



March 3, 2006

Dear Resident,

In 2001, the San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority (STWMA) was formed by the City of Beaumont, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District, South Mesa Water Company, and Yucaipa Valley Water District. In 2004, STWMA made a commitment to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) to monitor the groundwater quality and groundwater levels in the regions known as the Beaumont and San Timoteo Management Zones. The purpose of this monitoring program is to ensure that STWMA member agencies' groundwater management programs are not having a negative impact on the groundwater and that the groundwater quality continues to meet the objectives set by the RWQCB.

STWMA has hired Wildermuth Environmental, Inc. (WEI) to conduct this groundwater monitoring program on their behalf. WEI is attempting to collect information from every well in the region, and your well(s) is located within this region. The more information that is gathered the better the understanding of groundwater quality. Specifically, the information that WEI is attempting to collect from your well is a water quality sample, monthly water level measurements, a digital photograph of the well, latitude and longitude coordinates, owner name, well status, and any additional well information that is available, such as, well depth, well screen interval(s), and well casing diameter. WEI is requesting your assistance and permission to collect this information about the well on your property. If you allow us to include your well in our monitoring program, we will collect one water quality sample in the next year and visit your well once a month to take a water level measurement. These measurements take only a couple of minutes to collect, and we would not need you to be at home if the well is accessible.

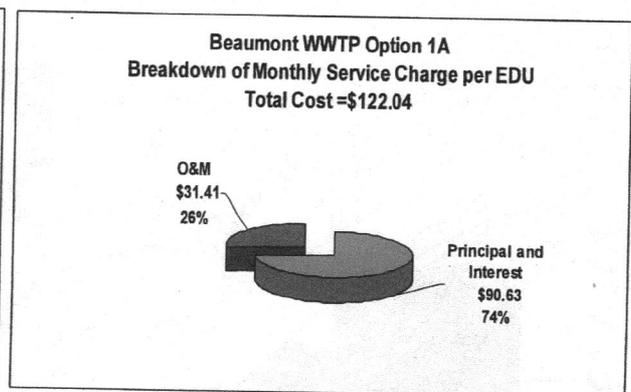
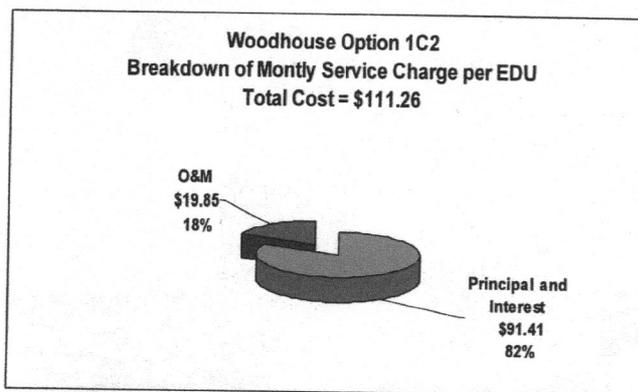
Your cooperation and participation in this program is very important to the management and sustainability of the groundwater resource in the Beaumont and San Timoteo Canyon areas. If you are willing to participate in this program or have any questions, please call me at 949-420-3030 or email me at kdavis@wildermuthenvironmental.com. Thank you very much for your assistance in this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristal Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kristal Davis
Environmental Scientist

waste water treatment plant construction and between \$19.00 and \$35.00 per month for operation and maintenance of the collection and treatment system depending on the alternative selected. Parcels with more than one dwelling will pay more. This cost may go down over time as more parcels are connected inside and outside of the current designated area charge. Nine options for treatment were studied; the two least expensive options are shown in the charts below. The District's Staff's recommended preferred option is the Woodhouse Option 1C2, with the Beaumont WWTP Option 1A as a fallback.



What Will Happen To My Septic Tank/Cess Pool?

Initial plans provide that when construction of the sewers and treatment system is complete fully tested and operational the District's contractor will be going to each occupied parcel and install a pipe from your house to the sewer in the street. Your septic tank or cess pool will then be pumped out, filled with earth material and abandoned. In the alternative, you may have this work done at your own expense. The cost for this is included in the monthly charge shown above. **NO ADDITIONAL FEES OR CONNECTION CHARGES WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE PAID.**

Are There Any Alternatives?

The District's engineering consultants evaluated 9 alternatives including alternatives which would use advanced on-site systems and small diameter septic tank effluent sewer systems. The two least costly alternatives are for the District to install sewers and either constructs its own treatment plant or contract with the City of Beaumont for treatment.

No Sewer Project Alternative

If nothing were done, all of the groundwater would be polluted and would require expensive treatment at each well (wellhead treatment). This would be very expensive as specialized treatment is needed along with some means of disposing of the brine. Everyone in the District would be paying for this.

Furthermore, the regulatory agencies would not allow the groundwater to be polluted.

Where Can I get More Information?

Information is available at the District Offices which includes a Facilities Plan and an Environmental Impact Report. The District anticipates placing this material on the District's web site: www.bcvwd.org.

Customers can contact the General Manager, Mr. C. J. Butcher or the District Engineer, Mr. J. C. Reichenberger, PE at (951)-845-9581 with any questions

Executive Summary

The Ground Water Quality Evaluation Committee (Blue Ribbon Committee) was formed by the County of Riverside on April 29, 2008 to review the Wildermuth Environmental Report and all pertinent data. Water quality data included within the Wildermuth Environmental Inc. (WEI) report indicates that Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District's well #16 and #21 have had sporadic spikes of nitrate concentration levels reaching the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). Cherry Valley Water Company and Bonita Vista Mutual Water Company have encountered the same problems. Data provided to the Committee from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) indicates that these levels were only a spike and NOT indicative of the regional aquifer. Also the WEI report states that the presence of on-site wastewater disposal systems (OSWDS) could be a "possible source". As you read on, the build out of potential OSWDS are inflated and also indicates that OSWDS "are the source of nitrate contamination in the Beaumont Management Zone" contradicting previous pages. And again on page 1.1, the report indicates the OSWDS as being a "possible source." The report tends to discredit the effectiveness of septic systems leading the reader to assume the worst. United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Fact sheet #932-F99-075 contradicts this discredit and clearly explains the functionality and operations of septic tanks including the parameters for failure. Maintained septic systems have an operational life exceeding 30+ years. Also, nitrogen removal was grossly understated and future nitrogen loading was over estimated.

Section 4 within the WEI report references future build out and potential nitrogen loading factors. Unfortunately, these factors are overstated due to inaccurate information with regard to potential build out projections. Furthermore, the Cherry Oaks and Hidden Meadows Tracts should have been included in these equations thus adding to the uncertainty of these projections. Figures 4-1, 4-2, 4-3 are a simulation in time to project the total impact of nitrogens. However with the data provided in this report to reflect future build-out/impacts, this data was part of the model calibration which should be deemed inaccurate. The report gives conclusions and recommendations on page 6-1 a total of 11:

1. According to CDPH water quality records, this is NOT accurate.
2. Again, this is NOT accurate, but over stated.
3. True.
4. This is true according to the report, however not noticed in Well 16.
5. High nitrate levels are sporadic at best, and there are NO high levels of specific ions according to CDPH.
6. Accurate under report conditions only.
7. Accurate under report conditions only.

8. Accurate under report conditions only.
9. This has NOT been proven in the Cherry Valley Community of Interest (CVCOI).
10. This should be left undetermined at this time.
11. This should be left undetermined at this time.

Despite efforts by local agencies involved in this report and /or those agencies that have deemed this report credible, it is apparent that the OSWDS within the CVCOI should be considered an effective treatment system until otherwise proven by future reports. It is also apparent that within the CVCOI there may be some locations that should be considered a "Point Source" based on their land use which would distinguish predictable concentrations and volumes. As noted, there have been geographical areas that should have been included in this report that were not.

At the County level, their efforts were deemed appropriate under the circumstances and information provided to them. Pursuant to the County of Riverside review and actions; the Board of Supervisors acted on April 29, 2008 to form this Committee evaluate groundwater quality in the CVCOI and make specific recommendations to County Board of Supervisors. However, after lengthy review of all reports, supporting documentation, the Committee would recommend that the County Board of Supervisors immediately repeal Ordinance 871 which prohibited conventional OSWDS until further investigations can be completed by an independent resource NOT associated with local agencies or influences. The potential effects of installing sanitary sewers within the CVCOI has not been determined that it will eliminate the degradation of local ground waters.

Measure "B" which was defeated by majority vote could have had a devastating effect on the CVCOI. The proposed cost to complete all infrastructures was estimated to be at \$60 million amongst 2000 residents. This equates to \$30,000 per resident and based on the final report by Wildermuth Environmental Inc. The tragedy to this would be if Measure "B" had passed, infrastructure built, and the problem NOT solved.



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Santa Ana Region

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

March 11, 2008

RECEIVED MAR 13 2008

County Supervisor Marion Ashley
Riverside County Board of Supervisors
4080 Lemon St., 5th Floor
P.O. Box 1645
Riverside, CA 92501
Attn: Jaime Hurtado

MARCH 7, 2008 REQUEST FOR COMMENTS CONCERNING WILDERMUTH ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT ON WATER QUALITY IMPACTS IN THE CHERRY VALLEY COMMUNITY OF INTEREST

Dear Supervisor Ashley:

This is in response to a request by Jaime Hurtado of your staff for comments concerning the report prepared by Wildermuth Environmental entitled, "Water Quality Impacts from On-Site Waste Disposal Systems in the Cherry Valley Community of Interest, March 2007." As I discussed with Mr. Hurtado, Wildermuth Environmental is a well-respected engineering firm with extensive water quality experience.

The subject report was reviewed by Cindy Li, Ph.D., an engineering geologist on Regional Board staff. Dr. Li found the report to be credible and that it identified a number of water quality concerns related to the use of individual waste disposal systems in the Cherry Valley area.

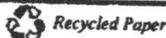
We are supportive of efforts by Riverside County staff to respond to the concerns identified by the Wildermuth Environmental report, and we look forward to continued cooperation between the County and the Regional Board in this matter. Should there be any further questions concerning this important issue, our staff contacts on this project are Dr. Cindy Li at 951-782-4906 and Hope Smythe at 951-782-4493.

Sincerely,

Gerard J. Thibeault
Executive Officer

cc. Regional Board
Chuck Butcher, BCWWD
Mark Wildermuth, WEinc

California Environmental Protection Agency





California Regional Water Quality Control Board Santa Ana Region



Linda S. Adams
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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

March 18, 2009

Marion Ashley
County Supervisor
Riverside County Board of Supervisors
4080 Lemon St., 5th Floor
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Riverside, CA 92501

SUPPORT FOR RIVERSIDE COUNTY ORDINANCE 864.2 – PROHIBITION OF SEPTIC SYSTEMS IN THE CHERRY VALLEY COMMUNITY OF INTEREST

Dear Supervisor Ashley:

It has come to my attention that the Groundwater Quality Evaluation Committee for Beaumont/Cherry Valley is in the process of finalizing recommendations to you regarding the water quality concerns in the Cherry Valley Community of Interest (Cherry Valley). One of the Committee's recommendations is to repeal Ordinance 864.2, which established a Prohibition for conventional septic system use in Cherry Valley. I believe strongly that it would be bad public policy to withdraw the Prohibition before new data and information become available that demonstrate that the Prohibition is unnecessary. As far as I know, no new data or information has been presented to the Committee that contradicts the findings that necessitated the Prohibition.

We understand that the Committee will also be recommending that additional studies be conducted to further evaluate the impacts of septic systems. We certainly agree that additional studies are appropriate. However, until these new studies are conducted and data to support a different approach are presented, Riverside County should withhold action to repeal Ordinance 864.2 and continue to take steps as required by the Ordinance to ensure the protection of groundwater resources in Cherry Valley.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please feel free to contact me at 951-782-3284 or Dr. Cindy Li of my staff at 951-782-4906.

Sincerely,

Gerard J. Thibeault
Executive Officer

cc: Regional Board
John Watkins, Deputy Director of Riverside County Department of Environmental Health,
jwatkins@co.riverside.ca.us
Members of Groundwater Quality Evaluation Committee

California Environmental Protection Agency



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