

10/5/2015

SAFARI HIGHLANDS

FISCAL IMPACTS ON EXISTING CITIZENS OF ESCONDIDO

CITY OF ESCONDIDO UTILITY BILLING

The city of Escondido, within its Potable Water Distribution and Wastewater Collection systems experiences large costs associated with the maintenance and operation of pumping facilities.

Potable water pumping facilities appear to only impact the residents who live in expensive houses on top of hills. Wastewater pumping in the collection system appear to impact primarily the most recently developed, or wealthy parts of town. Wastewater lift stations for example, mostly serve luxurious estates in South Escondido.

The working poor in Escondido live predominantly in the area North of Felicita and South of El Norte. These areas are not served by any pump stations other than the systems required for all customers at the Treatment Plants.

A large part of the Wastewater and Potable Water budget, maintenance and operation is expended to operate these pumping systems.

UNFAIR BILLING PRACTICES

The leadership of Escondido has elected to spread the charges of these expensive pumping systems to all Utility customers. Other Utilities in the area including Rincon Water District and Valley Center only charge the residents for the pumping who need the pumping.

REQUIRED STUDY

Calculate the sum total of the expenditure by the city of Escondido on collection system lift stations and potable water booster pump stations. Re-calculate the customer bills of those who require pumps and those who do not.

Several areas of Escondido require more than one set of pumps. These areas should pay for all pumping that is required. Valley Center uses a pump zone criteria.

PUMPING REQUIREMENTS FOR SAFARI HIGHLANDS

Calculate the expenditure required to serve the proposed PROJECT. A new wastewater lift station will be required, existing Lift Station No. 13, Lift Station No. 1 and Lift Station No. 3 are needed to lift wastewater from the Project to the City Treatment Facility.

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For Potable water a booster pump station will be required to serve those at the top of the hill.

CONCLUSION

After calculating the cost of maintenance, operation and capital replacement of these pumping systems we will see the massive financial injustice that is placed on the shoulders of the working poor of Escondido in order to help finance the lifestyles of the relatively rich. Should the poor citizens of Escondido help finance yet another rich estate?

Put the costs where they belong. If the PROJECT is built, let the future residents pay the whole cost of service.

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USE OF RECYCLED WATER/ ISSUES REQUIRING DETAILED STUDY

RECYCLED WATER

There is currently some uncertainty regarding the modality of Recycled Water ("RW") service to the Safari Highlands Project ("PROJECT").

The developer has expressed that a wastewater treatment plant ("SEWER PLANT"), also referenced as a "Water Factory", is not a PROJECT requirement. Whether the SEWER PLANT becomes a final part of the PROJECT or not is unknown at this time, however, there are certain studies that will be required in either case.

A. DELIVERY OF RW USING EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

The existing City of Escondido RW distribution system does not serve the PROJECT area. There are currently two projects constructing RW facilities in the general direction of the PROJECT. It is conceivable that the PROJECT could extend those pipelines for service.

STUDIES REQUIRED:

a. Impact on the San Pasqual Basin

It has been known for some time that there is considerable groundwater degradation within the basin. An MWH study from 2007 identifies 10 compounds that exceed the Maximum Contaminant Levels and regional water quality objectives.

10 Contaminants in the San Pasqual Basin

- Chloride
- Fluoride
- Nitrate
- Selenium
- Sulfate
- Total Dissolved Solids
- Cadmium
- Aluminum
- Iron
- Zinc



- Manganese

The introduction of RW from the City of Escondido will increase the already excessive levels of the above-mentioned contaminants. Manganese levels in the city of Escondido potable water and RW supply are known to be problematic during the usage of local water supplies. Study the compounds in the potable water and the RW, and note the impact on the already contaminated basin. Deliver a Basin Plan Amendment: Revise the Basin Management Plan.

At some time in the future, the city of San Diego will be required by the EPA to resolve the issue of groundwater contamination. Dischargers into the basin will be held accountable. Study the upcoming costs for property owners (prospective PROJECT residents) in the basin who add to the existing contamination.

B. DELIVERY OF RW USING ON-SITE SEWER PLANT

In addition to studies required under modality "A" additional studies are needed to uncover the impacts of an on-site SEWER PLANT, or "Water Factory" as the developer calls it. The environment impact of wastewater treatment facilities are relatively well known. Variables include location, power consumption (utilities are the largest consumer of power), and olfactory impacts.

STUDIES REQUIRED:

a. Process and Facility Off Gassing

A local plant that removes liquid from the wastewater stream and returns the solids is generally referred to as a "Scalping" plant. All SEWER PLANTS produce odors. Whereas the sealed process itself may not, the auxiliary equipment, fore-bays and maintenance do. RW rules require that the RW is used in irrigation during a time period when human activity is at it's lowest: at night. Wastewater produced during the day requires storage until night before it may be used. Storage of RW produces off gassing.

Study the localized wind patterns to determine whom the SEWER TREATMENT will impact.