

# Donner Summit Public Utility District/Sierra Lakes County Water District Joint Wastewater Facilities Committee

May 11, 2010

Board of Directors  
Donner Summit Public Utility District

Board of Directors  
Sierra Lakes County Water District

Dear Directors:

The Donner Summit Public Utility District (DSPUD) and Sierra Lakes County Water District (SLCWD), Joint Wastewater Facilities Committee has met, reviewed and discussed the Preliminary Draft of the Donner Summit Public Utility District Wastewater Facilities Plan dated May 2010.

The Joint Wastewater Facilities Committee (the Committee) was appointed for the purpose of analyzing and recommending to the two Boards a preferred alternative in order to bring the DSPUD wastewater treatment plant into compliance with its renewed waste discharge permit and provide for additional plant capacity.

At its June 26, 2009 meeting, the Committee directed ECO:LOGIC Engineering to investigate five biological wastewater treatment options. The five options that are discussed in detail in the Draft Facilities Plan are noted below:

1. Upgrade the existing IFAS, 2 - Stage
2. Upgrade the existing IFAS, 4 - Stage
3. New IFAS, 4 – Stage
4. Submerged Attached Growth
5. MBR 4 – Stage

The Committee met on May 3, 2010 to decide on a recommendation to the DSPUD and SLCWD Board of Directors. The decision is the result of a review process that covered several meetings and teleconferences with the respective District engineers ECO:LOGIC (Jeff Hauser and Robert Emerick), and Waterworks (Jim Geselbrach). The Committee thoroughly reviewed and discussed the plan during the evaluation and as a result of this process several amendments were recommended for inclusion in the final draft that will be presented to the DSPUD and SLCWD Board of Directors. Jeff Hauser is in the process of incorporating these amendments into the final draft plan which should be presented to the respective Boards and public by May 20, 2010.

The Committee's recommendation is listed below:

- Additional storage is necessary to equalize erratic flows that can occur during winter months. A decision on the amount will depend on the cost difference between 500,000 gallons (the plan recommendation) and 700,000 (staff's desired amount);
- Provide for a boiler/heat exchanger in order to heat the influent to temperatures sufficient to provide for normal biological process to occur 7C or higher;
- Install a Membrane Bio Reactor process system;
- Additional beneficial modifications to existing infrastructure and systems- improve the sludge holding tank, improve the ammonia feed system, carbon storage and feed system, and new and upgraded blower system;
- The project will be in a single phase, including improvements and expansion.

At this time the Committee is not recommending the following:

- Bio-stimulation storage. River monitoring will continue to determine the most appropriate response;
- Dilution credits for disinfection-by-products will not be pursued further. Instead, investigation of other disinfectant systems will be studied. (The DSPUD previously determined that the pursuit of dilution credits for nitrates would be discontinued.)

Other decisions:

- Final determination of the number of EDUs will be deferred until initiation of the engineering design;
- The CEQA process will be initiated as soon as the snow melts from the wastewater treatment plant site;
- Studies for heavy metals, aluminum, copper, etc. will continue with results incorporated into the plan.

The timing and framework for finalizing the decisions consequent to the recommendations made by the committee will be as follows:

- May 17, 2010 - Final draft of the Wastewater Facilities Plan submitted to the Donner and Sierra Boards and the public.

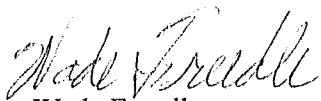
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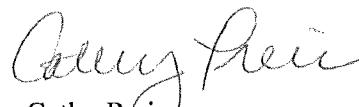
- June 21, 2010 – Completion of the public review period. Wastewater Facilities Joint Committee meeting to review the final draft of the Wastewater Facilities Plan; public is invited to attend and participate.
- July 6, 2010 – Donner and Sierra Boards to meet separately to review the final draft of the Wastewater Facilities Plan; public is invited to attend and participate.
- July 21, 2010 – Donner and Sierra Boards to hold a joint Board meeting to review and approve the final draft of the Wastewater Facilities Plan; public is invited to attend and participate.

These dates are subject to conflicting schedules and personnel availability and consequently are not firm at this point in time. The purpose of this schedule is to establish a framework for the timing of the process.

The DSPUD/SLCWD Joint Wastewater Facilities Committee looks forward to the Boards' and public comments. We believe the recommended project meets the goal of bringing the plant into permit compliance, serving the community into the future, and assure that the DSPUD discharges the highest quality of treated effluent into the South Yuba River.

Respectfully,

  
Wade Freedle  
SLCWD Board President  
Joint Committee Chair

  
Cathy Preis  
DSPUD Board President  
Joint Committee Co-Chair