

EBMUD Board of Directors  
375 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Oakland, CA 94607

Subject: *Abandon the Bayside Groundwater Project*

Dear Board of Directors:

I am writing to request your immediate action to ABANDON the Bayside Groundwater Project that 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 "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 apparently rather hide information from the public and try to sneak a project into our community than be honest, credible, and follow the laws of this state.

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.

*This public comment letter shows that EBMUD staff:*

- **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 ask that the Board of Directors show their respect for our community and pass a resolution to Abandon the Bayside Groundwater Project. Only this action will demonstrate EBMUD's respect of our community's basic right to clean air, water, protection of our homes. As a concerned resident and rate payer, I look forward to receiving your support in protecting the health and property of our families and community by Abandoning the EBMUD Bayside Groundwater Project.

Sincerely,

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Concerned Resident

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Date