

Save Burnet Water Alliance & SaveBurnet.com
Burnet County, Texas

July 2, 2026

The Honorable Brian Wilson
County Judge, Burnet County
220 S. Pierce Street
Burnet, Texas 78611

Re: Status Summary — Community Efforts to Oppose the Proposed Asphalt Inc. Rock Quarry and Aggregate Production Operation, FM 3509, Burnet County, Texas

Dear Judge Wilson,

On behalf of the Save Burnet Water Alliance and the SaveBurnet.com community, we want to first express our sincere gratitude for your personal presence at our inaugural public meeting on March 18, 2026 at the Burnet County AgriLife Extension Center — alongside Commissioner Jim Luther and representatives from the offices of State Representative Ellen Troxclair and Senator Pete Flores. Your willingness to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Burnet County citizens at that meeting sent a powerful message that the protection of this county's water, air, land, and natural heritage is a shared priority across the community and its elected leadership.

You have asked for a summary of where things stand and what work the Save Burnet Water Alliance and SaveBurnet.com have undertaken in the effort to protect Burnet County from the proposed industrial rock quarry and aggregate crushing operation. We are pleased to provide that summary below, organized by subject area, and to highlight specifically those matters that are most directly relevant to the Burnet County Commissioners Court and your jurisdiction.

I. CURRENT STATUS SNAPSHOT

Applicant	Asphalt Inc., LLC d/b/a Lone Star Paving — subsidiary of Construction Partners Inc. (Alabama-based, NYSE-listed)
Site Location	3221 FM 3509 (Hoover Valley Road), Burnet County, Texas — 710-acre site

Permit Filed	Groundwater Operating Permit Application filed with Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District on May 15, 2026
Water Requested	150 GPM / 216,000 gallons per day / 241.95 acre-feet per year from Hickory Sandstone Aquifer
Wells Drilled	Two production wells drilled July–August 2025 (755 ft. and 795 ft. deep into the Hickory Sandstone Aquifer)
Legal Counsel	Retained — active legal review underway
Legislative Status	One primary blasting buffer bill confirmed in active development by Rep. Troxclair and Sen. Flores; additional companion legislation under review
Commissioners Court	Unanimous resolution passed January 13, 2026, opposing new industrial groundwater permits pending required studies

II. THE BURNET COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT RESOLUTION — WHY IT MATTERS

On January 13, 2026, the Burnet County Commissioners Court unanimously passed a resolution formally opposing the issuance of any new groundwater production permit — temporary or permanent — until a thorough study has been presented to the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District and a finding is made that the permit application poses no risk to domestic wells, agricultural operations, public water systems, natural resources, or the long-term sustainability of the Hickory Aquifer or any groundwater source within Burnet County.

This resolution has been cited in every major document and proceeding in this campaign as representing the expressed will of Burnet County's governing body. It was specifically cited in the formal letter to TPWD Executive Director Dr. David Yoskowitz, transmitted in May 2026, and it has been transmitted to the offices of Representative Troxclair and Senator Flores as part of our legislative briefing materials.

The Commissioners Court resolution carries formal legal weight in any administrative proceeding as evidence of the county government's determination that adequate studies have not been performed. We ask that the Court reaffirm this resolution on the record as the permit review process proceeds, and that it be prepared to provide formal testimony or a resolution update at any public hearing if requested by legal counsel.

III. GROUNDWATER — THE CENTRAL BATTLEGROUND

The groundwater permit application is the most consequential remaining approval Asphalt Inc. requires and is now the primary focus of the campaign's legal and technical efforts. Key facts for the Commissioners Court:

- Asphalt Inc. is requesting authorization to pump 216,000 gallons per day (241.95 acre-feet per year) from the Hickory Sandstone Aquifer — the same aquifer supplying the private wells, ranches, and farms of Burnet County residents.
- The applicant's own hydrogeologic report projects that wells within approximately 1,000 feet of the northern site boundary could experience up to 143 feet of drawdown over 30 years of continuous pumping.

- The permit application contains no drought contingency plan and no mandatory curtailment provisions — even as the region is currently in Stage 2 drought conditions, with Burnet County families being asked to **voluntary 10% reduction** in overall groundwater use from all well owners.
- A dry plant baghouse and vacuum filtration alternative — technology in use at comparable quarries in Texas — could reduce water demand by more than 95%, to 10,000–20,000 gallons per day. SaveBurnet.com has formally asked the District to condition any permit on adoption of this technology or to deny the permit outright.
- SaveBurnet.com has retained an independent hydrogeologic expert and legal counsel to participate in the permit review process on behalf of the community. The full scope of the technical findings will be presented at the appropriate time in that proceeding.

IV. PROPERTY AND ECONOMIC IMPACT ON BURNET COUNTY

SaveBurnet.com conducted a comprehensive analysis of Burnet Central Appraisal District data within a five-mile radius of the proposed quarry site. The findings are directly relevant to the Commissioners Court as custodians of the county's economic health:

- Total assessed property value at risk within the five-mile impact zone: over \$1 billion.
- Number of affected property IDs: 1,953; number of unique landowners: 1,542.
- Burnet County itself holds approximately 866 acres of public land and infrastructure within the impact zone, with a combined assessed value alongside the City of Burnet exceeding \$30 million.
- Buckner International (Camp Buckner) holds approximately 827 acres with an assessed value of approximately \$16.1 million — within the blast and aquifer impact zone.
- Camp Longhorn Capital Inc. holds approximately 428 acres in the critical proximity zone adjacent to the quarry.
- Multiple peer-reviewed studies document significant property value suppression for residential properties within one mile of active quarry operations, with measurable impacts extending to five miles or more when combined with dust, traffic, and noise.
- The proposed operation would employ approximately 15 to 30 direct workers — a minimal local economic benefit that does not offset the long-term property value and quality-of-life impacts on 1,542 property owners.

V. AIR QUALITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

TCEQ has no air quality monitors in Burnet County. The nearest state monitor is 30 miles away and is frequently upwind. SaveBurnet.com has independently deployed and maintains a network of five professional air quality monitors surrounding the proposed quarry site, providing real-time PM2.5 baseline data available to the public at SaveBurnet.com.

Key findings and concerns for the Commissioners Court:

- Dust from existing quarries in Marble Falls has been documented traveling 7 to 10 miles, reaching the greater Burnet area. Wind shifts to the northeast degrade local air quality by 7 to 16 points on the US EPA scale.

- The proposed quarry would sit adjacent to Camp Longhorn, where hundreds of children live, eat, sleep, and play entirely outdoors 24 hours a day, 7 days a week during the summer camp season — with no HVAC-filtered air protection from fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and crystalline silica dust.
- Crystalline silica is a known human carcinogen. The proposed operation would process up to 200 tons of material per hour, generating continuous silica dust emissions over a 14-hour daily operating schedule.
- TCEQ's standard air permit for rock crushers is effectively self-certified, and the agency's own data shows its enforcement backlog would take 35 years to clear at current resolution rates.
- SaveBurnet.com has formally requested that chemical dust suppressants used on haul roads be subject to mandatory disclosure, noting that common additives including chloride salts and surfactants are documented groundwater contaminants in karst limestone environments.

VI. LONGHORN CAVERN STATE PARK AND TPWD ENGAGEMENT

The proposed quarry site is less than three miles from Longhorn Cavern State Park — a National Natural Landmark that has taken 500 million years to form. SaveBurnet.com submitted a formal letter to TPWD Executive Director Dr. David Yoskowitz on May 13, 2026, requesting a stay on all permits until a full environmental analysis is completed. That letter was copied to Representative Troxclair and Senator Flores.

TPWD has taken meaningful action in response:

- TPWD has engaged Raba Kistner, Inc. (RKI), a top-200 ENR forensic engineering firm, to conduct professional vibration and structural monitoring of Longhorn Cavern — including LiDAR scanning, geophone vibration sensors, and a 12-month monitoring program.
- SaveBurnet.com representatives attended the TPWD Commission public meeting on May 28, 2026 in Austin and formally submitted material to the Commission.
- SaveBurnet.com has identified gaps in the current monitoring scope and formally requested that TPWD expand the program to include a cave-specific vibration safety threshold, a full 12-month pre-blasting baseline, expanded sensor coverage, airblast overpressure monitoring, and crack gauge monitoring on known fracture zones.
- SaveBurnet.com has formally requested that Construction Partners Inc. / Asphalt Inc. be required to bear the full cost of the expanded monitoring program — not Texas taxpayers or TPWD's budget.

The Commissioners Court may wish to formally notify TPWD of its support for expanded monitoring requirements and to endorse the position that CPI should fund all monitoring costs associated with the risk their proposed operation creates.

VII. HIGHLAND LAKES WATERSHED AND CITY OF BURNET WATER SUPPLY

The proposed quarry sits within the LCRA Highland Lakes Watershed. SaveBurnet.com has documented two primary stormwater drainage pathways from the quarry site:

- Spring Creek — draining northward from the quarry site, flowing into Inks Lake at Devil's Backbone Cove — the precise location from which the City of Burnet draws approximately 50% of its municipal drinking water.
- Peters Creek — draining westward from the quarry site, flowing through a youth camp swimming pool at Camp Longhorn, and continuing to Lake LBJ at the Inks Dam National Fish Hatchery.

On July 4, 2025, rainfall at the proposed quarry site was intense enough to fill and overflow a 20-acre-foot (6.5 million gallon) detention pond in a matter of hours — uprooting 30-foot oak trees and overtopping an 8-foot fence. This documented flood event demonstrates the inadequacy of standard stormwater retention for this site in a Hill Country rain event.

Three of the top five most polluted lakes in Texas — as identified in a recent TCEQ-backed analysis — are Lakes Buchanan, Inks, and LBJ, all part of the Highland Lakes chain that this quarry site drains into. The Commissioners Court may wish to coordinate with the City of Burnet and the LCRA regarding the adequacy of the applicant's stormwater management plans relative to the municipal drinking water intake at Devil's Backbone Cove on Inks Lake.

VIII. LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS — 90TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE

SaveBurnet.com has been working in close coordination with the offices of Senator Pete Flores and Representative Ellen Troxclair to develop legislative protections for the 90th Texas Legislature. Both offices have reviewed the materials and are actively working to move legislation forward.

The primary bill confirmed to be in active development is the Sensitive Site Blasting & Expansion Act, which would:

- Prohibit blasting, use of explosives, and expansion of operations at any mine, quarry, or rock crushing facility located within four miles of a lake owned by a Texas river authority supporting a national fish hatchery — protecting Inks Lake / Lake LBJ and the Inks Dam National Fish Hatchery;
- Prohibit such operations within four miles of the entrance of a state park operated by TPWD containing a cavern designated as a National Natural Landmark — protecting Longhorn Cavern State Park; and
- Prohibit such operations within four miles of a youth camp licensed by the Texas Department of State Health Services — protecting Camp Buckner, Camp Longhorn, and other licensed youth camps in the corridor.

Both the House Bill (by Representative Troxclair) and the companion Senate Bill (by Senator Flores) cover identical provisions. The effective date proposed is September 1, 2027, with applicability to all facilities regardless of when they began operations or obtained an initial permit.

In addition to the blasting bill, several companion bills addressing industrial groundwater bonding requirements — including reclamation bonds for abandoned quarry sites and well

damage bonds to protect neighboring landowners whose wells go dry as a result of industrial pumping — are currently under review and subsequent submittal to both offices. The status of those additional bills is to be determined as the legislative development process continues.

We invite the Commissioners Court to formally endorse the Sensitive Site Blasting & Expansion Act as legislation that directly serves Burnet County constituents and to authorize a letter of support to Senator Flores and Representative Troxclair to that effect.

IX. SPECIFIC REQUESTS TO JUDGE WILSON AND THE COMMISSIONERS COURT

Based on the foregoing, the Save Burnet Water Alliance & SaveBurnet.com respectfully requests the following actions from the Burnet County Commissioners Court:

- Reaffirm the January 13, 2026 resolution opposing new industrial groundwater permits on the record, specifically referencing the May 15, 2026 permit application by Asphalt Inc. as the application the resolution was intended to address.
- Consider formal participation in the groundwater permit hearing process as a named party or as a party submitting written testimony, when a hearing date is scheduled and public notice is provided.
- Send a formal letter to TPWD Director Yoskowitz endorsing expanded Longhorn Cavern monitoring and requesting that CPI / Asphalt Inc. bear the full cost of that monitoring.
- Coordinate with the City of Burnet and the LCRA regarding the proximity of the quarry's Spring Creek drainage pathway to the municipal drinking water intake at Devil's Backbone Cove on Inks Lake.
- Send letters of support to Senator Pete Flores and Representative Ellen Troxclair endorsing the Sensitive Site Blasting & Expansion Act on behalf of Burnet County.
- Consider adopting a resolution calling on TCEQ to establish at least one permanent air quality monitoring station in Burnet County, given the documented absence of any state monitoring and the county's rapid growth as one of the top 25 fastest-growing counties in Texas.

X. CLOSING

SaveBurnet.com have now issued over 101 community updates, retained independent legal counsel and technical experts, deployed air quality monitoring infrastructure, submitted formal letters to TPWD and all relevant state agencies, and engaged directly with the offices of both our state legislators on behalf of the Burnet County community.

What we are asking for is straightforward: that the natural resources, water supply, and quality of life of Burnet County be protected by the application of existing law, existing best-practices technology, and the legislative tools our representatives are willing to create. We are not asking for special treatment. We are asking that an out-of-state corporation be held to the same standards it would face in any responsible regulatory environment.

Judge Wilson, your leadership and the Commissioners Court's unanimous resolution in January were a turning point in this campaign. Your continued support — and the formal weight of Burnet County's governing authority — remains one of the most powerful tools available to protect this community. We are grateful for it, and we are committed to this fight for as long as it takes.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Printz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The word "Randy" is written in a smaller, more compact script, while "Printz" is larger and more prominent, with a long, sweeping tail on the "z".

Randy Printz

Burnet Water Alliance / SaveBurnet.com

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