

# City of Weslaco

*"The City on the Grow"*



David Suarez, Mayor  
John F. Cuellar, Mayor Pro-Tem, District 2  
David Fox, Commissioner, District 1  
Olga M. Noriega, Commissioner, District 3  
Gerardo "Jerry" Tafolla, Commissioner, District 4  
Lupe V. Rivera, Commissioner, District 5  
Fidel L. Pena, Commissioner, District 6

Leonardo Olivares, City Manager

## Press Release

**Release on:**  
Immediately  
May 5, 2014

**Contact:**  
David Salinas, Public Utilities Director  
956.973.3146

### Water Safe Despite Taste & Odor

Weslaco, TX - The Weslaco Public Utilities Department (PUD) will be closely monitoring taste and odor that recently affected the tap water. The earthy odor resulted from maintenance that was required at the Water Treatment Plant in coordination with the on-going construction to expand plant capacity.

"We assure the public that the water is -- and has always been -- safe for drinking, cooking, bathing and all other purposes," said David Salinas, Department Director. It continues to meet all local, state, and federal drinking water regulations."

On Saturday, May 3, one of the water basins at the Plant needed maintenance and was taken off-line. To meet unexpected demand, the water from this basin was recycled back into the plant ahead of schedule, which caused the unpleasant odor.

The PUD recycles 100% of its water which allows it to meet the City's growing water demand and simultaneously conserve source water. The PUD operates the Plant 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and conducts daily taste and odor profiles. The PUD is continuing its flushing of lines throughout the distribution system to help control and minimize the odor problems. The duration of these odors are expected to last no longer than a couple of days.

"We apologize to our residents for any inconvenience this unforeseeable situation caused," said Leonardo Olivares, City Manager. "Our Plant has been operating at capacity for years. We can't run our engine at full throttle for long without it giving out. The new Plant will solve this problem."

Residents are encouraged to contact the Weslaco Public Utilities Department at 956.973.3146 and report any odor problems.