



NEWS RELEASE

Placer County Water Agency

144 Ferguson Road (P.O. Box 6570) Auburn, California 95604
(530) 823-4860 FAX (530) 823-4960

February 16, 2007

Contact: David A. Breninger
(530) 823-4850
or: Dave Carter
(530) 265-NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

AUBURN - Directors of the Placer County Water Agency on Thursday (Feb. 15) reviewed a site layout and renderings for a new, state-of-the-art water treatment plant. The plant will be at PCWA's Ophir Road property near the communities of Ophir and Newcastle.

The presentation was conducted by PCWA Director of Technical Services Brian Martin and project consultant Ronald E. Henderson of the Black & Veatch Corp. water division.

Martin said the new facility will allow the water agency to utilize water from the Yuba, Bear and American rivers, giving the agency more options and reliability for water customers.

The new Ophir Water Treatment Plant is planned to open in 2011 with a capacity of 30 million gallons of water per day (mgd) and be expandable as needed to 120 mgd.

"Features of the new plant are to include a 'rustic' look, considerable landscaping along Ophir Road and around parking areas, and "green" design concepts," said PCWA Board Chairman and Ophir resident Lowell Jarvis.

The project is now in design, PCWA plans to advertise for construction bids in 2009 and complete the work in 2011. The agency has moved the project back two years because of slower growth in the agency's water service area.

-more-

In other business, directors:

- heard a presentation on PCWA's use of geographical information system (GIS) technology and authorized staff to bring back a proposal that would direct more funding and staff to further GIS development.

- heard a brief update on the current upgrade and expansion of the Auburn Water Treatment Plant on Ferguson Road. The plant is expected to start producing water in early April.

- approved a commitment of 45.5 acre-feet of water per year to supply 80 units in the Martis Camp, Unit 2, development in the Martis Valley of eastern Placer County. PCWA's Zone 4 already supplies groundwater to adjacent properties in the valley.

PCWA directors will next meet in adjourned session at 2 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 26, at the PCWA Business Center, 144 Ferguson Road, in Auburn. The board's next regular meeting is at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Mar. 1, also at the Business Center. PCWA board meetings are open to the public.

Information on PCWA board meetings may be obtained through the Clerk to the Board at (530) 823-4850.