

OSCAR LEESER

TOMMY GONZALEZ



CITY COUNCIL

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NEWS RELEASE

Company to invest \$65 million following approval of incentive agreement

Innovative technology capable of supplying 2.2 million gallons of water a day

EL PASO, Texas – On Tuesday, El Paso City Council approved a Chapter 380 Incentive Agreement for the development of an innovative water production and chemical manufacturing facility that will bring first-of-its-kind technology to the region and increase economic development opportunities.

The Enviro Water Minerals Company (EWM) is investing more than \$65 million in this facility that is estimated to have an economic impact of \$7.7 million. The facility will not only create ten new jobs paying an average annual salary of \$49,689, but as a result of the millions being invested, approximately 75 jobs will be created during the 18-22 month construction period. The incentive agreement will provide EWM with a 12 year property tax rebate, waived permit and inspections fees up to \$10,000, and City sales tax rebate up to \$12,000. Per the agreement, the applicant is obligated to begin construction within 12 months and must obtain certificate of occupancy within 36 months.

The facility will be located on Global Reach Drive adjacent to the Kay Bailey Hutchison Desalination Plant. EWM will work in tandem with El Paso Water Utilities to enhance the supply of drinking water in the region by extracting minerals from waste water, leaving only potable (drinking) water. When completed, the facility will have the capability to supply an additional 2.2 million gallons of drinking water a day.

"This public-private partnership is great news for the entire El Paso community because this technology will assist in addressing the water issues of our region, while also proving that El Paso is capable of housing innovative companies like Enviro Water Minerals," said City Manager Tommy Gonzalez.

"We're excited to bring this innovative technology to El Paso. It presents a new environmentally friendly and economically viable solution to extending the region's water supply while also eliminating waste products," said Enviro Water Minerals CEO, Hubble Hausman. "These issues are a global concern, and El Paso will host the first-of-its-kind plant in the world to address them. In one more way, El Paso will be a water technology leader."

The efforts of the Economic Development Department support the City's strategic goal to create an environment conducive to strong, sustainable economic development.

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