

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **New Braunfels Utilities Supports Preservation of Night Skies**

(New Braunfels, TX – October 3, 2018) – New Braunfels Utilities (NBU) continuously works to provide essential services and assures the necessary infrastructure is in place for one of the fastest growing cities and counties in the country. In doing so, it is important to be ever mindful, good stewards in protecting the city and surrounding Texas Hill Country’s diverse ecosystems, ethics for land, rich cultural heritage, and breathtaking scenic beauty.

With rapid growth in the NBU service territory, the occurrence of light trespass (light shining where it is not wanted) from area lighting fixtures is steadily increasing, and may create an impact on the natural environment and quality of life by, among other things, reducing night sky visibility and enjoyment for residents and visitors alike.

New Braunfels Utilities is pleased to be part of an effort to preserve the historic heritage and starry night skies of New Braunfels. We understand and respect just how important this is for our community. Taking efforts to assure street lights are readily available, which are designed to direct light on to where it is needed, distributes light more efficiently and effectively. That helps to reduce glare, power consumption, and cost - and allows individuals to enjoy the night (the dark skies).

“New Braunfels Utilities is committed to supporting practices that limit, or minimize, light trespass from street light fixtures in order to preserve our starry night skies. It is important to NBU to promote and encourage street lighting fixtures and practices that follow the most current guidelines and use available technologies for efficient, non-intrusive lighting, and to help educate and encourage landowners, businesses, residential neighborhoods, and public entities to join in the commitment to reduce energy consumption, save money, and protect the beauty of the night skies,” said, Ian Taylor, CEO, NBU.

To highlight NBU’s commitment to protecting the night skies, NBU passed and adopted a night skies resolution during its August 2018 board meeting.

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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 [newbraunfelsutilities](https://www.facebook.com/newbraunfelsutilities), on Twitter at [nbutility](https://twitter.com/nbutility), and to learn more visit [nbutexas.com](http://nbutexas.com).

