



**BEAR VALLEY
WATER DISTRICT**
P.O. Box 5027
Bear Valley, CA 95223
(209) 753-2112

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
JIM D. BISSELL
PHILL A. COFFMAN
JOHN R. DRALLA
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JERRY J. NELSON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bear Valley Wastewater Tertiary Treatment Plant Not Required

*Regional Water Quality Board Issues Permit Without Need to Construct \$15,000,000 Facility
for its 551 Ratepayers*

August 4, 2011

After two years of intensive work by the Bear Valley Water District, a potential \$15 million tertiary treatment sewer plant has been averted. At the August 4, 2011 hearing of California's Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board attended by President Jim Bissell, Directors Phill Coffman, Barbara Goodrich and John Dralla of the District Board along with General Manager Julio Guerra, District Engineer Gary Ghio, and Special Counsel for the District, Loren Harlow, state regulators agreed to a 5-year discharge permit requiring only secondary treatment for the Bear Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant. Also in attendance were homeowner Brian Thurston and Jim Gentling and Mark Phillips representing the Bear Valley Village development,

"This is a major win for the ratepayers of Bear Valley," said Jim Bissell, Board President. "It was a great team effort, especially on the part of General Manager Julio Guerra and ad hoc committee members Barbara Goodrich and John Dralla. District Engineer Gary Ghio and Legal Counsel Loren Harlow provided key engineering and regulatory input. We are very grateful to the regional board and staff for being responsive to our unusual situation."

The State of California issues permits for discharge of wastewater to land and surface waters. By regulation, the majority of Bear Valley's treated wastewater is tested and spray irrigated to District-leased lands. The permit approved today continues the authorization, originally granted in 2005, for the District to discharge treated wastewater to Bloods Creek, under strict standards, when needed to prevent overflow of the District's 106-million gallon reservoir.

The District can now continue its efforts to find methods to increase capacity for Bear Valley Village development. The new permit removes one degree of uncertainty in the planning process.

For Further Information Contact:

Julio S. Guerra, General Manager
gmbearvalleywater@sbcglobal.net
Bear Valley Water District
209-753-2112
P.O. Box 5027
441 Creekside Dr.
Bear Valley, CA 95223