

MEMORANDUM

TO: SR Jones, Executive Officer, Nevada LAFCo
FROM: Kateri Harrison, SWALE Planning Consultant
SUBJECT: New Information for Water Services MSR
DATE: 12July2019

One (1) new correction and one (1) new comment are recommended for inclusion into the MSR for water services in Eastern Nevada County. This Memorandum describes the correction and the comment.

- A. Figure 4-6, Disadvantaged neighborhoods in Truckee: The DWR mapping tool has updated their data and a new map with only one (1) census block is provided as shown below.
- B. DSPUD has asked that their September 19, 2018 letter also be added to this water service MSR (previously addressed to the wastewater MSR).

A. Figure 4-6, Disadvantaged neighborhoods in Truckee

An on-line mapping tool by the Department of Water Resources has been updated. Their new data lists only one (1) census block near the Town of Truckee as a disadvantaged neighborhood. It is recommended that Figure 4-6 be replaced with a new map shown below:

Figure 4-6: Disadvantaged Community by Block Groups, Town of Truckee



MSR Text on page 4-27 is proposed to be modified as follows:

~~The three Block Group is are a subsection of Tracts 12.06 and 12.04. Block Group 12.06,4 contains 732 individuals, 269 households and has a median household income of \$47,031.00. Within this Block Group, 164 of housing units are renter occupied with the remaining 106 homes in the block group vacant for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. Of the total individuals, 136 have had income in the past 12 months below the MHI threshold as of 2014, a little over 50 percent of the block group (US Census, 2014).~~

Block Group 12.06,2 has a population of 1,511 individuals, 555 households, and a median income of \$46,058.00. Within this Block Group, 185 of housing units are vacant for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use with none renter occupied. The remaining 370 households are 5 DWR mapping tool is available at: <https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/dacs/> owner occupied. Of the total households, 315 have had income in below the MHI threshold as of 2014, a little over 56 percent of the block group (US Census, 2014).

~~Block Group 12.04,1 has a population of 786, 381 households, and a median income of \$47,684.00. Of those households, 60 percent are renter occupied. Of the total households, 247 have had income in the past 12 months below the MHI threshold as of 2014, a little over 64 percent of the block group (US Census, 2014). Since Block Groups 12.06,4; 12.06,2; and 12.04,1 are located in the Town of Truckee they are eligible to receive public services including water, sewer, and fire protection. No public health and safety issues have been identified.~~

B. Comment From Donner Summit PUD

DSPUD has asked that their September 19, 2018 letter also be added to this water service MSR. This letter was previously addressed to the wastewater MSR. It is recommended that the September 19, 2018 letter from DSPUD be included in Chapter 6: Comments Received and Responses To Comments. The letter and the consultant reponse are shown on the following pages.

Cathy Preis
President
Sara Schrichte
Vice President
Robert Sherwood
Secretary
Phil Gamick
Director
Alex Medveczky
Director



September 19, 2018

Mr. Hank Weston, Chairman
Nevada County Local Agency Commission
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959
Sent Via Electronic Mail

RE: Draft Eastern County Wastewater MSR

Chair Weston:

On behalf of the Donner Summit Public Utility District (the District), I want to thank you and the Commission for this opportunity to comment on the Draft Eastern County Wastewater Municipal Service Review, also known as Wastewater Services in Eastern Nevada County, dated September 20, 2018.

Out of the 42 items listed in the Summary of MSR Determinations for the District, I believe that Item #33 deserves a comment. This item refers to energy use by the District at its recently upgraded and expanded treatment plant and proper budgeting for the same.

It is accurate that utility costs rose between Fiscal Year 2012/13 and 2017/18, however, it should be noted that the District broke ground for its upgrade and expansion project in 2012. That project resulted in more than doubling the square footage of the existing treatment facility. Additionally, the District changed from chlorine gas to an ultra-violet disinfection system. Ultra-violet systems consume large amounts of electricity. The decision to change disinfection processes was made for employee/public safety reasons and to eliminate any possibility of chlorine spills into the South Yuba River. It should also be noted that the District's treatment facility is the only facility in the State of California that actually heats the Return Activated Sludge. This is due to extremely low influent temperatures during the winter months.

The project was completed in Fiscal Year 2015/16 and since then utility costs have stabilized. During design the District did instruct its consulting engineers to investigate possible renewable energy alternatives, including enclosing the two reactor basins. After cost/benefit ratios were performed it was apparent that alternative energy sources were not worth the capital cost.

In closing, I again want to thank the Commission for allowing the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or desire additional information.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas G. Skjelstad
General Manager

**Consultant's Response to Comments from DSPUD General Manager, Thomas Skjelstad
Comments Sent by Thomas Skjelstad via email on 9/19/2018**

Consultant's responses are shown below in blue italic font.

Comment from T. Skjelstad: On behalf of the Donner Summit Public Utility District (the District), I want to thank you and the Commission for this opportunity to comment on the Draft Eastern County Wastewater Municipal Service Review, also known as Wastewater Services in Eastern Nevada County, dated September 20, 2018.

Consultant Response: Thank you for reading the report and submitting comments.

Comment from T. Skjelstad: Out of the 42 items listed in the Summary of MSR Determinations for the District, I believe that Item #33 deserves a comment. This item refers to energy use by the District at its recently upgraded and expanded treatment plant and proper budgeting for the same.

Consultant Response: Since the August 8, 2018 MSR prepared by Placer LAFCo on the DSPUD contained determinations for DSPUD and since Placer LAFCO is the Principal LAFCo for the DSPUD, it was decided not to provide determinations for DSPUD in this current MSR by Nevada LAFCo. Therefore, the referenced determination #33 has been removed.

Comment from T. Skjelstad: It is accurate that utility costs rose between Fiscal Year 2012/13 and 2017/18, however, it should be noted that the District broke ground for its upgrade and expansion project in 2012. That project resulted in more than doubling the square footage of the existing treatment facility. Additionally, the District changed from chlorine gas to an ultra-violet disinfection system. Ultra-violet systems consume large amounts of electricity. The decision to change disinfection processes was made for employee/public safety reasons and to eliminate any possibility of chlorine spills into the South Yuba River. It should also be noted that the District's treatment facility is the only facility in the State of California that actually heats the Return Activated Sludge. This is due to extremely low influent temperatures during the winter months.

Consultant Response: Thank you for sharing this explanation of the relationship between facility size and utility costs. It does make sense that utility costs have increased as the size of the facilities have increased.

Comment from T. Skjelstad: The project was completed in Fiscal Year 2015/16 and since then utility costs have stabilized. During design the District did instruct its consulting engineers to investigate possible renewable energy alternatives, including enclosing the

two reactor basins. After cost/benefit ratios were performed it was apparent that alternative energy sources were not worth the capital cost.

Consultant Response: Based on this new information provided by DSPUD it is acknowledged that the DSPUD has been conscious of its energy usage and has taken steps to study and monitor energy usage. Based upon the referenced cost/benefit analysis, it seems that DSPUD has made appropriate decisions. The consultants added one sentence to the MSR's discussion of utility cost on page 5- 24 to refer readers to the September 19, 2018 letter from DSPUD which provides a good explanation of the situation.