

56.

Public Comment: Erika Morgan, Email dated December
11, 2014 Related to the Public Hearing PLN13-0027
Posted November 25, 2014

Tracey Redd

From: Erika Morgan <smilemeadow@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2014 3:45 PM
To: MDRT User; Brenda Martinez
Cc: Erika Morgan
Subject: VILLAGES MPD PHASE 2 PRELIMINARY PLAT C - PLN13-0027 corrected testimony 12/11/version
Attachments: doc06320020141130124156.pdf; PastedGraphic-2.tiff

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 as a 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 PPIA property, was completed. I also include the public well reports, on my well below for your convenience.
2. Ground under PPIA is described as supper permeable to any water infiltration, and as a principle aquifer recharge area, according to the Golder Study of 1986. This study also indicates that the aquifer that my well is connected to, also connects to an incursion into groundwater represented by the "big old gravel pit" located on the PPIA property of the Yarrow Bay Villages development in Black Diamond.
3. Late last fall the forest that has been growing on PPIA since 1986, has been completely removed and the ground of 100 acres scraped clean. This completely removed any "filtrating sponge effect" of the forest that was protecting our shared aquifer as it has never experienced in the past. In the past, logging and replanting of the forest occurred only during the low rainfall periods, and no whole-scale grading. This sort of activity commenced only on a rotating schedule of no more then 40 acres at any one time.
4. Extensive re-conturing was done on the "large gravel pit" in PPIA, including moving it somewhat and changing its shape. This spot has been mined for gravel in the past. It is an excavation into the ground water level. The water levels here tend rise slowly with fall rains as a rehydration of the groundwater reserves. Then when there is rainfall and that combined with "pineapple express warming torrential rain", the water levels can rise quickly, they will stay high until there is a drawdown of this groundwater in late summer. Normally this spot never completely is dry, and this past season, was no exception.
5. The Golder Study indicates, that the aquifer the Morgan well is connected to, could connect to the "large gravel pit" in PPIA. The influx of white glacial silt, during the time of re-con-touring of this site proves the connection.
6. Other wells in the area also complained of the white glacial silt during this time.
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, that would help protect our regional ground water from non-point source pollutants. The hydro-seeding has made it attractive to hundreds of geese as a large grazing and pooping area for them.
8. Since the clearing of PPIA 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. This is because at least some water is running more freely and faster off PPIA and into this wetland, probably under the surface through the supper permeable soils described as underlayment of PPIA. Planned guardrails on Abrams Ave. were not able to be placed because of the raised "normal high water mark" meant their supports would demand pile-driving into the expanded bed of a moving meandering Rock Creek. Now a completely new and more expensive solution will be needed to handle the public safety situation there.
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, who poop directly onto the unprotected and completely exposed supper permeable deposits, will only repeat the experiment of the failed sewage lagoons for Lake Sawyer's water quality.
10. 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 and additional 103 acres just south of PPIA, and which will have the effect of increasing the unmitigated environmentally devastating effects of the previous clearing and grading by 100%. That area also is part of this supper permeable soils

formation. 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.

11. 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.

12. Additionally, I find reference to a "buried major and ancient channel of the Green River" transversing the "deep outwash glacial remains" found under The Villages footprint.

Beaman, Brian R.; Killman, Kathy S., 1997, Evidence of a buried channel of the Green River within the Covington upland--A linear aquifer? [abstract]. IN Washington Department of Ecology; Washington Hydrological Society, Abstracts from the 2nd symposium on the hydrogeology of Washington State: Washington Department of Ecology, p. 7.

> DGER call number: TD224 W2 W317h 1997

> Index terms: GREEN RIVER/KING CO. / HYDROGEOLOGY/HYDROLOGY - GROUND WATER/RIVER MORPHOLOGY - BURIED CHANNELS

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 supper 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 the regionally groundwater, from which private, small systems and municipal systems are pulling potable water. South King County's future ground water is our surface water in Black Diamond. Surface water can be made clean with a "pristine mimicking" processes if there is natural filtration through suitable material, but this does not happen in supper permeable soil types with major underground rivers speeding the water along into our shared ground water. Today, many more are depend upon the water quality and quantity then in May 1988, and there is a lot of developed infrastructure representing a lot of capitol dependent on good water being delivered from Black Diamond's lands.

I am sorry to be so slow in making this reporting but am having a tough time finding an active successor of RWA who protected the shared groundwater in South King County's past. The promised "Water Management Plan" is available on line and I have read it, much of the basic descriptions seem to substantiate what I have observed personally, so they must still be perfectly valid. How do I find some entity who will help Black Diamond protect the regional public interest? I have written before about Black Diamond's checkered past with the failed sewage lagoon system. The people of this town today are particularly sensitive about the issue of water quality in the water that flows off our land, the lake Sawyer residents because they experienced the bad result of a faulty idea and the old Black Diamond residents because of the shame the failure represents.

Erika Morgan
33625 Abrams Ave. Black Diamond, 98010

exhibits 3 of them:
one, may 1988 letter of concern

two my well reports and tag # from public record

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

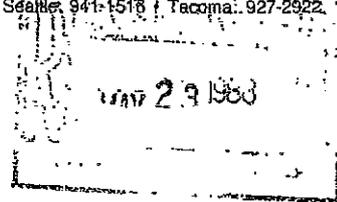
 S_471757122004601
 09/08/1986
 water level 32.36 by Steel tape
 well depth 130

three map of the area of ground water concern from title page of the plan's supplement

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:

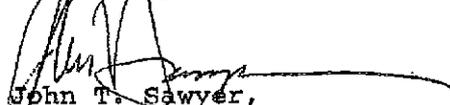
The Regional Water Association of South King County ("RWA") wishes to express its concern over the possibility of land application of Black Diamond's waste water.

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,

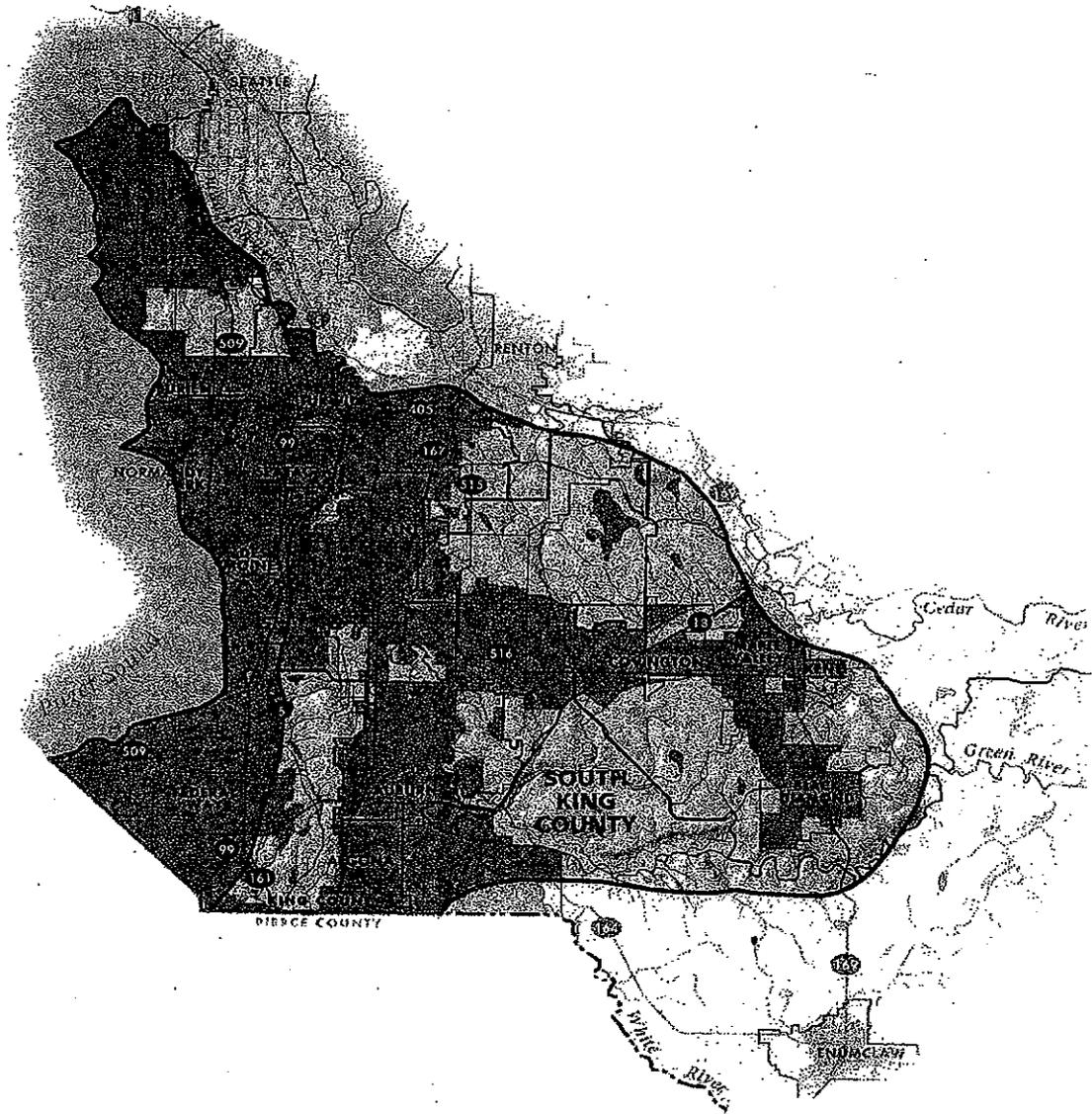

John T. Sawyer,
RWA Administrator

JTS/bjh

City of Auburn King County Water King County Water King County Water King County Water Federal Way Water City of Kent
District #56 District #75 District #105 District #111 and Sewer

South King County Ground Water Management Plan

Supplement 1 – Area Characterization



Prepared by:
**South King County
Ground Water Advisory Committee**



*South King County
Ground Water
Advisory Committee*