

Valentine Ranch Property Owners Association, Inc.
466 Sweetheart Creek, PR 1701
Helotes, Texas 78023

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

2016 OCT 28 AM 10:13

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

October 25, 2016

REVIEWED

OCT 31 2016

By

JS PM

IWD
104478

Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105
TCEQ
PO Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

RE: TPDES Permit No. WQ0005206000

This letter is written by the Valentine Ranch Property Owners Association (VRPOA) Board of Directors on behalf of the VRPOA to formally request a public meeting regarding Aqua Utilities, Inc.'s application for proposed TPDES Permit WQ0005206000. VRPOA Board President is Robert Bowers (314 Forever Ridge); other Board members are Jodi Lively (206 Sweetheart Creek), Jim Pease (426 Shepherds Crook), Bo Shrum (402 Shepherds Crook) and Gloria Trevino (411 Shepherds Crook). Valentine Ranch (VR) is a community (80 annual assessment paying members currently) that borders Country View Estates on its west side.

We have reviewed the permit application on file at the Hondo Public Library. While the process description and sample data in the application are the same as in the recently withdrawn version (WQ 0005167000), it does appear that the proposed reject/dilution water discharge route has changed. Instead of entering VR on the northeast side, subsequently flowing through the VR Fishing Pond on Sweetheart Creek and exiting VR on Park Road 37, the flow will only border VR along Park Road 37. If our understanding is correct, we view this modification as a significant improvement.

That said, we still have several questions / comments that we feel could best be addressed in such a meeting. Our questions include, but are not limited to:

- Is our understanding of the change in reject/dilution water discharge route correct? If not and the route is as before, then we still feel the receiving waters in VR are inaccurately described as "Intermittent" rather than "Intermittent with Perennial Pools" because our Fishing Pond always has water and aquatic life (fish, turtles, ducks). If a reclassification is justified, more data should be included.
- If our understanding of the change is correct and the discharge effluent will only flow along our border on Park Rd 37, should authorization be obtained? Is it considered a county or state highway right-of-way (marked "No" in the permit application)?

- What changes does the new permit incorporate compared to current operation? It is our understanding that the only other permit issued (which we thought expired 12/1/14) allowed a lower discharge rate, no dilution, and the use of evaporation ponds. This change is not addressed in the data provided. The permit application states that the RO plant has been in operation for > 30 years, what is done currently and under what permit?
- What is the reason for the proposed significantly higher discharge rate using the "more efficient RO system" noted in the application? What is the need for and availability of a significant amount of dilution water? What studies exist to show the subsequent **impact on our aquifer**? With today's concern regarding water shortages, is this the best available technology?
- Based on page numbers, there are many pages missing from the copy of the application provided for review in the Library, is information on those pages pertinent/ subject to our review?
- How were the choices made in determining the descriptions of the receiving waters and surrounding areas? We believe the area surrounding the receiving waters would be better described as "Natural Area" rather than "Common Setting".
- Can clarification be provided on what appears to us to be discrepancies in the discharge rate data described, as well as the use of chemical or biological treatment? It also appears that some of the pollutants noted appear to be above allowable limits. Is that correct? The sample data are the same as in the previous submittal, has additional testing been done?

The VRPOA Board of Directors thanks you in advance for your consideration of a public meeting to address these and our other questions/concerns regarding the proposed permit. It is our responsibility to protect the assets of our community as well as the wildlife and environment contained within. Better understanding of the proposed permit request and changes from current Aqua TX operation will help us assure current and future residents that there is no detrimental effect to our community should the permit application be granted by TCEQ.

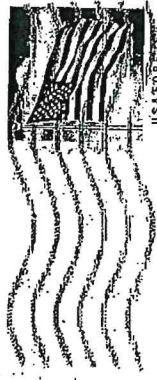
Sincerely,



Robert N Bowers
President, VRPOA Board of Directors



Valentine Ranch Property Owners Association
466 Sweetheart Creek
Helotes, TX 78023



SAN ANTONIO TX 78201
RIO GRANDE DISTRICT
25 OCT 2016 PM 2:11

TEXAS
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ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

2016 OCT 28 AM 10:

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

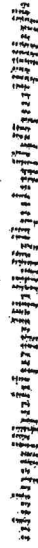
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OCT 28 2016

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JR

78711-308787



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2016 OCT 31 PM 2:59
San Geronimo Valley Alliance, Inc.
Po Box 12928
San Antonio TX 78212-0928
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

October 22, 2016

IWD
104478

Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105
TCEQ
PO Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

REVIEWED *PM*

NOV 01 2016

By *[Signature]*

RE: TPDES Permit No. WQ000520600

This letter concerns an application by Aqua Utilities, Inc. for Water Quality TPDES Permit to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater.

This is a request for a public meeting on behalf of the San Geronimo Valley Alliance, Inc. The group representative is Randy Johnson. His mailing address is PO Box 12928, San Antonio, TX 78212-0928.

It is the concern of the affected parties that Aqua Utilities did not adhere to the rules and regulations of the previous permit TPDES Permit No. WQ0004860000.

The following is an excerpt from the previous Permit:

Well water is treated using reverse osmosis filters to produce potable water. The reject water from the reverse osmosis filters is routed to an above ground holding tank where it can either be used to backwash the reverse osmosis filters, or it can be routed to a series of evaporation drying beds with a combined surface area of 1.39 acres to be disposed of via evaporation.

Upon personal observation of this area on September 12, 2015 I observed that there are no series of evaporation drying beds. There is only one small pond that is less than ¼ acre that drains into the groundwater.

The members who will be adversely affected are Neel and Bob Scott, Doug and Judith

McNeel, and The Gallagher Cattle Co. and The Gallagher Ranch Partnership Ltd.

Aqua Utilities' current permit does not allow the discharge of pollutants into state waters. By this application, Aqua Utilities seeks a new authorization for such a discharge. As recognized in the Affected Landowner Map accompanying Aqua Utilities' application, the discharged effluent will flow into Gallagher Ranch after traveling less than 3000 feet.

The discharge proposed in the application will result in the addition of contaminants into San Geronimo Creek, Edwards Aquifer and the Medina River. At present, San Geronimo Creek is a hill country stream with high water quality. The addition of any contaminants to this stream has the potential to degrade the water quality in the stream, and Aqua Utilities has made no demonstration that such degradation is justified.

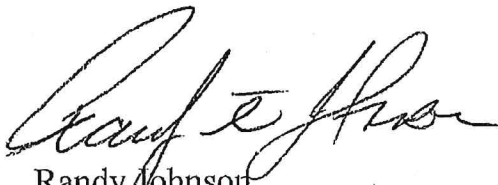
San Geronimo Valley Alliance is further concerned that the proposed discharge will impair the existing and attainable uses of the receiving waters for the discharge, including San Geronimo Creek. In short, San Geronimo Valley Alliance believes that Aqua Utilities has not demonstrated that the facility will comply with requirements of the Texas State Water Quality Standards contained in Chapter 307 of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) rules.

Additionally, San Geronimo Valley Alliance believes that Aqua Utilities has failed to demonstrate that it plans to employ adequate and appropriate treatment technologies to address the contaminants that will be contained, or potentially contained, in the proposed discharge.

Finally, San Geronimo Valley Alliance believes that Aqua Utilities has failed to demonstrate that the proposed discharge will not interfere with Gallagher Ranch's use and enjoyment of its property, as well as the ability of other downstream landowners to use and enjoy their respective properties.

For these reasons, San Geronimo Valley Alliance asks that TCEQ grant a public meeting.

Sincerely,



Randy Johnson
President,
San Geronimo Valley Alliance, Inc.

Randy Johnson
PO Box 12928
San Antonio TX 78212-0928

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AJ

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TCEQ
PO Box 13087
Austin TX 78711-3087

SAN ANTONIO TX 78201
RFD GRANDE DISTRICT
28 OCT 2016 PM 3 1



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
2016 OCT 31 PM 2:59
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

78711-308787



Gallagher Ranch Partners, Ltd.

P. O. Box 514

Falfurrias, Texas 78355

210.573.3404

2016 NOV -9 AM 10:19

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

REVIEWED

PM

NOV 09 2016

October 31, 2016

By RP

Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105
TCEQ
PO Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

RE: TPDES Permit No. WQ000520600

IWD
104478

This letter concerns an application by Aqua Utilities, Inc. for Water Quality TPDES Permit to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater.

This is a request for a public meeting on behalf of Gallagher Ranch Partners, Ltd., owner of property downstream of Aqua Utilities' discharge. The partnership is represented by Neel McNeel Scott, Managing Partner. Her mailing address is P. O. Box 514, Falfurrias, Texas 78355

It is the concern of the affected parties that Aqua Utilities did not adhere to the rules and regulations of the previous permit TPDES Permit No. WQ0004860000.

The following is an excerpt from the previous Permit:

Well water is treated using reverse osmosis filters to produce potable water. The reject water from the reverse osmosis filters is routed to an above ground holding tank where it can either be used to backwash the reverse osmosis filters, or it can be routed to a series of evaporation drying beds with a combined surface area of 1.39 acres to be disposed of via evaporation.

Upon personal observation of this area on September 12, 2015 I observed that there are no series of evaporation drying beds. There is only one small pond that is less than ¼ acre that drains into the groundwater.

The members who will be adversely affected are Neel McNeel Scott, Individually and as a Partner; Robert R. Scott, Jr., Partner; Maury Frances Scott Oliver, Partner; Nena McNeel Scott, Partner; and Amy Rachal Scott Martin, Partner.

Aqua Utilities' current permit does not allow the discharge of pollutants into state waters. By this application, Aqua Utilities seeks a new authorization for such a discharge. As recognized in the Affected Landowner Map accompanying Aqua Utilities' application, the discharged effluent will flow into Gallagher Ranch after traveling less than 3000 feet.

The discharge proposed in the application will result in the addition of contaminants into San Geronimo Creek, Edwards Aquifer and the Medina River. At present, San Geronimo Creek is a hill country stream with high water quality. The addition of any contaminants to this stream has the potential to degrade the water quality in the stream, and Aqua Utilities has made no demonstration that such degradation is justified.

Gallagher Ranch Partners, Ltd. is further concerned that the proposed discharge will impair the existing and attainable uses of the receiving waters for the discharge, including San Geronimo Creek. In short, Gallagher Ranch Partners, Ltd. believes that Aqua Utilities has not demonstrated that the facility will comply with requirements of the Texas State Water Quality Standards contained in Chapter 307 of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) rules.

Additionally, Gallagher Ranch Partners, Ltd. believes that Aqua Utilities has failed to demonstrate that it plans to employ adequate and appropriate treatment technologies to address the contaminants that will be contained, or potentially contained, in the proposed discharge.

Finally, Gallagher Ranch Partners, Ltd. believes that Aqua Utilities has failed to demonstrate that the proposed discharge will not interfere with Gallagher Ranch Partners, Ltd.'s. use and enjoyment of its property, as well as the ability of other downstream landowners to use and enjoy their respective properties.

For these reasons, Gallagher Ranch Partners, Ltd. asks that TCEQ grant a public meeting.

Sincerely,

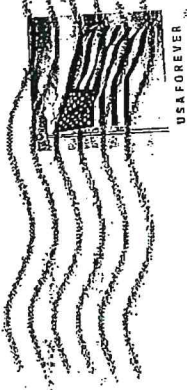
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neel McNeel Scott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Neel McNeel Scott, Managing Partner
Gallagher Ranch Partners, Ltd.

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

Robert R. Scott
PO Box 514
Patturpos, TX 78355

CORPUS CHRISTI
TX 78404
07 NOV 2016 PM 2 L



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P O Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

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ON ENVIRONMENTAL
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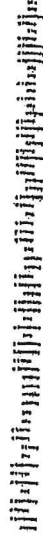
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TCEQ MAIL CENTER
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CLERK'S OFFICE

AM 10:19

78711-3087



Gallagher Ranch Cattle Company, Inc.

P. O. Box 514

Falfurrias, Texas 78355

210.573.3404

2016 NOV -9 AM 10:18

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

October 31, 2016

IMD
104478

REVIEWED

NOV 09 2016

By AM

Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105

TCEQ

PO Box 13087

Austin, TX 78711-3087

RE: TPDES Permit No. WQ000520600

This letter concerns an application by Aqua Utilities, Inc. for Water Quality TPDES Permit to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater.

This is a request for a public meeting on behalf of the Gallagher Ranch Cattle Company, Inc., which leases ranch land downstream of Aqua Utilities' discharge. The corporation is represented by Neel McNeel Scott, its President. Her mailing address is P. O. Box 514, Falfurrias, Texas 78355.

It is the concern of the affected parties that Aqua Utilities did not adhere to the rules and regulations of the previous permit TPDES Permit No. WQ0004860000.

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Upon personal observation of this area on September 12, 2015 I observed that there are no series of evaporation drying beds. There is only one small pond that is less than ¼ acre that drains into the groundwater.

Those who will be adversely affected are Neel McNeel Scott, Individually and as a

Shareholder; Robert R. Scott, Jr., Shareholder; Douglas V. McNeel, Individually and as a Shareholder; and Judith S. McNeel, Shareholder.

Aqua Utilities' current permit does not allow the discharge of pollutants into state waters. By this application, Aqua Utilities seeks a new authorization for such a discharge. As recognized in the Affected Landowner Map accompanying Aqua Utilities' application, the discharged effluent will flow into Gallagher Ranch after traveling less than 3000 feet.

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Gallagher Ranch Cattle Company, Inc. is further concerned that the proposed discharge will impair the existing and attainable uses of the receiving waters for the discharge, including San Geronimo Creek. In short, Gallagher Ranch Cattle Company, Inc. believes that Aqua Utilities has not demonstrated that the facility will comply with requirements of the Texas State Water Quality Standards contained in Chapter 307 of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) rules.

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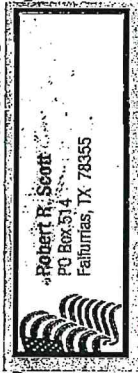
For these reasons, Gallagher Ranch Cattle Company, Inc. asks that TCEQ grant a public meeting.

Sincerely,

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Neel McNeel Scott, President
Gallagher Ranch Cattle Company, Inc.

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO



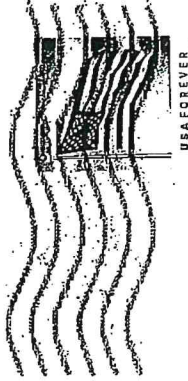
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Austin, Texas 78711-3087

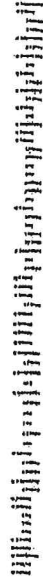


CORPUS CHRISTI
TX 784
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2016 NOV -9 AM 10:18

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78711-3087