Norcal Water Works
Public Meeting

January 13, 2022
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

Elizabeth Herrera
Office of Public Participation
Meeting Guidelines

- Everyone will be muted, until public comment

**Computer Commands**

![Raise Hand](image)

**Phone Commands**

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

Technical Assistance: SAFER@waterboards.ca.gov
Meeting Agenda

• Background of Norcal Water Works
• Overview of Mandatory Consolidation
• Community Involvement
• Next Steps
• Public Comments/Questions
SAFER Drinking Water Program

SAFER = Safe and Affordable Fund for Equity and Resilience

systems  funding  communities  local expertise

www.waterboards.ca.gov/safer
Water System Basics

Drinking Water Well  Chlorination  Hydropneumatic Tank  Distribution line

• 17 service connections
• 45 people served water

Required to have a certified distribution operator
Concerns

- Technical Limitations
- Managerial Limitations
- Financial Limitations
Technical Limitations

Water Quality

• Bacteriological samples were not taken from September 2019 to present
  • A boil water order was issued March 13, 2020

• Effects of potential bacteriological contamination are:
  • Diarrhea
  • Vomiting
  • Cramps
  • Nausea,
  • Fever, etc.
Technical Limitations

Enforcement Actions and Violations

• Enforcement Action issued for missed bacteriological samples from December 2019 and March 2020

• Other violations include:
  • Failure to employ a chief and shift distribution operator that meets the necessary requirements
  • Failure to submit an electronic annual report for reporting year 2019 and 2020, and failure to provide reliable contact information in the 2018 report
  • Failure to distribute the 2019 and 2020 Consumer Confidence Report to consumers and the Tehama County LPA by July 1, 2020
  • Failure to report a free chlorine residual on the chain of custody for the routine bacteriological sample collected in July 2020
  • Failure to provide a second source of domestic water, or storage, capable of meeting the maximum day demand
Managerial Limitations

• Lack of staff – No certified distribution operator
  • The operation and maintenance of the water system is put at risk without an
    operator to oversee the water system and chlorinator
  • The necessary water quality testing is performed
• Lack of communication from the water system
  • He only occasionally responds to emails
  • He does not respond to phone calls
  • Mail sent to his address is often returned to sender
Financial Limitations

• Payment is due to Cranmer Engineering for sampling and operator fees
  • $1,175 past due
• Payment is due to Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E)
  • Water system stated it is withholding payment to PG&E until they are paid restitution from the PG&E lawsuit settlement for the Camp Fire
• Payment is owed to the State Water Board

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Mandatory Consolidation Overview

Brian Kidwell, P.E.
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer
Division of Drinking Water, SAFER
Mandatory Consolidation – What Does It Mean?

• State law requires mandatory consolidation be between two public water systems.

• Norcal Water Works would be owned and operated by Del Oro Water Company – Larkspur Meadows.
Why is the State Board Taking This Action?

• Water Quality Issues
• Managerial Issues
• Financial Concerns

• State Board has determined that Norcal Water Works cannot reliably provide safe and affordable water to its customers.
Consolidation Process

- Six-months for voluntary consolidation agreement.
- Public Meeting
- Appoint a Full-Scope Administrator to take legal control of the water system.
Consolidation Process

- Second Public Meeting
- State Board will determine fair market value of water system
- Transfer of Water System to Del Oro
- Complete Necessary Improvements
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
  - Public meeting was held on December 10, 2020
  - Shall have sufficient experience for scope of appointment
  - Shall be subject to a background check.
Mandatory Consolidation Funding

State Water Board will provide funding as necessary and appropriate from:

- Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWSRF)
- Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience Program (SAFER)
- Monies made available from the emergency drought relief package

Funding may be used for:

- Infrastructure improvements
- Bringing the water system up to current standards
Stakeholder and Community Input

Community members may present oral or written comments

Must be received by the State Board within 1 week of this meeting

State Board will review comments received
Goals

• Safe and reliable drinking water
• Complete necessary improvements
• Maintain public engagement
• Oversee implementation of long-term consolidation solution
Norcal Water Works
Public Comments/Questions

Elizabeth Herrera
Office of Public Participation
Online Participation

Public Comments or Questions:

• Raise your virtual hand,

• Add it to the Chat function,

OR

• Email the following to SAFER@waterboards.ca.gov
  • Your name and affiliation,
  • If you’d like to read your comment yourself,
  • Subject: “Norcal Public Comment”
Phone Call-in Participation

Public Comments or Questions:
• *9 to raise your hand
• *6 to unmute yourself

OR

• Email the following to SAFER@waterboards.ca.gov
  • Your name and affiliation,
  • If you’d like to read your comment yourself,
  • Subject: “Norcal 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 min max)
Comments? Questions?

- First and last name
- Affiliation
- Where you are calling from
- Concise question or comment
Next Steps and Closing
Next Steps

• Public Comment Deadline - January 20, 2022

• Written comments and questions can be mailed or emailed to:

  Brian Kidwell
  State Water Resources Control Board
  31 E Channel Street
  Stockton, CA 95202

OR
SAFER@waterboards.ca.gov

OR (209) 948-3963

• Consolidation Info – visit the Water Board website at:
  www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/programs/compliance/index.html
Thank you!

Questions or comments please contact us:

SAFER@waterboards.ca.gov