NEWMARK GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION SUPERFUND PROJECT

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY • REGION 9 • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
AND THE SAN BERNARDINO MUNICIPAL WATER DEPARTMENT • NOVEMBER 2001

EPA WELL PROJECT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

In November 2000, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the City of San Bernardino Water Municipal Water Department (City) began the EPA Well Project Construction (also known as the Muscoy Operable Unit). The purpose of the project is to restore clean water to the City of San Bernardino and protect clean drinking water wells south of Baseline Street. In addition, we want to make sure that future water supplies are clean and affordable.

ESTIMADO RESIDENTE:
SI PREFIERE ESTE FOLLETO EN ESPANOL, POR FAVOR LLAME 1-800-231-3075 Y DEJE SU NOMBRE Y DOMICILLO. SE LO ENVIAREMOS IMEDIATAMENTE.

The City and the EPA have taken steps to make sure your tap water meets State and Federal drinking water standards. In addition, the EPA and the City are concerned about the health risk posed to residents if the contamination in the groundwater is able to reach clean drinking water wells south of Baseline Street. The contaminants found in the groundwater are normally used as a degreaser and fluid for the dry-cleaning industry. The contaminated water will not harm you if you touch it, but it can harm your health if you were to drink it over a long period of time. The groundwater contamination covers an eight square mile area and has already affected many drinking water wells. These wells have either been shut down or the water from them is being treated.

The fact sheet of October 2000 gave the description of what is to be expected during the construction. The construction schedule on page 2 may change as we do our work, but it will give you an idea when we will be working near your street. We will give residents a two-week notice before we start work on each street or well drilling location. If you would like a copy of October 2000 fact sheet, contact Jackie Lane or Ellis Williams (See back page).

WHAT HAS HAPPENED SO FAR?

PROJECT UPDATE

We tore down the structures on 1580 West Virginia and 1306 G Street and drilled the pumping well at each location. The Pipeline Phase I is complete and was used as part of the 30-day well test conducted at the Virginia site well location (See EPA Well Project Construction Map on page 3).

The testing helped us to find the right locations for the five small test (monitoring) wells and confirm the locations of the three remaining pumping wells. The test wells will be in the city right-of-way areas and are described later in this fact sheet.

In 2000 and 2001, we held open house meetings for residents who live near the pumping well locations at the 1580 W. Virginia Street, 1306 G Street, 1335 Garner Avenue, and 980 Home Avenue sites and for residents near the 19th Street Plant. Using sample plans, we asked residents who attended how they wanted the well sites to

INSIDE THIS FACT SHEET . . . .

Ellis Williams, Water Utility Engineer, is the community contact for the project and can be reached at (909) 384-5391.

THE EPA WELL PROJECT

The well project consists of digging trenches and laying pipelines, drilling five EPA pumping wells, five smaller test wells, building a booster pump station and expanding the 19th Street Treatment Plant. It will take approximately three years to complete the entire project (See page 3: EPA Well Project Construction Map). This project is an extension of the existing Newmark Operable Unit near 11th Street. Both are a part of the Newmark Groundwater Contamination Superfund Project in San Bernardino, California. You can find more detailed documentation at the site's local information repositories (See back page for locations).

HOW THE PROJECT WILL WORK

Once built, each of the five EPA pumping wells (located at 1306 G. Street, 980 Home Avenue, 1335 Garner Avenue, 1580 West Virginia Street and newly acquired the 1396 Pico Avenue location) will quietly pump the contaminated water up and then into the underground pipeline. The water then will go through the pipeline to the 19th Street Treatment Plant. The plant will treat it with the support of 24 additional carbon filtering units that will be installed. We will build a booster pump station at Encanto Park near 9th and Garner Avenue. The booster pump will give the needed power to push the treated water through other parts of the community for residential use. Five smaller underground test wells will be drilled just south of each of the EPA pumping wells.

You should not be able to see these test wells, once built. These smaller test wells will allow EPA to check that the pumping wells are catching all the contamination and stopping it from moving toward Baseline.

look after the pumping well construction was complete. The plans included a choice of four facade house alternative designs, a tot-park design, and landscaping ideas. As a result of these meetings, residents near the Virginia Street, Garner Avenue and Home Avenue locations want a facade house built at the site location. After we get a construction bid for this part of the project, we will send the residents a letter with the final designs. For the G Street site, the Central City Lutheran Mission polled the neighborhood to ask what they wanted at the site. The mission developed a tot-park design and will operate and maintain the facility.

We conducted a general overview meeting for all interested residents in July to update people on the project's progress and to gain input on acquiring a Pico Avenue property location. At the end of October 2001, we closed escrow on the property at 1396 Pico Avenue.

UPDATE ON PLANNED CONSTRUCTION

The following description gives the updates on any construction activity changes.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE REMAINING THREE PUMPING WELLS

The three pumping wells to be drilled are at 1396 Pico Ave., 1335 Garner Ave., and 980 Home Ave. We will demolish the structures at these locations in Winter 2001-2002, and the wells will be drilled in the following year (See in October 2000 fact sheet for details).

FIVE TEST WELLS

Below you will find a detailed description of location and construction activities for the five test wells. The locations were selected based on our study of the test results conducted on the pumping wells at 1580 West Virginia Street. The test wells will be located south of Baseline Road, spaced

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE FOR THE THREE PUMPING WELLS ON PICO, GARNER & HOME AVENUES

Demolition:	Winter 2001-2002
Construction:	Summer 2002
Drilling:	Spring 2002
Equipment for all five pumping wells:	Fall 2002

UPDATE ON PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION

Pipeline Phase I - Completed
Pipeline Phase II - Winter of 2001-2002
Pipeline Phase III - Spring 2002
Pipeline Phase IV - Spring 2002
Pipeline Phase V - Spring 2002*

*Pipeline Phase V route has been modified as follows: It will begin at 10th Street and Temple Street, then east on 10th Street to H Street, then south on H Street to 9th Street. Also beginning again at 10th and H Street, north on H Street to 13th Street then east on 13th Street to G Street. It will begin again at 10th and E Street, then east on 10th Street to Stoddard Street, then North on Stoddard to 11th (See Construction Schedule Map).

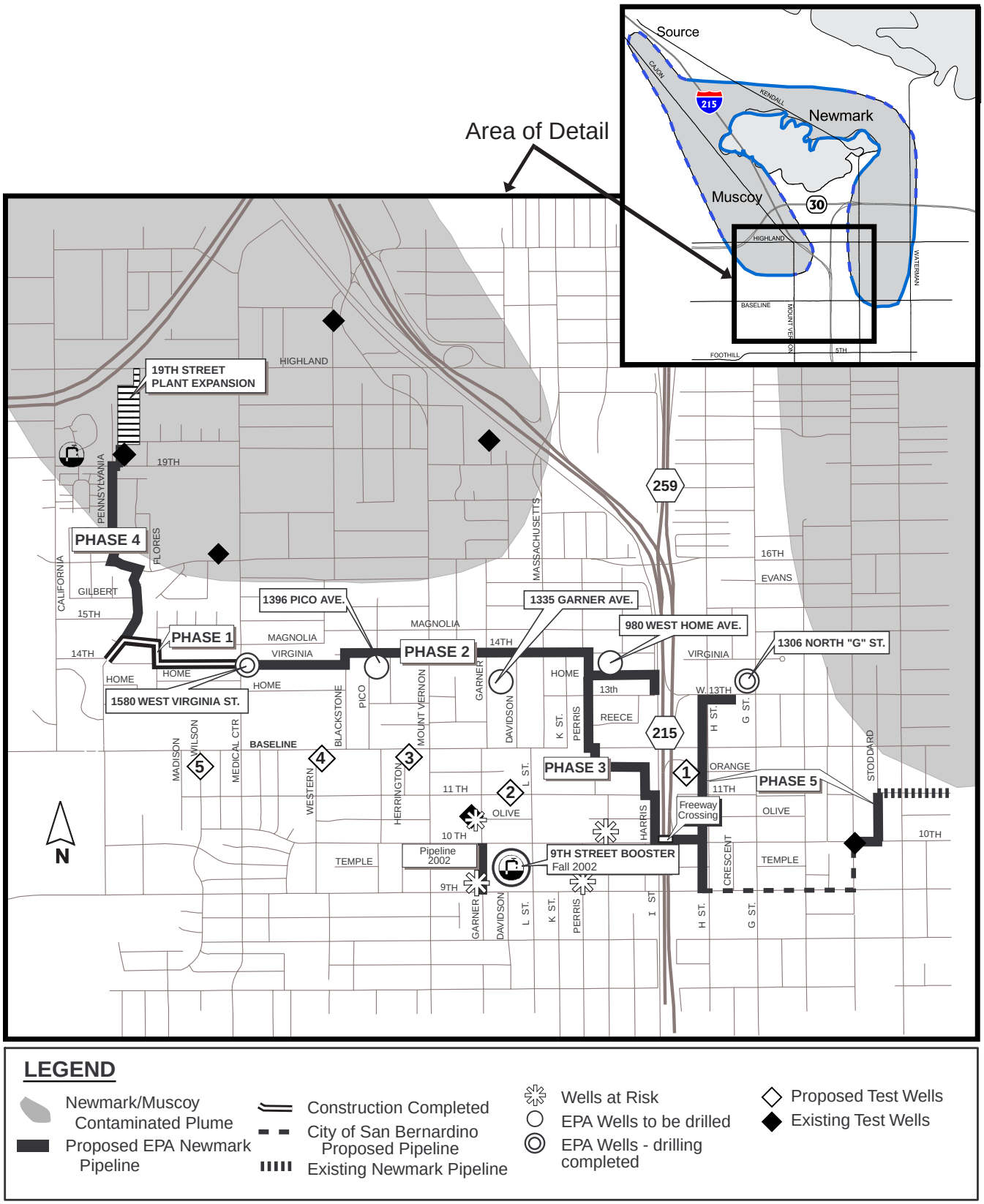

Figure 1: EPA Well Project Construction Map

in between each pumping well (See Construction Schedule Map). They will all be constructed on public right-of-ways. Residents will be given access to their driveway and garage as needed.

SPECIFIC LOCATIONS OF THE TEST WELLS

Test Well 1 will be located at the west end of Orange St. within the cul-de-sac next to the 215 freeway. Construction within this area requires blocking off part of the street. This location will temporarily affect access for two or three houses.

Test Well 2 will be located at the North side of 11th Street, between 1078 11th street and the driveway for the Farmdale creamery.

Test Well 3 will be located at the southeast corner of Baseline and Herrington next to the large vacant lot.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

FIVE TEST WELLS AND PICO PROPERTY

On November 14, 2001, we will have an open house meeting for residents who live near the five test well locations. The meeting will be held at the Martin Luther King Middle School, 1250 Medical Center Drive at 6:00PM. The purpose of the meeting is to talk about this part of the project and to answer any questions you may have.

On November 15, 2001, we are inviting residents who live near 1396 Pico Avenue to an information and design open house meeting to talk about the project and gain their input on how they would like the site to look. The meeting will be held at 6:00PM in the front yard of the Pico property.

Test Well 4 will be located on the southeast corner of Baseline and Western next to a vacant lot. The well will be located in the street and will require the blocking and possible rerouting of traffic in the northbound (east) lane.

Test Well 5 will be located on the west side of Wilson within the south bound lane, south of Baseline. The most suitable location is next to a vacant lot on Wilson and will require the blocking and possible rerouting of traffic in the southbound (west) lane.

Figure 2: Photo of a completed test well, indicated with an arrow. The inset shows a close-up view.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE TEST WELLS - WINTER 2002

The five test wells to be installed between Baseline and 11th Street will be used to monitor the effectiveness of the pumping wells. Once completed, the test wells will be sampled on a regular basis. The sampling will start with weekly monitoring for a few months, taper off to monthly for one year and then slow down to every six months for the life of the project.

The process of installing a test well will start with a technician marking the approximate location of the well with spray paint. This will ensure that there are no underground utilities where we want to drill. Prior to the drilling starting, we will move equipment to the site and traffic controls will be set up. This may include the blocking of a single lane of traffic or completely blocking a section of the street with brief periods to allow residents access to their driveways.

The actual drilling of the wells will take approximately two weeks per location. When the initial drilling is complete, smaller support equipment will take the place of the big drill rig for about two weeks.

The well will then be developed by removing any mud or soils in the well tube. A smaller "development truck" will replace the bid rig to finish pumping ground water from the well tube and then the well development will be completed.

Water samples will be collected and steel plate will be welded on the top of the well tube. Two weeks later, an underground vault box with a steel lid around the well will be constructed. This will allow for access to the well for future sampling. When the well drilling is complete, all that will remain at the location will be a steel lid measuring about four feet long and five feet wide that is flush to the surface (See Figure 2, page 4). All landscaping, streets, and sidewalks will be restored.

OTHER CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

There are no changes to construction activities for the Booster Pump Station at Encanto Park and 19th Street Treatment Plant expansion that will start in Summer 2002.

JOBS/CONTRACT/ SUBCONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES

In May 2001, we conducted a contractor's workshop to provide information on contract opportunities for this project to local companies. Bid opportunities will be posted on bulletin boards, in the local newspapers, and on Channel 3. Once a bid is awarded, information on the contractor will be added to the bulletin board.

If you have a professional service and you are interested in this project or you would like to obtain information provided at the May 2001 contractor's workshop, please contact Ellis Williams at (909) 384-5931.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT WHAT IS HAPPENING AND WHEN?

We will continue to provide updates on the construction activities via the following:

EPA WELL PROJECT CONTACT

Ellis Williams, Electrical Engineer, SBMWD, 909-384-5391

RESIDENT NOTIFICATION

Residents will be notified directly two weeks prior to any construction activities within their residential areas.

BULLETIN BOARDS

Monthly updates will be posted at pumping well locations and the 19th Street Treatment Plant site.

MEDIA

The Channel 3 rollout menu will announce construction activities and bid information.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE

Councilwomen Betty Anderson and/or Susan Lien will provide project updates.

Address Service Requested

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use, $300

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street (SFD-3)
San Francisco, CA 94105
Attn: Jackie Lane

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EPA WELL PROJECT UPDATE

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US

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San Francisco, CA 94105
Toll-free: (800) 231-3075 or (415) 972-3236 direct
Email Address: lane.jackie@epa.gov

EPA WELL PROJECT DOCUMENT INFORMATION

EPA and the City of San Bernardino keep complete project reports and information at the following locations:

The San Bernardino County Public Library (909) 387-5718).

The San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Office (909) 384-9211)

The Superfund Record Center in San Francisco, CA (415) 536-2000)

We encourage you to review these documents to gain a more complete understanding of activities at the **Newmark Contamination Superfund Project** site.

Estimado residente:
Si prefiere este folleto en Espanol, por favor llame 1-800-231-3075 y deje su nombre y domicillo. Se lo enviaremos imediatamente.