

From: Steve Clark [REDACTED]
To: LTang@waterboards.ca.gov
CC: CVillacorta@waterboards.ca.gov
Date: 5/17/2012 12:44 PM
Subject: RE: ross valley report
Attachments: RVSD.protest.051720001.pdf

Ms. Tang - thanks for spending the time to discuss the issues with me by phone today. I enclose my letter describing what I and probably all taxpayers in the RSVD feel is a wrongly directed \$807,350 penalty against the ratepayers without any RSVD benefit. I request that the board reconsider that penalty and find a way to direct those funds into something which assists in improving the old pipelines.

Perhaps "suspending" all or a portion of that amount on the condition that the RSVD accomplish an immediate remediation of its worst pipes within a very short time period, and in addition, provide additional evidence showing that procedures have been modified to avoid or reduce the probability of substantial spills like the 2010 spills, etc. I think your organization and staff can probably think of some other alternatives equally helpful.

Thanks again for passing this on to the board.

Steve Clark
[REDACTED]
Larkspur, CA 94939
home phone: 415 [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Lila Tang [mailto:LTang@waterboards.ca.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 4:34 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Claudia Villacorta
Subject: ross valley report

Mr. Clark - Please find attached the reports you requested. Please contact me if you need more information.

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STEPHEN E. CLARK

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May 17, 2012

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Francisco Bay Area Region, C/o Lila Tang
1515 Clay St., Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612

Re-Proposed Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for Entry of Judgment and Proposed Order
#RX-2012-00XX Relating to Ross Valley Sanitary District

Dear Board Members:

I am a resident and voter within the Ross Valley sanitary district. In fact my wife and I live on a Larkspur Boardwalk One house which is adjacent to Corte Madera Creek. We have personally experienced the overflows described in the Proposed Settlement Agreement.

I think everyone is in agreement that the old 1940s/50s pipe system is the primary cause for the overflows in question and needs to be replaced as promptly as possible. I am sure that everyone within the RSVD community agrees. My understanding is that RSVD is trying to do exactly that within its restricted financial limitations. However, to the extent that the RSVD acted competently and in good faith in responding to the described overflows, the very significant penalty being paid to your organization – \$807,350 – and not directed toward pipe replacement seriously undercuts that very purpose. And it imposes those penalties on RSVD citizens and taxpayers like me – without any benefit to our district.


I understand requiring 2 supplemental environmental projects totaling \$731,750, and I favor that. And I also understand the \$75,600 offset for staff costs, which I think are also appropriate.

And while I can understand the philosophical questions surrounding the balance between a penalty as a future deterrent compared with a penalty as a direct means of improving the existing pipe system, I strongly disagree with that balance here. That money would be far better spent by the RSVD on immediate pipe replacements in the most high risk locations.

I urge you to reconsider the \$807,350 penalty and to find a way to directly benefit the district with that expenditure. If you need me to solicit additional community support for that position, I will do that. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Very truly yours,


Stephen E Clark

 Larkspur, CA 94939

cc: Ross Valley Sanitary District Board Members, Mary Scylla – candidate