

Planning Commissioners
Solano County
675 Texas Street
Fairfield, CA 94533

July 31, 2008

Good evening.

My name is Bryant Washburne. I live at 1934 Vintage Lane which is located in middle Green Valley. My only source of water is a 400 foot deep well.

Last week I sent a letter to Mr. Yankovich expressing my concerns about the RTE plans to use underground water to service their 370 home development. In the letter I explained why I don't believe there is enough water in the Green Valley aquifer to support this development and the 100 or more homes which now depend upon wells for their water. I hope you have had the opportunity to read and evaluate it.

Tonight I want to challenge the RDEIR's position that it's proposed mitigation would reduce the impact of any loss of well water to neighboring homes as "Less than significant." Up front let me state that there is NO adequate mitigation to a homeowner when he runs out of water. As a homeowner's well begins to go dry the following scenario unfolds.. First you can't finish a shower. Then the washing machine quits in mid cycle, the toilet tank doesn't fill. Then you notice the landscaping is dying. Your next step is to run to the county and ask for help under the proposed mitigation. . First, you have to prove to the powers to be that RTE is causing your problem. Then, if you are lucky, you get the O.K. to go find a well driller. Next comes the fight with the permitting department to get permission to drill the well. Then you must endure the huge, and I mean really huge, mess involved in getting the well drilled. Of course all this takes time, a lot of time. So without water you have to pack up , move out and find a place to live. You have to put your life on hold for weeks and months.. And this all costs money, a lot of money. And multiply it by 30, 50, or 100 times as the RTE well pulls the aquifer down, month after month, year after year and more and more neighbor's wells go dry.

Can you imagine that the people who put this RDEIR together describe this impact as, "Less Than Significant". What gall. What audacity. What arrogance. Or maybe it is just ignorance of what the consequences of a well going dry are..

You five people have the power to prevent this ugly scenario from unfolding. You have the responsibility to prevent it from happening .And it is a simple thing to do. Reject the RDEIR and direct the developer to obtain a proven source of water before the project can go forward. To accept this offer of drilling new wells as adequate mitigation would be foolhardy and show a reckless disregard for the welfare of the present residents of Green Valley who depend on well water for their daily existence.

Thank you and good night

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