

## Regulatory Compliance over the Edwards Aquifer

*The project is  
expected to come  
in below budget*

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Title 30, Chapter 213 regulation requires the inspection of the sewers over the Edwards Aquifer every five years. It further requires the timely repair of any defects that could potentially leak wastewater into the Aquifer. The Aquifer covers 8,000 square miles and contains 25 to 55 million acre-feet of water and serves as the primary source of drinking water for San Antonio and its surrounding communities.



The San Antonio Water System (SAWS) maintains 550 miles of sewer pipes of the recharge zone. SAWS was in the process of completing sewers with pipe diameters less than 15 inches. Realizing they could not meet the Chapter 213 compliance deadline (July 31, 2004) with in house forces, SAWS opted to use a consultant, RJN Group, Inc. to achieve compliance. RJN has previous experience fulfilling the same Chapter 213 requirements in both Round Rock and New Braunfels.

RJN will provide the inspection and design services for approximately 300,000 linear feet of sewer and 1,000 manholes for sewers greater than 15 inches in diameter. To meet the deadline, RJN completed 290,000 feet of televised inspection within a two-month period with all field work scheduled to be completed by July 2003. Subsequent engineering design services identified from the inspection program are presently being initiated and are expected to be completed within the next few months. This accelerated schedule was necessary to allow sufficient time for completion of the construction improvements, which include approximately 20,000 linear feet of repairs using cured-in-place piping and 20,000 linear feet using conventional open-cut construction.

The project is expected to come in significantly below the budgeted amount based on field findings and the use of various design alternatives to optimize the available spending.

RJN will also develop a five-year compliance plan to manage future inspection programs.