

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **New Braunfels Utilities' Weltner Road Substation Adds Resiliency to Electric System**

(New Braunfels, TX – April 16, 2019) – New Braunfels Utilities (NBU) currently owns approximately 622 miles of overhead transmission lines in addition to the 305 miles of underground lines that supplies power to 160 square miles of the New Braunfels community. Today, NBU hosted a ribbon-cutting for its 11<sup>th</sup> substation.

Costing nearly \$4 million, the Weltner Road Substation offers the ability to serve 3,000 residential customers and 500 commercial customers, or 6,000 residential customers - if the commercial load is not taken into account. The substation addresses significant growth along Highway 46 South corridor, including Avery Park, the Village at Clear Springs, Elley Lane Subdivision, the New Braunfels Regional Airport, and the Sam C. McKenzie Water Reclamation Facility. Several thousand acres remain eligible for development in the surrounding area. This new substation will allow NBU to maintain resiliency in the face of growth.

"The Weltner Road Substation is NBU's first substation to be enclosed by a pre-cast concrete wall," said Ian Taylor, chief executive officer for NBU. "The 10-foot wall not only provides better aesthetics, it also improves security and protects the 33 MVA Substation from wind gusts up to 115 miles per hour," Taylor continued.

The lighting surrounding the substation has been adapted to the region's lighting. Lighting on one side of the building will only be at 30 percent power unless an intrusion is detected. Lights on the other side can be dimmed to help NBU continue to meet its commitment to the night sky initiative.

Taylor added, "We are grateful to our partners at the Lower Colorado River Authority for working with us on this project and to our experienced team of electrical engineers and crews. On behalf of the NBU leadership team, I am very proud of the work that went into this project and know it will benefit the community for decades to come"

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**About New Braunfels Utilities:**

Dedicated to excellence in service, New Braunfels Utilities is one of 2,000 community-owned, not-for profit public power electric utilities in the nation. The mission of New Braunfels Utilities is to enhance the quality of our community by providing innovative, essential services. Governed by a Board of Trustees comprised of local residents appointed by the New Braunfels City Council, New Braunfels Utilities is committed to being a recognized and trusted community partner, providing electric, water, and waste water services. Utility revenues are continually invested back into the systems of the customers, which benefits the community. New Braunfels Utilities makes an annual transfer to the City of New Braunfels, which in turn helps to pay for services such as fire, police, and parks. Follow NBU on Facebook at [facebook.com/newbraunfelsutilities](https://www.facebook.com/newbraunfelsutilities), on Twitter at @nbutility, and to learn more visit [nbutexas.com](http://nbutexas.com).