

Arsenic control memorandum WTF Effluent Arsenic Control Preliminary Design Concept Memorandum prepared by professional engineer consultant Roger Sams of GMS Inc. This memorandum was prepared for the UMCRRWTF Operations Committee and the three owner districts: Donala, Triview Metro District, and Forest Lakes Metro District. It contained a suggested process for the control of arsenic in the effluent discharged from UMCRRWTF to upper Monument Creek. The preliminary design will be further refined before GMS prepares a Site Location Amendment for this project to the state Water Quality Control Division for review and approval.



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Session Dates	Day	Time
June 5 th - June 22 nd	Mon., Wed., Thu.	10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
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Clinics will be held at the The Country Club at Woodmoor. Club Membership is not required for participation in this swim clinic.

For more information, contact Chris Bains at (303) 506-0089 or cbains@aol.com

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The current very small levels of arsenic in Donala's and Triview's groundwater are well below all applicable state and federal standards for both groundwater and wastewater and have never been a problem in drinking water delivered to residents. These low amounts of arsenic are already being trapped in the groundwater filters that are designed to remove iron and manganese. This existing groundwater filtering leads to relatively higher concentrations but still minute amounts of arsenic in the backwash water that periodically cleans these groundwater filters. This backwash water with filter-heightened arsenic concentrations then enters the Donala and Triview wastewater collection systems during backwash surges for transport to UMCRRWTF for further treatment from time to time during these intermittent backwash treatment cycles.

After extensive sampling and testing of arsenic levels throughout both district water distribution systems and sanitary sewer wastewater collection systems, the optimum design would remove additional amounts of arsenic from UMCRRWTF effluent, with centralized equipment and centralized automatic process control, rather than dispersed treatment of raw water at the individual groundwater treatment plants.

The proposed GMS engineering design must be able to remove sufficient amounts of arsenic at a relatively high rate for short intervals intermittently during groundwater treatment plant filter backwash flushing flow surges to meet recently imposed stark regulatory decreases to sharply lower arsenic discharge concentrations than ever imposed before. These much lower arsenic levels in the treated effluent discharged to Monument Creek are further diluted by the creek's normal existing stream flows by the time these two combined flows reach the end of the UMCRRWTF mixing zone.

Manager's report

Petersen discussed a meeting regarding another long-considered potential reservoir storage option: the joint purchase of the 100-acre Homeplace Ranch site by Donala, the Town of Monument, Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, and Triview Metropolitan District for creation of a reservoir. Gary Barber and Kevin Butcher, representatives for the Homeplace Ranch trustee, had advised these four water entities that Challenger Homes was set to close on purchase of the ranch around May 1. These two representatives had asked the four water entities to formally express their interest in purchasing the property prior to the two representatives writing a contract with Challenger.

Petersen said the representatives for the four entities agreed to have their boards make a decision at their regular April board meetings. The Triview board met on April 11 and decided not to participate in this option. He added that the Monument and Woodmoor boards won't be discussing this option until their regular May board meetings.

Petersen asked the Donala board to consider joining Monument and Woodmoor in purchasing the entire Homeplace Ranch parcel, and then selling the unused ranch land after the reservoir is constructed. The 100-acre parcel would cost \$5.8 million and the reservoir construction would cost an estimated \$17 million to \$23 million. He noted that previous Donala boards had determined this was too large a project for Donala to initiate without cost-sharing partners.

After a discussion of all factors, the Donala board chose not to participate in the proposed joint purchase of the Home Place Ranch parcel.

Petersen noted that he would be participating in the joint Arkansas Basin Roundtable and Arkansas River Forum meetings in the last week of April. He reviewed the current status of some bills under review by the state Legislature. He said he might have the Forsgren Associates engineering firm brief the Donala board on a state infrastructure study during the regular May 18 board meeting.

Petersen reported that he had again presented a briefing on reuse and emergency water interconnection risks and reward to the Monument Board of Trustees on April 3. See the April 3 BOT article on page 8.

Petersen also reported that 28 Donala residents attended the district-sponsored Water Returns Spring Landscape Seminar Workshop held on April 12. The fall 2017 seminar will be held in Antelope Trails Elementary School due to the growing number of attendees.

Operations and projects

Donala's groundwater treatment facilities have been only in nominal production for several months for annual deep cleaning, leading to noticeable well pumping electrical utility savings. A tri-annual state Health Department sanitary survey inspection of cleanliness, security, operations, and paperwork is scheduled for the end of May. The Holbein water treatment plant was to be started up again the week of April 24.

The district has been distributing surface water solely from its storage in the Pueblo Reservoir, for several months to make room for storage of heavier than average snowmelt from its Willow Creek Ranch south of Leadville. The district's snowmelt storage window starts May 1 each year. On April 14, Donala had only 32 acre-feet of renewable surface water remaining in the Pueblo Reservoir, but with its junior water rights, it makes sense to use that water as soon as it can in the season. Donala leases 499 acre-feet of the reservoir's total storage capacity of 250,000 acre-feet (0.2 percent). An acre-foot is 325,851 gallons.

Capital projects

Donala will undertake a major \$775,000 water main replacement in the area of Doral Way of 3,250 feet of 8-inch pipes that are about 50 years old. The construction will go out for bids in late April. Residents will receive notices from Donala, and the district will hold an open house before this construction begins by June. (ocn.me/v17n4.htm#dwsd)

Development update

The continued April El Paso County Planning Commission hearing on a site plan and plat for the proposed conversion of some abandoned Gleneagle golf course property to 56 residential lots was continued again to May 2, due to lack of a quorum who had heard all the previous testimony at the previous hearings.


For more information, see the El Paso County Planning Commission article on page 23, ocn.me/v17n4.htm#epcpc, <http://adm.elpasoco.com/Development%20Services/Pages/PlanningCommission2017.aspx>, and a detailed article in the June 3 issue of OCN that should also include Planning Commission information about the proposed Academy Gateway development on the northwest corner of Northgate and Struthers Roads.

The meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

The next board meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. on May 18 in the district conference room at 15850 Holbein Drive. Information: 488-3603 or www.donalawater.org. Meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of the month.

Jim Kendrick, a licensed wastewater operator, can be reached at jimkendrick@ocn.me.

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