

Raul Perez

From: Lower Tule River & Pixey Irrigation District [dvink@ltrid.org]
Sent: Sunday, August 08, 2010 4:50 PM
To: Raul Perez
Subject: Water News Update - Found word(s) check out farm in the Text body

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Lower Tule River Irrigation District Pixley Irrigation District

Water News Update



Lower Tule to Vote on Assessment Change

Ballots Mailed To All Landowners

Dear Raul,

August 2010 - Issue: 3



What's Next for Groundwater?



The state Legislative Analyst's Office is recommending the Legislature proceed with a series of actions that would be phased in over a period of time to address current and emerging groundwater management issues. In particular, they recommend the Legislature:

At their July meeting, the Lower Tule Board voted to proceed with an increase to District-wide property assessments. The increase, which will go into effect in 2013, will cover the debt-service on bonds the District will be issuing to pay for the new water service contract to be signed this fall. Increasing the property assessment requires a vote of the landowners impacted by the change.

The new contract will provide the District with a permanent right to a share of the Friant-Division water. The new contract will also eliminate the current Excess and Full-Cost land provisions, and **enhance long-term property values.**

[Click here for a list of Frequently Asked Questions related to the new contract and the assessment change.](#)

The current contract has a 25-year term with no right to a continual renewal. Through a series of lengthy negotiations, the District was able to secure the right to a permanent contract. In exchange for this right, Lower Tule agreed to advance pay a reduced amount of the District's share of the Central Valley Project construction debt. The law requires the type of contract obtained by the District can only be issued when the capital costs are paid in full. The District has been paying capital in smaller increments on an annual basis since 1980.

Paying the capital balance owed will require the District to issue bonds of approximately \$20 million to be repaid over the next 30 years.

To date, the cost of the annual capital payment was placed on the water rates and amounted to approximately \$10 per acre-foot. **The vote by the Board was to shift that cost from the water to the land which will require a change to the assessments.** Your financial impact will depend on how much water you use. In short, if you use District water, your cost to pay CVP capital will not increase much, if at all.

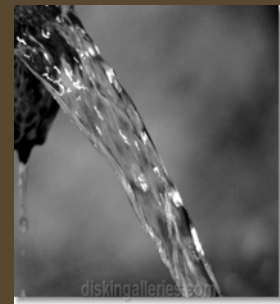
Phase in a more comprehensive groundwater monitoring system

Read More:

[Groundwater Report](#)

Groundwater Data Available

Check out [groundwater](#) section of the website to access updated 2010 groundwater maps



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[Click here to see how you might be impacted by the assessment change.](#)

This is a historical moment in the history of the Lower Tule River Irrigation District. Please take time to read the Engineer's Report and all the related documents on the [District's website](#). Please do not hesitate to contact the office or your Board representative for more information.



Dan Vink - General Manager

Landowner Meetings Scheduled to Provide Information on Assessment Vote

The District will be holding two separate open meetings to provide additional information and answer any questions related to the upcoming election. In addition, your Board Division representative will be holding a meeting specific to the Division in which you farm.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Monday August 16 at 10:00 am

Friday August 20 at 10:00 am

**District Office - Tipton Ca
357 E. Olive Ave.**

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