

**Lake Wildwood Public Meeting
September 14, 2005
7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

Introductions at 7:08 p.m.

ATTENDEES NAME	WITH
Dan Rich	ECO:LOGIC
Doug Brewer	ECO:LOGIC
Steve Stiles	Nevada County
Gordon Plantenga	Nevada County
Donald Corbett	Nevada County
Audience	22 people in audience

Prepared By: Jennifer Harrison / J Harrison Public Relations
Meeting Date: September 14, 2005; 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Location: Williams Ranch School Gymnasium
RE: Lake Wildwood Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Plan Project Public Meeting No. 4 Minutes

Primary purpose of the meeting is to share results of the Yuba River study.

*Questions from the audience in **Bold**. Responses from Dan Rich or Doug Brewer.*

Does Wildwood Center play into the Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements?

A: The service area includes: the commercial center, two schools, Wildwood Ridge (50 lots) and the existing homes in Lake Wildwood.

Are they (these above) paying this assessment, too?

A: Yes. They have been accounted for in the fees.

Does this plant take in storm water runoff?

A: The plant volume processed and discharged to Deer Creek increases primarily from interception of infiltration and interception of groundwater from runoff and storm water. This is consistent with what other community's experience. You don't have any problem during storm events. The plant's discharge increases by two to three times during these events.

When do we have to be in compliance?

A: May 18, 2010 per regulations of the California Toxics Rule (federal law).

If this is a statewide or federal law, are people upstream faced with the same requirements?

A: If they are the source of wastewater discharge, they must treat it. So, each community faces the same regulations.

We are responsible for what leaves the plant, not what is already in the creek?

A: Yes

Why is background water quality important in Deer Creek?

A: If your background water has elevated constituent levels, you get no benefit of dilution in the permitting process with the State . If it is clean, then you may get the benefit of dilution. So, because Deer Creek has little flow below the LWW dam , we will be monitoring only at the end of our pipe.

But what if Nevada City sends down polluted water, then do we get penalized for it?

A: They have the same requirements and must process the water to the same level we do.

So we are only responsible for what goes into Deer Creek?

A: As long as you are discharging in Deer Creek, you are responsible for the effluent quality of the discharge.

Is anyone monitoring the water coming down the river into Lake Wildwood?

A: We don't know the exact answer to that question. There may have been water sampling occurring in the watershed per the efforts of Friends of Deer Creek .

Comment from Friends of Deer Creek: We monitor for bacteria, pH, and <<others>>. The LWW Association also monitors incoming water to the lake and both treatment plants have to give monthly reports on there are chemicals. The cost of sampling is \$5000 per sampling so the costs are prohibitive.

To what degree have you studied Deer Creek for environmental health?

A: The focus of the studies have been compliance with the District's NPDES permit. The water quality objectives contained in the permit are based on protection of all beneficial uses of the receiving water.

Question about purchasing water from NID

A: The team has contacted NID about purchasing water to improve flow conditions in Deer Creek downstream of the LWW dam . NID has stated that they cannot commit to large deliveries of water during drought conditions.

Do the CTR regulations change if Deer Creek is not ephemeral?

A: Deer Creek below LWW Dam is considered by many to be an ephemeral stream primarily because of how the dam is currently operated. However, Deer Creek flows year round high in the upper watershed and would be classified as a perennial stream.

Why is Aluminum of concern?

A: Aluminum is a naturally occurring substance that is found in most soils (alumina silicate). Elevated dissolved aluminum levels can be observed due to natural fluctuations caused by soil transport to area streams during storm events, industrial discharges and from mining operations.

What is the construction schedule?

A: Construction will start late Spring of 2006 and will complete in early Summer of 2007.

What is the type of treatment proposed for our plant?

A: The WWTP will produce full tertiary treatment- water that has been fully oxidized, coagulated, filtered, and disinfected. The water would be pathogen free.

Why use membranes?

A: You usually use membranes for the removal of dissolved constituents. We are saying that if we continue to discharge to Deer Creek, we will likely need membranes. If we go to Yuba, tertiary treatment would be needed.

What is the advantage of going to the Yuba River?

A: Discharge to the Yuba River has several advantages including extremely high dilution levels, consistency with state department of health and water quality policies, and less reliance on technology that occasionally fail. Discharge to the Yuba also provides Nevada County SD with a higher level of comfort (less violation risks) in complying with existing potential future EPA/SWRCB water quality criteria (e.g., endocrine disruptors, personal care products).

Is it possible to discharge directly to the Yuba River?

A: Yes. The baseline report demonstrates that there are no fatal flows from an environmental compliance perspective.

What is the plan from getting from the plant to the Yuba River?

A: Main pipeline will go down Moody Flat Road.

What would happen if there is a spill?

A: If there is a spill at the plant site, the drainage would be routed to a detention pond onsite.

What happens right now if there is a spill? There is a pump station at the plant. What if there is a power failure?

A: If the power goes out, there is an emergency generator on site. If the back-up power goes out or the pump goes out, the water would go into a temporary storage basin, then the sewage could overflow and go into Deer Creek.

What are the next steps?

A: We will review comments received on the baseline report and may make revisions as necessary. Once the report is finalized by staff, the report along with a staff report and recommendations will be presented to the CSD Board of Supervisors for consideration. At that time the Board will either make a decision to move forward with a project. An environmental impact report will be prepared for the proposed project prior to design activities.

Right now the county has not selected the project?

A: Yes.

Don't you have to clean the water regardless of where the discharge is taking place?

A: We have tighter restrictions for discharge to the Deer Creek because we don't have the benefit of dilution.

My concern is that you are taking water to the Yuba, so now you have to buy water. NID says they cannot guarantee that the water will be available. We are concerned about the habitat.

A: There are two options: If the discharge is moved to the Yuba River, CDFG would view the loss of flow in Deer Creek as triggering thresholds for a Streambed Alteration Agreement. During that process, CDFG and the CSD would negotiate flow requirements in Deer Creek to mitigate for the loss of flow from the wastewater discharges. The amount of water needed to

mitigate varies depending upon the monthly discharge and average monthly streamflow. In contrast, if the discharge were to remain in Deer Creek, the CSD would need to buy approximately 10 million gallons per day (20:1) to meet the minimum dilution requirement. NID has stated that they cannot commit to meeting that type of water demand, particularly during extremely dry years and extended droughts.

Can we buy a lot of water to make Deer Creek like the Yuba River which such high flows we benefit from dilution?

A: For times when the lake is being filled, we are going to have to release some water and Deer Creek will look like when there is dry weather flow.

Comment from audience says that NID says they cannot guarantee any flow.

A: We have been told to the contrary. The correspondence from NID has been very specific and NID says they can provide the amount of water needed for dry weather flow. The plant is going to operate under the established guidelines. The only reason we want dilution is because CTR is so stringent and will continue to get more stringent.

What is the status of legal challenges regarding legality of the CTR?

A: The Regional Board has upheld the law at its most conservative interpretation. There is hope that there could be some site-specific limitations. For example, if you can prove that copper is not a detriment to your specific environment, then you aren't regulated as highly. But we have to be conservative.

So if we use Chlorine for a disinfection, you cannot comply with these regulations without the benefit of dilution?

A: So many plants are going to UV when they don't have dilution. If we stay in Deer Creek, we will go to UV disinfection. Yet if we go to the Yuba, you will not need UV. Deer Creek is designated as having a municipal beneficial use. The Yuba below Englebright Dam is not designated as municipal uses (as defined in the Basin Plan), so it is regulated differently.

There is no reason to use Chlorine now?

A: By 2010, you would have to have all Chlorine Disinfection products removed so that is not proposed as a solution.

Meeting adjourns at 8:30 p.m.