

# Del Oro Water Company- Walnut Ranch District Consolidation

Updated on February 9, 2018

**County:** Colusa

**Population:** 182

**Challenges:** Drinking water standard violation for Arsenic

**Consolidation date:** April 6, 2017

The Del Oro Water Company - Walnut Ranch District served a population of 182 customers. The water system had one well which exceeded the maximum contaminant level for arsenic and physically collapsed, leaving the Walnut Ranch Subdivision to rely on an emergency intertie with the City of Colusa (City).

A consolidation project was funded by a \$500,000 State Revolving Fund planning grant which included the following- an engineering report, CEQA/NEPA<sup>1</sup> documentation, annexation agreements, and plans and specifications for needed distribution upgrades.

The City acquired the assets of Del Oro Water Company - Walnut Ranch District in April 2017. The consolidating system is now moving forward to replace distribution pipelines under a construction project with the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Financial Assistance.

Even with the City's water rates and a temporary assessment on the customers for required upgrades, the customers are paying \$20 less per month under the consolidation compared to when the system was operating alone. The figure shows the well and sand separation, and pressure tank equipment that is no longer required to be operated and maintained by the subdivision adding the reduction of their monthly bills.



Figure 1. Old Well and Associated Equipment

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<sup>1</sup> California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/ National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)