



State Water Resources Control Board Notice of Public Meeting

Consolidation of Athal Mutual Water Company and Fuller Acres Water Company with Lamont Public Utility District and Designation of Athal Mutual Water Company as a Public Water System in Need of an Administrator

June 27, 2023, 6:00pm

**David Head Center
10300 San Diego Street, Lamont, CA 93241**

PURPOSE

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) invites you to attend a meeting to continue the discussion about the process to combine Athal Mutual Water Company (Athal MWC) and Fuller Acres Mutual Water Company (Fuller Acres MWC) with Lamont Public Utility District (Lamont PUD). As a result of the consolidation process, Athal MWC and Fuller Acres MWC will no longer act as independent water systems and will be owned and operated by Lamont PUD.

This meeting will also briefly discuss the designation of Athal MWC as a public water system in need of an administrator. An administrator is a person or entity that is appointed and/or authorized to exercise total and complete managerial control over a designated water system in order to provide an adequate supply of safe and affordable drinking water.

This public meeting is a required second step in the mandatory consolidation process. The purpose of this meeting is to provide the following:

- Current status of drinking water in Athal MWC and Fuller Acres MWC
- Information on the mandatory consolidation process
- Update on the administrator process for Athal MWC

The meeting will also include an opportunity for the public to ask questions and provide comments. The public can submit questions and comments through **July 5, 2023**.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LANGUAGE SERVICES

This meeting will be held in English with Spanish language interpretation. If you would like to request interpretation services in Punjabi or in another language, please contact Marina Perez at (916) 322-4265 or SAFER@waterboards.ca.gov by June 13, 2023.

ACCESSIBILITY

Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at: (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

MEETING MATERIALS

Meeting materials and details are available at bit.ly/DDW_AdminWebsite.

HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENTS – DEADLINE JULY 5, 2023

Mail: Reyna Rodriguez

State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water
265 W. Bullard Ave, Suite 101, Fresno, CA 93704

Email: DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov

BACKGROUND

In May 2018, the State Water Board issued compliance orders to Athal MWC and Fuller Acres MWC for the violation of the 1,2,3-trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP) maximum contaminant level, followed by citations for failing to return to compliance by the May 2021 deadline. A 2020 Fuller Acres MWC preliminary engineering report recommended the consolidation of Athal MWC and Fuller Acres MWC with Lamont PUD as the most feasible solution to the 1,2,3-TCP violations. On September 30, 2022, the State Water Board issued Voluntary Consolidation Negotiation Letters to Athal MWC and Fuller Acres MWC regarding consolidation with Lamont PUD.

Athal MWC has demonstrated limited technical, managerial, and financial capacity needed to maintain a water system. To address this, the State Water Board proposes appointing an administrator to manage Athal MWC during the mandatory consolidation process. All actions taken by an administrator are required to be in the best interest of the community served by the water system and require the administrator to hold public meetings at least every three months.

A public meeting was held on March 15, 2023 to provide information on the consolidation of Fuller Acres MWC and Athal MWC with Lamont PUD. The public meeting was a requirement of both the mandatory consolidation and administrator processes.

Ratepayers, renters, or property owners who receive water from a designated water system can submit a petition to the State Water Board to reverse or modify an administrator decision or to replace an administrator. A description of this process and the administrator authority is contained in Health and Safety Code Section 116686 and in the State Water Board's Administrator Policy Handbook (Sept. 2019) at bit.ly/SAFER_Administrator.

INFORMATION ON IDENTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATOR

- To date, a potential administrator has not been identified for Athal MWC. Once a potential administrator has been identified, the Athal MWC community will be notified via a mailed Public Notice. The public will have an opportunity to submit questions and/or comments regarding the identified potential administrator during a public comment period.

SCOPE OF APPOINTMENT & SERVICES PROVIDED

This administrator will be a Full-Scope Administrator as defined in the Administrator Policy Handbook available online at: bit.ly/SAFER_Administrator_Handbook

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

If at any time a proposed action would create a conflict of interest, an administrator is required to provide written notice to the State Water Board in addition to all ratepayers, renters and property owners, who receive water service from the designated water system 30 days prior to taking the action.

MORE INFORMATION

Reyna Rodriguez at (559) 447-3485; reyna.rodriguez@waterboards.ca.gov
Water Board website: bit.ly/DDW_AdminWebsite

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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