interior finishes, storefront installation and site transformer and generator pads have all been constructed within the Water Treatment Plant, and delivery/placement of treatment works has begun. Construction of the Residual Building is significantly complete, and the contractor is currently performing quality control measures. The Finished Water Pump Station building installation is significantly complete and plumbing has commenced. The Chemical Canopy roof has been set, and tank pads constructed. Raw Water Tanks 1 & 2 have been erected. For Turtle Tank, the prestressed concrete panels have been completed and have been erected. The Pojoaque Booster Pump Station building foundation has been poured. Pipeline installation has increased, with 3x subcontractors performing pipeline work, including potholing, hydraulic drilling, jack and bore, and trench pipe installation. Approximately \$160.6 million out of \$357.1 million has been invoiced by CDM Smith for Phase 1, through February 2025.

The attached Aamodt expenditure report shows expenditures for the second quarter of Fiscal Year 25 for different categories which total \$38,302,016.71. Total Aamodt project expenditures through March 2025 were \$248,669,105.97.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (505)462-3541 or by email: [jfaler@usbr.gov](mailto:jfaler@usbr.gov). Individuals who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Faler  
Area Manager  
Albuquerque Area Office

Table 1. Aamodt project expenditures: FY25, Qtr2

<b>FY25 Qtr 2 Totals by Category</b>	<b>Labor</b>	<b>Denver TSC</b>	<b>Contracts</b>	<b>Oper. Expense</b>	<b>Total</b>
Project/Contract Mgmt	\$566,358.98	\$20,290.00	\$1,120,283.21	\$64,785.26	\$1,771,717.45
Feasibility	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Environmental Compliance	\$896.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$896.10
Lands/Realty	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Design	\$81,122.62	\$200,843.64	\$0.00	(\$1,146.80)	\$280,819.46
Rio Tesuque	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
San Ildefonso	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Construction	\$0.00	\$133,820.07	\$30,479,082.08	\$5,635,681.55	\$36,248,583.70
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$648,377.70</b>	<b>\$354,953.71</b>	<b>\$31,599,365.29</b>	<b>\$5,699,320.01</b>	<b>\$38,302,016.71</b>