

Grant Beck

From: Godballs [info@godballs.com]
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2009 12:43 PM
To: Godballs
Subject: Well Water Levels - Yelm Washington

Good Day,

I am a property owner concerned about the impact the City of Yelm's proposed five-fold increase in water withdrawal quantities will have on the future availability of water in my area.

After reading the below advertisement, it is apparent that the City of Yelm's approach to water resource planning fails to protect the public interest and that an Environmental Impact Statement should be required to protect the local aquifer.

LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THE CITY'S RECENT WATER-RELATED BEHAVIOR:

- over-pumped aquifer between 2001 and 2008 (in excess of legal water rights);
- failed to update required city Water System Plan (overdue since Sept. 2008);
- refused to evaluate environmental impacts of huge proposed water expansion for the Thurston Highlands project;
- spent over \$550,000 on water studies to benefit a private development;
- proposed to charge city ratepayers for costs of financing 5,000 home Thurston Highlands water study, water acquisition, and system installations.

WHAT IS THE CITY UP TO NOW?

- Using a draft, unapproved Water Mitigation Plan that is incomplete and inadequate for Department of Ecology review of huge new increased water withdrawals; **Why?**
- Issuing an MDNS instead of a thorough EIS involving public input; **Why?**
- Raising everyone's water rates to fund a water system for a massive 5,000-home private development proposal; **Why?**
- Continuing to pursue planning, funding, and political action in support of a massive 5,000-home private development proposal; **Why?**

YOU MIGHT ASK YOURSELF:

- Why is the City avoiding public discussion and input on this subject?
 - What is the City hiding by giving the public virtually no notice of proposed action on such important matters?
 - Why is the City not interested in reviewing all of the environmental effects that might harm its citizens?
 - What would you do if your well water supply suddenly disappears – "stolen" and "sold" to private developers by the very City officials who are supposed to protect the public?
- Be aware, find the facts, speak up, and keep your local government honest.

An MDNS (Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance) should not substitute for an EIS

(Environmental Impact Study).

Please hold the City of Yelm accountable to its citizens that live within the city limits and the surrounding communities by insuring their proposed increase in water withdrawal will not adversely effect the community.

Insure the public interest is protected by protecting our local aquifer.

Sincerely,

**Laura Mooney
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