

The Agua Dulce Residential Project

Agua Dulce Town Council meeting

Wednesday February 12th, 2025

Agenda

- State Water Board fine of RTG for 2023 infractions
- Response from Regional Planning re APN
- February 2024 email from Burnham Nationwide Inc. to LA County Regional Planning re 350 home 'vision' including at least 50 on adjacent parcels
- Recent articles by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists

State Water Resources Quality Control Board

- OFFER TO SETTLE ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY, RTG INVESTMENT LLC, TRACT 50385-01, VALLEY SAGE ROAD, AGUA DULCE, LOS ANGELES COUNTY (WDID 4 19C393975) dated May 29th 2024
- Claims for administrative civil liability arising out of alleged violations by RTG Investment LLC of:
 - Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ, as amended by Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ and Order No. 2012-0006-DWQ, the *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity and Land Disturbance* (Construction General Permit);
 - *Water Quality Order No. R4-2022-066, Waste Discharge Requirements for the Aqua Dulce Residential Development Project*

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- Essence of the violations relate to:
 - Lack of implementation of best management practices for storm water runoff identified during on site inspections in 2023 and 2024
 - Failure to employ a qualified biologist and submit required reports into the Water Board's online record keeping system for a period of several months
- Settlement proposal is:
 - Resolve the alleged violations through payment of \$320,190 by June 28th; or
 - For the violations, the maximum potential liability is \$7,210,000 and the minimum liability is \$76,550 in a lawsuit from the State attorney general

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- RTG sought two extensions to the June 28th 2024 deadline:
 - Extension 1 until July 19th 2024
 - Extension 2 until August 19th 2024
- RTG's arguments included blaming the biologist for not filing the documents, even though the biologist had resigned in mid 2024 since RTG hadn't paid them
- RTG and the State Water Board representatives held a meeting in August/September 2024
 - The Water Board staff appeared to be unmoved by RTG's response and indicated that they would proceed forward with formal charges

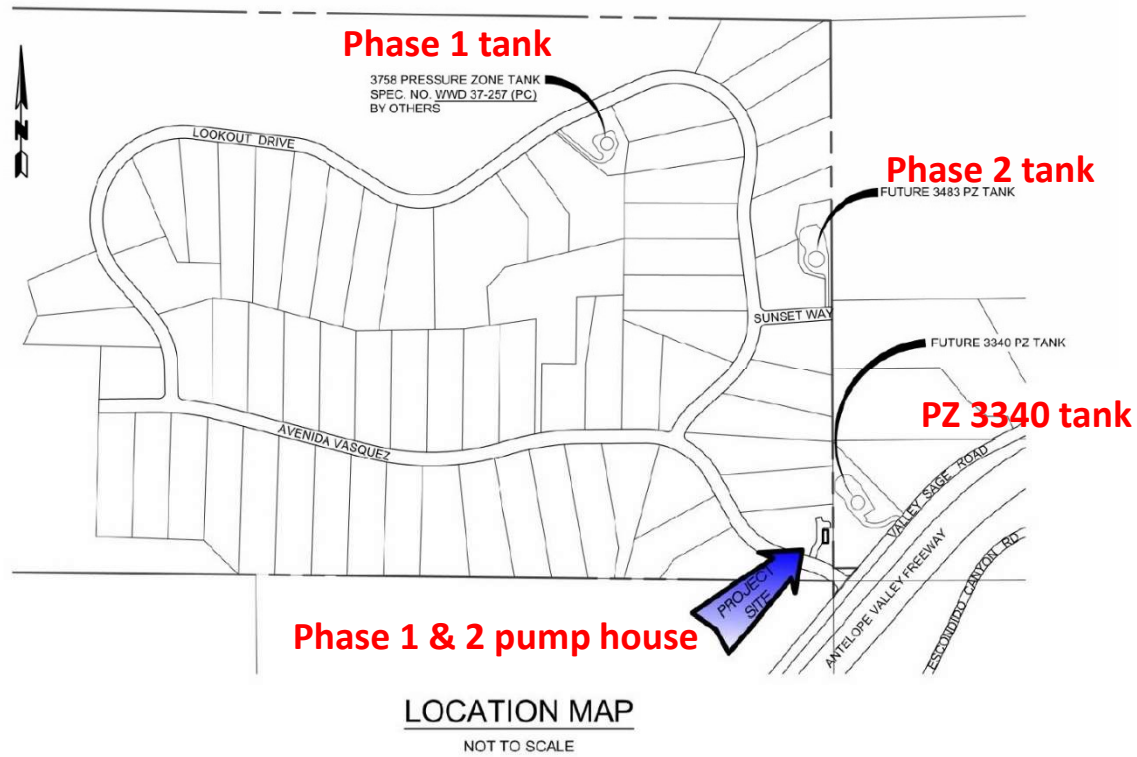
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- Assuming RTG continues not to settle, the State Water Board would then present the case to the Los Angeles Regional Water Board for discussion sometime in 2025
 - The public would have the right to comment on the case during the board meeting

LA County Dept. of Regional Planning

- In mid 2024 we submitted a Public Record Request for information relating to improvements on the parcel outside the Agua Dulce Residential Project where Pressure Zone PZ3340 was located
 - Walker/Rivelli – 90 acres commercial (located between Phase 1 and 14 Fwy)
 - Tract 7A – 19 acre school
 - Tract 7B – 40 acre commercial (likely the Pacific Jazz Investment property along Valley Sage Road where a nursing home has recently been proposed)
- After there was no response, we re-submitted the PRR request in late 2024/early 2025

Hunsaker & Associates March 2023 Plan



LA County Dept. of Regional Planning

- The disclosures provided by LA County Regional Planning show little if any recent correspondence regarding improvements to this APN outside the TR50385-01 project boundary
- However, a separate response provided by LA County to a lawsuit includes a February 2024 to the Department of Regional Planning (info@planning.lacounty.gov) that has been recently shared indicates that “There is a vision to have 360 homes [*only 315 are approved in Phase 1 and 2*] in the area within the parcel number [3216026001] **as well as the adjacent parcels** (at last 50)”
- The email is from Alyssa Yip of Burnham Nationwide Inc. in Los Angeles

ICIJ articles

- Part of the ICIJ's Cyprus Confidential series
- November 14th 2024 article on Cyprus as a tax haven for Russian money
 - <https://www.icij.org/investigations/cyprus-confidential/cyprus-model-politics-tax-haven-russian-wealth/>
- December 3rd 2024 article on the dramatic rise of incorporations in Wyoming
 - <https://www.icij.org/investigations/cyprus-confidential/with-sharp-rise-in-incorporations-wyoming-cements-reputation-as-us-secrecy-haven/>