

# BOLINAS COMMUNITY PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

BCPUD      BOX 390 270 ELM ROAD BOLINAS CALIFORNIA 94924      415 868 1224



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Jennifer Blackman *JMB*

RE: Proposed Work Plan and Timeline For Enhanced Groundwater Monitoring and Sewer Treatment Plant Facility Upgrade for Submittal to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

DATE: August 11, 2023

---

As you know, on June 27, 2023, the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (“RWQCB”) issued a letter of support for the BCPUD’s proposed expansion of the sewer collection system to include six properties on Canyon Road on the conditions that the BCPUD:

“continues to adhere to the current Order, enhances groundwater monitoring at the facility, and evaluates potential future upgrades to the system. Those monitoring and technical report requirements will be detailed in a separate letter.”

As I previously have reported, the RWQCB desires to transition the BCPUD’s sewer treatment facility to a new permit (or “Order”), which will require the BCPUD to upgrade its facilities in order to meet the new requirements including, but not limited to, the ability to operate in compliance with the new permit during 25 – and/or 50-year rain events.

During follow-up meetings with RWQCB staff and the district’s consulting engineer, Kathryn Gies of West Yost, to discuss the conditions cited in the June 27<sup>th</sup> letter, the BCPUD was asked to prepare a proposed work plan and timeline for the enhanced groundwater monitoring and sewer treatment plant facility upgrades to be required by RWQCB staff. As I understand it, this work plan and timeline will then be included in the “separate letter” to come from the RWQCB and the BCPUD will be expected to comply with the various deadlines and deliverables.

The RWQCB staff understand the financial challenges the evaluation and upgrade efforts will pose for the BCPUD and is receptive to a timeline that allows the BCPUD to spread the costs. Specifically, the RWQCB has indicated the required evaluations may occur over a 5 year timeframe, and implementation could occur over a second 5-year period, where the second 5-year period would include time to provide the opportunity for the BCPUD to seek grant and other funding for any treatment plant upgrades. The RWQCB staff requested that the BCPUD submit its proposed work plan and timeline that complies with these guidelines by August 18, 2023.

Accordingly, I have worked with Kathryn Gies to prepare the following work plan and timeline (see page 2) to submit to the RWQCB by August 18, 2023 and request your approval thereof. I also request that this overall project be referred to the Operations Committee for on-going evaluation and oversight during the anticipated 10-year timeframe. Kathryn and I will both be available at the August 16, 2023 Board meeting to answer any questions you may have.

Please note: the October deadlines are proposed to commence one-year after the anticipated “separate letter” from the RWQCB is expected to issue (i.e., on or about October 1, 2023).

**Proposed BCPUD Work Plan and Timeline for Enhanced Groundwater Monitoring and Sewer Treatment Facility Upgrades**

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Task</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
October 1, 2024	Complete enhanced groundwater monitoring well installation workplan for RWQCB approval.	\$25,000 - \$30,000
October 1, 2025	Install new groundwater monitoring wells in accordance with the approved work plan.	\$25,000 - \$30,000
October 1, 2028	Complete a technical report that provides a sewer treatment facility upgrade plan to operate in compliance during 25 to 50-year rain event and to reasonably expand the wastewater system to accommodate additional homes within the District’s water service area that currently rely on septic systems for wastewater disposal. The plan will also identify potential climate change impacts on the system. This technical report will support a future permit renewal application for potential updates to the permit.	\$225,000 (\$75,000 per year for 2026, 2027 and 2028)
October 1, 2033 <sup>(a)</sup>	Implement the sewer treatment facility upgrades identified in the technical report.	Unknown, but total costs would likely be in the \$3 to \$8 million range.
(a). This compliance date is intended to provide adequate time to obtain funding for and to design, permit, and construct the identified upgrades.		