Monica Reyes
Edwards Aquifer Section Manager
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
MC 172, P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711

October 21, 2026

Via Electronic Submission

Re: Opportunity for Public Comment on the EAPP

To Ms. Reyes:

Save Our Springs Alliance (SOS) writes to support the request of Save Salado Creek and those living along Salado Creek for TCEQ to extend the Edwards Aquifer Protections set out in 30 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 213 to Bell County.

The northern segment of the Edwards Balcones Fault Zone Aquifer in Bell County is characterized by karst geology with faults, fractures, caves, sinkholes, springs, and other pathways that allows surface water and pollutants to move rapidly into the aquifer with little to no natural attenuation. This places the health of those that depend on groundwater in the area and the well-being of wildlife, including the threatened Salado Springs salamander, in grave danger from wastewater effluent and stormwater runoff. As Bell County continues to grow, impervious cover increases and TCEQ continues to issue TPDES permits into streams that recharge the aquifer; this in turn causes the risks to grow.

The extension of Chapter 213 protections to Bell County would help to mitigate those risks by imposing additional scrutiny and requirements on water quality permits in the area. These guardrails against widespread contamination in the aquifer are long overdue to protect those living in Bell County and the community along Salado Creek from adverse impacts to their health and quality of life.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria Rose
Staff Attorney
Save Our Springs Alliance
victoria@sosalliance.org