

Andy Williamson

From: Aaron Nix
Sent: Monday, December 08, 2014 8:54 AM
To: Andy Williamson; MDRT User
Subject: FW: ground water quality south king county
Attachments: doc06320020141130124156.pdf

Good Morning,

For MDRT and Phil Olbrechts.

Aaron C. Nix, MPA

City of Black Diamond
Community Development and Natural Resources Director
360.886.5700 Office
anix@ci.blackdiamond.wa.us

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From: Erika Morgan [mailto:smilemeadow@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, December 06, 2014 4:56 PM
To: Aaron Nix; Brenda Martinez
Cc: Erika Morgan
Subject: Fwd: ground water quality south king county

To be included in the official record for Phil Olbrechts official plat c hearing

Begin forwarded message:

> From: Erika Morgan <erikamorganblackdiamond@gmail.com>
> Subject: ground water quality south king county
> Date: December 4, 2014 at 1:02:38 PM PST
> To: "lanes@goodfellowbros.com" <lanes@goodfellowbros.com>, Greg.Rabourn@kingcounty.gov, "jnol461@ecy.wa.gov Nolan" <jnol461@ecy.wa.gov>, lmor461@ecy.wa.gov, cthorn@auburnwa.gov, william.appleton@cityoffederalway.com, sbauer@kentwa.gov, customerservice@highlinewater.org, customerservice@wd111.com, bob.taylor@covingtonwater.com, clund@yarrowbayholdings.com
> Cc: Erika Morgan <erikamorganblackdiamond@gmail.com>, Brenda Martinez <BMartinez@ci.blackdiamond.wa.us>, carol_a_morris@msn.com, Erika Morgan <smilemeadow@gmail.com>
>
>
> Hello;
> I am Erika Morgan, for full disclosure, I am on the Black Diamond City Council, but this concern is as a private individual, as a property owner and private domestic water well user.
>
> 1. My well water had white glacial silt in it Friday September 26, 2014 , a condition that it had not experienced since its first drilling 35 years ago. The water was completely cleared up by October 18, 2014 when the grading and re-contouring of the "big

gravel pit” on the Yarrow Bay PP1A property was completed. I will also include the public well reports on my well for your convenience below.

> 2. Ground under PP1A is described as super permeable to any water infiltration, and as a principle aquifer recharge area, according to the Gould Study of 1986. This study also indicates that the aquifer my well connects to, also connects to an incursion into groundwater represented by the “big old gravel pit” located on the PP1A property.

> 3. Late last fall (2013) the forest that has been growing on PP1A since 1986, has been completely removed and the ground of 100 acres scraped clean, completely removing any filtering sponge or transpiration activity, that was protecting our shared aquifer. In a way the environment has never experienced in the past. In the past, logging and replanting of the forest occurred and that only during the low rainfall periods, and on a rotating schedule of no more than 40 acres at any one appropriate season.

> 4. Extensive re-contouring was done on the “large gravel pit” in PP1A, including moving it somewhat and changing its shape, this area has been mined for gravel in the past. It is an excavation into ground water that is below the water table except for late in particularly dry summers in its parent condition.

> 5. Gould’s Study indicates that the aquifer the Morgan well is connected to, could connect to the large gravel pit in PP1A, and the influx of white glacial silt, during the time of re-contouring of this site proves the connection.

> 6. Other wells in the area also complained of white glacial silt.

> 7. This area now is actually functioning as a huge 100 ac. “rain garden” sans the proper or indeed any rain garden lining or filling. The hydro seeding has made it attractive to hundreds of geese as a favored grazing and pooping area.

> 8. Since the clearing of PP1A last November, December the water level of our meandering Rock Creek wetland, site of the discharge of Black Diamond’s failed sewage lagoons has come up 2 feet between Jones Lake and Lake Sawyer, because at least some water is running off PP1A and into this wetland probably under the surface through the gravelly super permeable soil of PP1A.

> 9. Black Diamond’s failed sewage lagoon treatment system caused the pollution of Lake Sawyer in the early 1980s, I fear the large hydro-seeded area attractive to many geese will only repeat the experiment of the failed sewage lagoons for Lake Sawyer.

> 9. Yarrow Bay has asked the city of Black Diamond to move ahead on their VILLAGES MPD PHASE 2 PRELIMINARY PLAT C - PLN13-0027-, which is an additional 103 acres just south of PP1A, and which will have the effect of increasing the effects of the previous clearing and grading. No applications have been made to actually proceed with any further development upon the cleared land, but there is some discussion about installing public utilities on it.

10. Other aquifer users have also experienced the white glacial silt as I have and my concern is that the water connectivity the silt represents, means that our wells could also become contaminated like Lake Sawyer was in the past if organic pollutants spill from the cleared land into our shared aquifer.

>
> The “Regional Water Association of South King County” had rejected the thought of Black Diamond re-injecting treated sewage water from a conventional plant into our shared ground water as being a part of the “fix” for Black Diamond’s sewage issues because of fears for their shared groundwater aquifer being tainted. They wrote a letter in 1988 to such effect, a copy of which I will include. This together with the description of the super permeability of the ground under “The Villages in Black Diamond” has left me mystified as to why there are not measures and mitigations to protect your groundwater which is often on the surface in Black Diamond. Today, many more depend upon the water quality then did when the letter was written in May 1988.

>
> It was precisely because of these findings that Black Diamond wrote into its Comprehensive Plan the requirement that a MPD would be required to proceed with development in its UGA reserve area that we are now discussing. Black Diamond further wrote into its Comp Plan that this area would be developed under the guidelines presented in “Rural by Design” because our citizens had experienced the local hydrology and realized any development would need to nestle into the parent contours of the land with large untouched native land between clustered small pockets of development so the regional hydrology could continue to work unmolested and protect the recharge area of the main human needs to our west. We have had a lot of speculation and dreaming in Black Diamond, that our legal team advised repeatedly was from 30,000 feet; but now we are to a place where the facts of the effects are beginning to manifest in reality, and it is certainly time for reality to bring the projects back to where we live, on ground level, and under the surface where our shared water table exists.

>
> I am sorry to be so slow in making this report but am having a tough time finding an active successor of RWA who protects the shared groundwater in South King County. The promised “Water Management Plan” is available on line and I have read it, but sadly it too is peppered with cautions that there may be better science today, though much of the basic descriptions seem to substantiate of what I have observed personally so they must still be perfectly valid.

>
> How do I find some entity who will protect the public interest?

> Black Diamond is supposed to be having a public hearing about Plat C on December 11, 2014 at 5pm in the Black Diamond Community Center.

>
> Erika Morgan

> 33625 Abrams Ave. Black Diamond, 98010

>
> My public well report data:

>
> ERICA MORGAN - { View PDF  }

> Public Land Survey: NW, NW, S-23, T-21-N, R-06-E, Tax Parcel Number: (blank)
 > County: King, Well Address: (blank)
 > Well Log ID: 91163, Well Tag ID:(blank), Notice of Intent Number: (blank)
 > Well Diameter: 6 in. , Well Depth: 130 ft.
 > Well Type: Water
 > Well Completion Date: 08/18/1981, Well Log Received Date: (blank)

>
 > Well ID
 > Well id S_471757122004601
 > Location Name
 > Name MORGAN ERICA
 > Well Type
 > well type Well
 > Well Depth (ft)
 > well depth 130
 > Surface Elevation (ft)
 > elevation ft. 640
 > X Coord (WAN-SPF)
 > x coord (wanspf) 1347758.375
 > Y Coord (WAN-SPF)
 > y coord (wanspf) 111372
 > Has Water Level Data?
 > water level data Yes = 37 feet june 10, 1986
 > Has Water Quality Data?
 > water quality data No
 > Local Number
 > local number 21N/06E-23D01
 > Ecology Well Tag
 > DOE well tag Unknown
 > Parcel Number
 > GWMA code South King County
 > Basin
 > basin Covington Creek
 > CARA Area
 > cara area None
 > City
 > city King County

> Well ID
 > Measurement Date
 > Measurement Time
 > Water Level Depth (ft)
 > Well Depth (ft)
 > Measure Method
 > S_471757122004601
 > 04/09/1987
 > 10:50
 > water level 38.12
 > well depth 130 by Steel tape

>
 > S_471757122004601
 > 06/11/1986
 > 07:10
 > water level 37.48 by Steel tape
 > well depth 130

>
 >
 > S_471757122004601
 > 09/08/1986
 > water level 32.36 by Steel tape
 > well depth 130

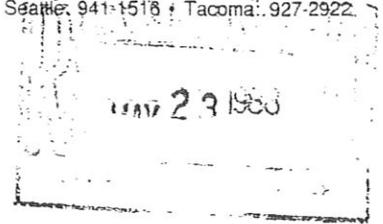
> Concern letter spoken of above:

>
>

RWA REGIONAL WATER ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH KING COUNTY

P.O. Box 4249 • 31627 - 1st Avenue South • Federal Way, Washington 98063
Seattle: 941-1518 • Tacoma: 927-2922

May 20, 1988



Brown & Caldwell
Consulting Engineers
100 West Harrison Street
Seattle, WA 98119

Attn: Mr. George Mason

Re: Black Diamond Waste Treatment

Gentlemen:

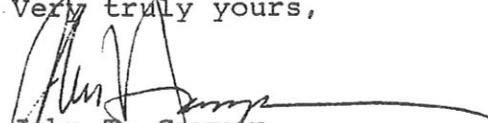
The Regional Water Association of South King County ("RWA") wishes to express its concern over the possibility of land application of Black Diamond's waste water.

RWA in coordination with DSHS, DOE and King County is in the process of preparing a Master Comprehensive Plan of Water Supply and Management for South King County - including the Black Diamond area. This study consists of three components: (1) A Critical Water Supply Plan under the State Act; (2) A Groundwater Management Plan under the State Act; and (3) A joint study with USGS of available groundwater resources.

One of the major thrusts of the above is aquifer management and protection.

Because of soil conditions and a pattern of shallow aquifers running from the Black Diamond area westward, land application of sewage could present a serious threat to groundwater critical to the future needs of South King County.

Very truly yours,


John T. Sawyer,
RWA Administrator

JTS/bjh