

By: Duncan

S.B. No. 1715

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to regulation of the management and disposal of certain
3 drinking water treatment residuals through underground injection.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 401.412, Health and Safety Code, is
6 amended by adding Subsections (g) and (h) to read as follows:

7 (g) The commission by rule shall provide for the expedited
8 processing of applications for and the issuance of licenses
9 required by this chapter for the management of residuals derived
10 from the treatment of groundwater for drinking water purposes.

11 (h) In exercising its authority under Subsection (g), the
12 commission shall, where applicable, reciprocate recognition of
13 similar licensing authorized to an applicant by other agencies of
14 this state in an effort to create administrative efficiencies,
15 avoid regulatory redundancies, and otherwise streamline the
16 administrative requirements for obtaining any additional licensing
17 that may be required under this chapter.

18 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 27, Water Code, is amended
19 by adding Section 27.026 to read as follows:

20 Sec. 27.026. USE OF BEDDED SALT FORMATIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF
21 CERTAIN DRINKING WATER TREATMENT RESIDUALS. (a) The commission by
22 rule shall provide for the expedited processing of applications for
23 and issuance of permits required under this chapter for the
24 disposal into a bedded salt formation of residuals derived from the

1 treatment of groundwater for drinking water purposes.

2 (b) In exercising its authority under Subsection (a), the
3 commission shall work to create administrative efficiencies, avoid
4 regulatory redundancies, where applicable, and otherwise
5 streamline the administrative requirements for obtaining permits
6 required by this chapter.

7 SECTION 3. Section 27.073, Water Code, is amended by adding
8 Subsection (e) to read as follows:

9 (e) Persons to whom an injection well permit is issued under
10 Section 27.026 for a well that is also permitted for injection
11 disposal by the railroad commission may demonstrate financial
12 responsibility to the commission upon demonstration that
13 compatible financial security has already been issued in
14 satisfaction of the railroad commission requirements adopted under
15 this section.

16 SECTION 4. As soon as possible after the effective date of
17 this Act, the Department of State Health Services, the Texas
18 Commission on Environmental Quality, and the Railroad Commission of
19 Texas shall undertake all efforts necessary to efficiently
20 implement this Act while providing for the preservation of
21 groundwater quality and otherwise ensuring all necessary
22 protections of the public health and safety.

23 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
25 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
26 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
27 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.