

San Leandro City Council Members
835 East 14th Street
San Leandro, CA 94577

Subject: ***STOP the EBMUD Bayside Groundwater Project***

Dear City Council Members:

I am writing to request your immediate action to STOP the Bayside Groundwater Project that the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) is currently proposing to construct adjacent to the residential communities of San Leandro and San Lorenzo.

Though our community submitted numerous detailed comments to EBMUD in 2001 on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), EBMUD has still not responded to our comments regarding health impacts (air and water quality, contamination of our drinking supply) and ground movement (subsidence or uneven settlement) that could lead to property damage. Four years and over \$10,000,000 (of our community's money) later, EBMUD's recent "deceptive phasing" approach continues to waste the community's time and money by ignoring and leaving unanswered the many important questions and concerns that have already been raised. Worse, EBMUD would rather hide information from the public and try to sneak a project into our community rather than be honest, credible, and follow the laws of this state. There is significant evidence of EBMUD's wrong doing.

The legal expert preparing our community's second DEIR response received documents indicating that EBMUD has willfully concealed information from the public related to adverse health and property impacts of the Bayside Groundwater Project. These documents, consisting of internal EBMUD e-mails, memos, and letters are documented in the Heron Bay Homeowners Association (HBHOA) 2005 public comment letter submitted to EBMUD. A copy of that letter is available at www.stopbaysidegroundwater.org.

This public comment letter shows that EBMUD:

- **Decided San Leandro/San Lorenzo was an easier target** for the lower water quality and increased health risks from this project. They identified our community as less affluent, less educated, more ethnic minorities and less likely to engage their politicians than alternative sites like San Ramon.
- Concealed studies that show the Bayside project would add **fatal cancer risks to our communities**.
- Manipulated the wording of documents to hide the **risks of contamination for water stored at this site**.
- Ignored (crossed out) the written concerns of their own Environmental Department employees about **the negative effects of unknown wells throughout the San Leandro and San Lorenzo area**.

On top of all this, the Bayside Groundwater Project IS NOT EVEN NEEDED – EBMUD's Freeport Project (Sacramento River Water) provides drought supply protection that surpasses EBMUD's own rationing policies. I urge you to review details of the Bayside Project, including additional public comment letters, which are easily accessible at www.stopbaysidegroundwater.org.

I ask that the City Council stand with our community and pass a resolution for Stopping the Bayside Groundwater Project. EBMUD's wrongdoings have confirmed that EBMUD does not respect our community's basic right to clean air, water, protection of our homes, or knowledge of the true adverse impacts of the Bayside Project. As a concerned resident and voter, I look forward to receiving your support in protecting the health and property of our families and community by Stopping the EBMUD Bayside Groundwater Project.

Sincerely,

Concerned Resident

Date