

Yacolt Conference Call – Meeting Notes
October 11, 2011

Participants: Pete Roberts, Crystal Bielec, Chuck McDonald, Tim Caire, Shaun Pigott, Steve Prather, Jeff Niten, Dave Knight, John Stormon, Cathi Read

Monitoring Wells

Tim reported that the low bidder now cannot begin drilling the monitoring wells until December 12. The other bidder, who is available to begin sooner, has a higher cost. Dave said either approach is acceptable to him.

Treatment System

Tim said that they will remain with the recommendation for solids handling that was in the General Sewer Plan, which is a facultative sludge lagoon in the local area. This is far less expensive than hauling sludge to the Salmon Creek treatment facility.

Dave said to include details in the Facilities Plan about where the facultative sludge lagoon will be located, how it will be operated, etc. Dave also suggested having the lagoon design include a couple of feet of clear water over the solids to keep odors down. Tim will send Dave an e-mail in the near future explaining the plans for the facultative sludge lagoon, including attached plans/schematics and a spreadsheet.

Virtual Tech Team Tool

Scott Boettcher went to Yacolt Town Hall earlier this week and trained Crystal in uploading documents to the site that has been created for Yacolt. Crystal and Pete are now in the process of uploading documents to the site. Crystal said it is fairly easy to upload documents.

Financial Analysis

- Tim reviewed schedule assumptions. Rate study analysis will be based on the assumption that design will begin in 3-5 years, and construction will begin when design is completed. This is a different time line than was shown in the General Sewer Plan.
- Approach to rate study that Shaun will take:
 - Look at available grant funding
 - Consider range of System Development Charges (SDCs)
 - Use updated cost estimates (i.e., for vacuum collection system; Biolac system; facultative sludge lagoon; infiltration trenches; and anything else that has an updated cost estimate since the General Sewer Plan)
- When looking rate estimates, Shaun will identify/estimate how much is associated with each major component of the system, to give people an idea of how much of the rates benefit existing users (those who are on the system as soon as it is built) vs. benefit to future users (those who hook up to the system later).
- Cathi suggested that Shaun also identify how much of the estimated rates are for O&M, for debt repayment, and for reserve contributions.

- Shaun said his analysis will allow the reader to understand:
 - Capital costs
 - Number of ERUs now and at build out (910 ERU, per GSP which used County growth projections)
 - Grant contribution assumptions
 - Whether revenue bonds would be a realistic option
- Pete said the Town is considering submitting a CDBG application to the County in December for funding to purchase the property where infiltration basins will be located. Ecology reminded the group that in order to approve the Facilities Plan, they just need to see a signed 'Intent to Sell' document from the property owner, the property doesn't necessarily have to be purchased by then.

Next conference call

Thursday, November 10, 8:30 – 10:30 am. Cathi will send call-in instructions.

Agenda will include:

- Financial analysis
- Dave's feedback on facultative sludge lagoon information he receives
- Decision/status on drilling of monitoring wells
- Facilities Plan overall