

Valley Ford Water Association

Public Meeting

January 19, 2021
6:00 p.m.





Water Board's Mission Statement

Preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

Meeting Overview and Logistics

The background features a dark blue, textured surface resembling water splashing. A large, stylized wave graphic in shades of light blue and white curves across the lower half of the image, partially overlapping the water splashes.

Participation Instructions

Technical or Language Assistance

- Add it to the Q&A function

OR

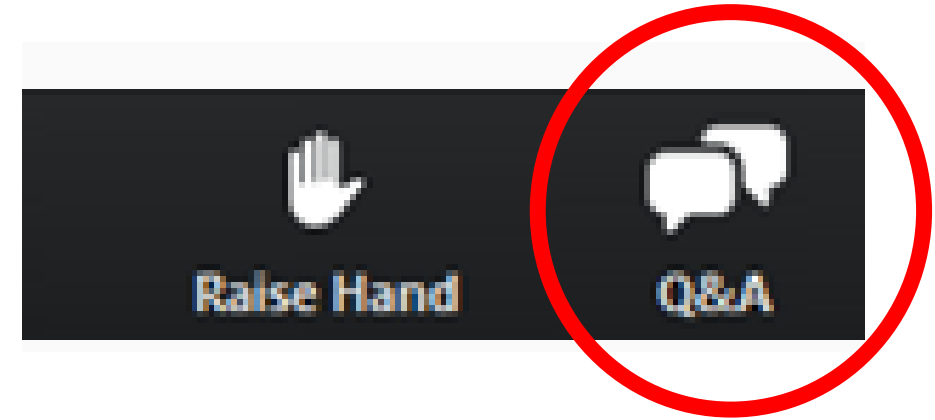
- Email DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov

Public Comment:

- Add it to the Q&A function

OR

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 - Your name and affiliation,
 - Last 3 digits of your phone number,
 - If you'd like to read your comment yourself,
 - Subject: "Valley Ford Public Comment"

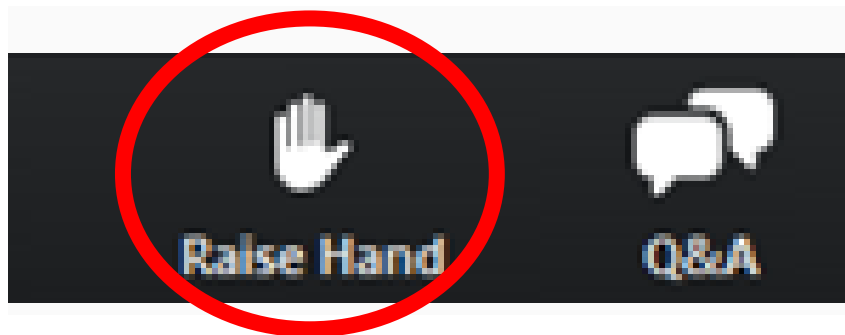
A screenshot of a Q&A interface. At the top, it says 'Q&A'. Below that, it shows a question: 'You asked: What happens when I raise my hand?' with a timestamp of '18:03'. Below the question, it shows an answer: 'Molly Parker answered: I can take you off of mute.' with a timestamp of '18:04'. At the bottom, there is a text input field with the placeholder 'Please input your question', a checkbox for 'Send Anonymously', and a blue 'Send' button.

Meeting Guidelines

- Everyone will be muted, until public comment

Computer Commands

- To raise your hand, find the “Raise Hand” button on your screen



Phone Commands

- *9 to raise hand
- *6 to mute/unmute



Let's Practice Raising and Lowering Hands!



What is the SAFER Drinking Water Program?

SAFER = Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience



Division of
Drinking Water

systems



Division of
Financial Assistance

funding



Office of
Public Participation

communities



SAFER
Advisory Group

local expertise

Meeting Agenda

- Background of Valley Ford Water Association
- Overview of Administrator
- Potential Administrator and Scope of Work
- Community Involvement
- Next Steps
- Public Comments/Questions

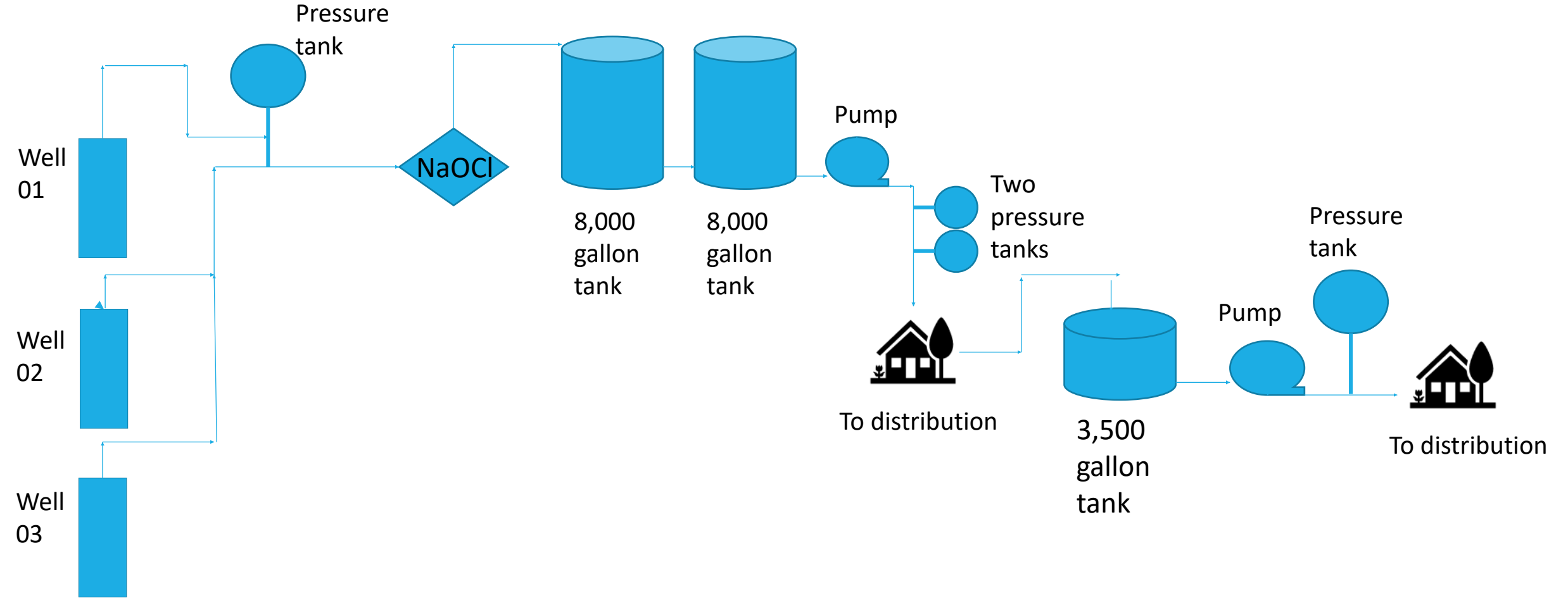


Water System Background Valley Ford Water Association

Steven Coe
Division of Drinking Water

Water System Schematic

19 Connections



Water System Violations

Nitrate

- **Public health hazard:** Chemical Contamination
- **Effects:** “Blue baby syndrome”, affects the oxygen-carrying ability in the blood of pregnant women.

Disinfectant Byproducts

- **Public health hazard:** Chemical Contamination
- **Effects:** Liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Raw Water E.coli Contamination

- **Public health hazard:** Microbiological contamination, E. coli found in source water
- **Effects:** Diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms.

System Limitations

- Limited management capacity
- Lack of financial capacity to implement solutions



Physical Deficiencies

- Shallow depth of annular seals in wells
- Wells are located in a cattle pasture.



Administrator of Valley Ford Water Association

Brian Kidwell, P.E.
Division of Drinking Water

Introduction...Why?

- Section 116686 of California Health and Safety Code
- Designated water system
- Why?
 - System is in violation
 - Physical deficiencies
 - System limitations
 - Long-term sustainability



What is a Full Scope Administrator?

- A person or entity who is appointed and/or authorized to exercise total and complete managerial control over a designated water system
 - Shall have all necessary licenses and certifications for scope of appointment
 - Shall have sufficient experience for scope of appointment
 - Shall be subject to a background check.



Full-Scope Administrator Tasks

- Investigate the current situation, regarding the current funding projects, which are addressing compliance orders for:
 - Nitrate MCL exceedance
 - Ground water rule
 - Disinfection byproducts, or total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids, MCL exceedance
- Work to secure funding for physical deficiencies and necessary repairs



Full-Scope Administrator Tasks, continued



Public meeting updates every 3 months:

- Performance
- Financial health
- Major projects or plans
- Changes to water rates
- General significant matters



Public meeting prior to taking the following actions:

- Final operation budget
- Long term contracts
- Planning projects/infrastructure improvements
- Financing commitments



Public Outreach

- Ten-day notice of public meeting
- Public comment period
- Regular updates to the community
- Translation services

Full-Scope Administrator Tasks: Post Administrator Drinking Water Service Plan

- Identification and evaluation of significant current and future issues of the system
- Detailed plan to develop adequate technical, managerial, and financial (TMF) capacity to achieve compliance
- Determine resources needed to achieve adequate TMF
- Evaluation of feasibility of long-term public governance
- Evaluation of feasibility of connecting to or consolidating with another system



Proposed Administrator

- **Russian River Utility**

- Russian River Utility is proposed to be the administrator of Valley Ford Water Association
- Russian River Utility is a water and sewer management and operations company
- Provides water treatment and distribution services in Sonoma County
- Provides normal operation, maintenance, monitoring, and preparation of reports

Administrator Funding

State Water Board will be responsible for:

- Salary and benefits for Administrator

Funding may be available for:

- construction and planning projects
- ongoing operation and maintenance costs

Stakeholder and Community Input



Community members may submit a petition to the State Water Board for reversal or modification of a decision of an administrator or substitution of the administrator



Must be received by the State Board within 30 days of date of administrator's decision



State Board will review and act on the petition

Next Steps

- Community can provide public comment through email or mail
- State Board and Russian River Utility will develop scope of work
- State Board will develop then execute funding agreement
- State Board will order the administrator
- Administrator will exercise total and complete managerial control
- Administrator will hold public meetings every three months
- Administrator will develop Post-Administrator Drinking Water Service Plan

Public Comments and Questions

The background features a dark blue, textured surface resembling water. A large, wavy graphic element in shades of light blue and white curves across the middle of the frame, overlaid on a photograph of water splashing and bubbling.

CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS

SAFER PROGRAM

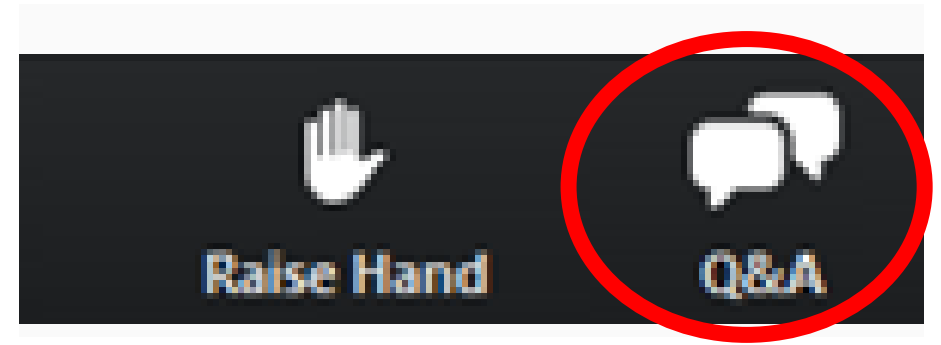
Online Participation

Public Comments or Questions:

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Phone Call-in Participation

Public Comments or Questions:

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- *6 to unmute yourself

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Public Comment Participation Instructions

When your name is called, share your...

- First and last name
- Affiliation
- Where you are calling in from
- Concise question or comment (*3 minutes max*)

Comments? Questions?

- First and last name
- Affiliation
- Where you are calling from
- Concise question or comment (*3 minutes max*)



Next Steps and Closing

Next Steps:

Public Comment Deadline – January 26th, 2021

Submit comments to:

Brian Kidwell

State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water

31 E Channel Street

Stockton, CA 95202

OR

DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov

OR

(209) 948-3963

Thank you!

Questions or comments please contact us:

DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov