Las Deltas MWC Community Meeting

ADMINISTRATOR PROGRAM

JANUARY 28, 2025

PROVOST&PRITCHARD

Las Deltas MWC
Junta Comunitaria

PROGRAMA DE ADMINISTRADOR

28 ENERO 2025

PROVOST&PRITCHARD

Housekeeping

Cell phones: Please set to silent or take calls outside

Sign-in sheet: Please leave your details or fill out the survey if you would like to keep updated

Zoom: Use the microphone or chat feature for comments, questions, or Zoom technical assistance

The meeting is being recorded

Translation: Ryan will be providing translation throughout, but please ask if you would like anything specifically repeated.

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Buenas Costumbres

Celulares: Mantenga los teléfonos en silencio o reciba llamadas fuera del edificio

Hoja de Asistencia: Por favor, déjanos tus datos o rellena la encuesta si quieres mantenerte informado

Zoom: Utilice el micrófono o el chat para hacer comentarios, preguntas o solicitar asistencia técnica de Zoom

Se está grabando la junta

Traducción: Ryan se encargará de la traducción, pero si desea que le repitamos algo durante la presentación, no dude en preguntar.

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Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Administer Survey
3. Administrator Program overview
   i. Administrator Functions
   ii. Administrator Appointment
   iii. Goals of the Administrator Program
   iv. Post-Administrator Plan
4. Work Completed & Underway
   I. Initial Assessment
   II. Water System Performance
   III. Incident Reports
   IV. Administrator – System Plans
5. Emergency Response
6. Billing and Water Rates
7. Financial Health
8. Monitoring Violation
9. Upcoming Activities and Looking Ahead

Agenda

1. Introducciones
2. Distribuir Encuesta
3. Descripción General del Programa de Administrador
   I. Funciones de Administrador
   II. Nombramiento de Administrador
   III. Objetivos del Programa de Administrador
   IV. Plan Post-Administrador
4. Trabajo Terminado y en Marcha
   I. Evaluación Inicial
   II. Rendimiento del Sistema de Agua
   III. Informes de Incidentes
   IV. Administrador – Planes del Sistema
5. Respuesta a Emergencias
6. Facturación y Tarifas de Agua
7. Salud Financiera
8. Control de Infracciones
9. Próximas Actividades y de Cara al Futuro

Introductions – *Provost & Pritchard*

Heather Bashian
Principal Engineer

Hamish Kellam
Program Manager

Stacy Claros
Assistant Engineer

Ryan Jensen
Community Coordinator

Amanda De Anda
Public Affairs

Introducciones – *Provost & Pritchard*

Heather Bashian
Ingeniera Principal

Hamish Kellam
Gerente de Proyectos

Stacy Claros
Ingeniera Asistente

Ryan Jensen
Coordinador Comunitario

Amanda De Anda
Relaciones Públicas

Provost & Pritchard

- Established Engineering and Consulting Firm
- Diverse and specialized team
  - Civil and Agricultural Engineers
  - Hydrogeologists
  - Environmental Specialists
  - Planners and Land Surveyors
  - Construction Managers
  - Support Personnel
- Contracted with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) as the water system Administrator

10 office locations

Introductions – *Subconsultants*

Jason Sherrell, *Contract Operator*

- Certified operator for Las Deltas MWC

Shay Bakman, *Vice President*

- Provides regulatory support

Janice Hanna,
Director Corporate Accounting & Regulatory Affairs

- Provides billing services and customer service support

Administrator Program Overview

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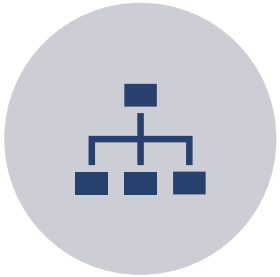
What is the Administrator Program?

Grant Funded:
Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (**SAFER**) Program for Administrator, Urgent Drinking Water Needs (**UDWN**) Program for Operations and Maintenance

Focused on small communities in need of assistance, experiencing long-term challenges

Appointed by the State Water Resources Control Board



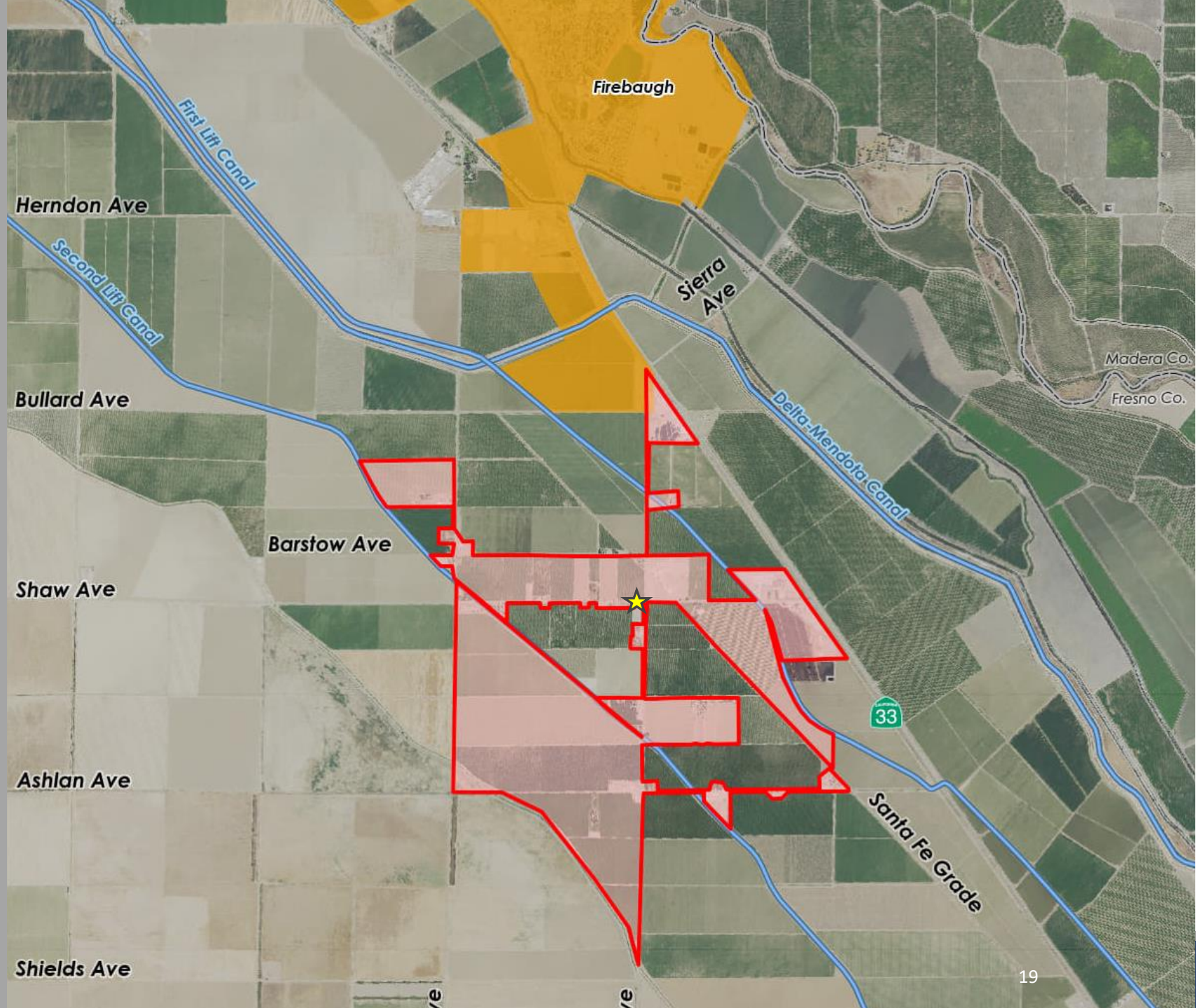
Administrators may be individual persons, businesses, non-profit organizations, local agencies, and other entities

Administrator Functions

- Water system assessment
- Governance and management
- Financial management
- Emergency response
- Operations and maintenance
- Community engagement
- Post Administrator Plan

Las Deltas Mutual Water Company

- Population Served: ~375 residents
  - 96 unmetered residential connections,
  - 10 unmetered, 1 metered commercial property (Garguilo)
- Water source: City of Firebaugh
- Storage:
  - 30,000-gallon tanks,
  - One 10,000-gallon hydropneumatic pressure tank.
- Infrastructure
  - Aging, prone to leaks
  - 33,800 ft of piping ranging 4-6 inches
- MWC formed in 1928
  - Board inactive for the last 5+ years.



Administrator Appointment

- System faces challenges with infrastructure, management, and affordability of reserves.
- System required to have D1 certified operator.

CENTRAL CAL WATERWORKS, INC.

Jason Sherrell, *Contract Operator*

- Certified operator for Las Deltas MWC
- T-3 and D-3 operators on staff as needed

Administrator Appointment (cont.)

Drinking water standards & Human Right to Water - Key Issues

Contamination

- Water supply exceeds state standard for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) since 2017.
- **State Standard:** 80 ug/L
- **Last Sample (December 10, 2024):** 130 ug/L

Pressure Problems

- Fails to meet system pressure requirements.

System Challenges

- Aging infrastructure
- Management & cost inefficiencies
- Unsafe water quality

Administrator Appointment (cont.)

Administrative Order: Key Details

Issued: June 26, 2024

Authority Granted:

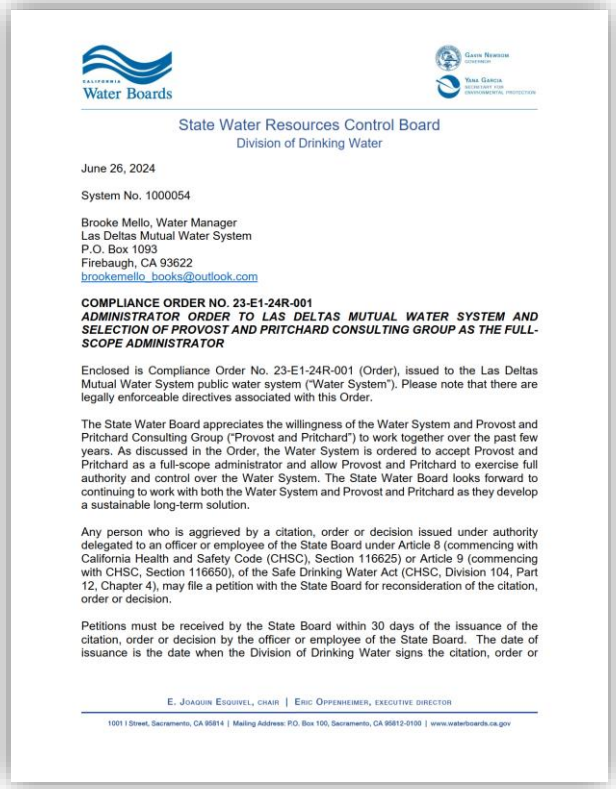
- Provost & Pritchard (P&P) authorized to oversee all operations and management of the water system.

Current Governance

- **No Known Board Members**
- The Mutual Water Company (MWC) board is inactive.
- **Re-election of Board Members Not Required.**

System Representative

- P&P serves as the official representative per the SWRCB.



Water Boards

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Drinking Water

June 26, 2024

System No. 1000054

Brooke Mello, Water Manager
Las Deltas Mutual Water System
P.O. Box 1093
Firebaugh, CA 93622
brookemello_books@outlook.com

COMPLIANCE ORDER NO. 23-E1-24R-001
ADMINISTRATOR ORDER TO LAS DELTAS MUTUAL WATER SYSTEM AND SELECTION OF PROVOST AND PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP AS THE FULL-SCOPE ADMINISTRATOR

Enclosed is Compliance Order No. 23-E1-24R-001 (Order), issued to the Las Deltas Mutual Water System public water system ("Water System"). Please note that there are legally enforceable directives associated with this Order.

The State Water Board appreciates the willingness of the Water System and Provost and Pritchard Consulting Group ("Provost and Pritchard") to work together over the past few years. As discussed in the Order, the Water System is ordered to accept Provost and Pritchard as a full-scope administrator and allow Provost and Pritchard to exercise full authority and control over the Water System. The State Water Board looks forward to continuing to work with both the Water System and Provost and Pritchard as they develop a sustainable long-term solution.

Any person who is aggrieved by a citation, order or decision issued under authority delegated to an officer or employee of the State Board under Article 8 (commencing with California Health and Safety Code (CHSC), Section 116625) or Article 9 (commencing with CHSC, Section 116650), of the Safe Drinking Water Act (CHSC, Division 104, Part 12, Chapter 4), may file a petition with the State Board for reconsideration of the citation, order or decision.

Petitions must be received by the State Board within 30 days of the issuance of the citation, order or decision by the officer or employee of the State Board. The date of issuance is the date when the Division of Drinking Water signs the citation, order or

E. Joaquin Esquivel, chair | Eric Oppenheimer, executive director

1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 | Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 | www.waterboards.ca.gov

Goals of Administrator Program

Regulatory Compliance	Improve operations and maintenance while developing a path to meeting all water quality standards.
Financial Stability	Develop a financial strategy to ensure viability of the water system, while managing supplemental grant funding.
Public Engagement	Establish and maintain public engagement with water system customers.
Long-term Solution	Consolidate the Las Deltas MWC water system with the City of Firebaugh.

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Post-Administrator Plan

A pathway for water system operations without Administrative support

- Assess technical, managerial, and financial (TMF) issues
- Plan for developing TMF competencies
- Evaluate future issues and steps needed to complete consolidation with City of Firebaugh
- Replacement of HUD tank and 8-inch transmission line
- Identify financial and managerial resources needed to implement the Post-Administrator Plan

Work Completed & Underway

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Initial Assessment

Completed and submitted to SWRCB in 2024.

Assessment included review of:

- Water system infrastructure
- Water quality
- Operations and maintenance
- Managerial structure and practices
- Financial status

Water System Performance

Central Cal Waterworks Inc., *Certified Operator*

Water sampling up to date. Lead & Copper sampling completed September 2024, no Action Level exceedances.

Water quality samples indicate disinfection byproducts remain above the maximum levels allowed by State Water Board.

Results

- Total T. levels: 130 ug/L (December 10, 2024)
- Bacteriological Constituents: Absent (December 10, 2024)
- Results publicly accessible at: https://sdwis.waterboards.ca.gov/PDWW/

Incident Reports

Date	Incident	Details
8/29/24	Main Break	Repairs completed next day by Rolfe Construction, Inc.
9/24/24	Minor Leak on Shaw Ave	Repairs completed by CCW 10/1/24.
10/14/24	Transmission Main Crack on Ashlan Ave	Repaired same day by CCW.
10/16/24	Service Line Break	System shut down for one hour for repairs on 10/18/24.
10/16/24	Non-Emergency Leak	Low priority leak addressed by CCW in early December.
11/12/24	Water Service Outage	Tank emptied due to valve jam; resolved by CCW same day.
12/10/24	Line Breaks	Two line breaks reported and repaired in same week by CCW.
1/22/24	Valve Burst	Resident repaired; CCW to evaluate.

Community Accountability and Engagement Plan (CAEP)

Plan outlines public outreach activities including:

- Public comment opportunities
- Quarterly community meetings
- Email notifications and updates
- Dedicated webpage at: www.admin.provostandpritchard.com/las-deltas-mutual-water-company
- Project fact sheet
- Survey for communication preferences
- Public comment and responses tracking on the website

CAEP was submitted to the SWRCB on

August 27th, 2024.

Please fill out your community surveys!

Other Administrator Plans

Emergency Response Plan (ERP)	• Drafted and submitted to Division of Drinking Water (DDW) in July 2024.
Governance Plan	• Submitted to DDW in October, 2024.
Financial Management Plan	• Submitted to DDW in October 2024.

Emergency Response

In case of emergency, contact:

Hamish Kellam, Program Manager, Provost & Pritchard

- Office: 559-449-2700 Ext. 183
- Mobile: 424-442-0171

Stacey Claros, Associate Engineer, Provost & Pritchard

- Office: 559-449-2700 Ext. 375

Jason Sherrell, Central Cal Waterwork Inc.

- Call: (559) 575-5627
- Website: centralcalwaterworks.com/contact-us

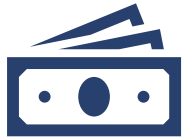
Billing & Water Rates

Water rates

- Residential connections: $100
- Commercial connections: $240

Billing system

- Managed by Del Oro Water Company



Funding

- Covers system operations & maintenance to water system
- P&P work is not funded by any system O&M funds

Financial Health

Administrator is committed to full financial transparency.

Bank account is in the process of being transferred to P&P management.

Future quarterly meetings will provide snapshot of:

- Revenue
- Expenses
- Grant funding

Monthly Bacteriological Sampling Monitoring Violation

In December 2024 Las Deltas MWC received a monitoring violation

What happened?

- The operator team had an internal miscommunication, leading to a missed sample.

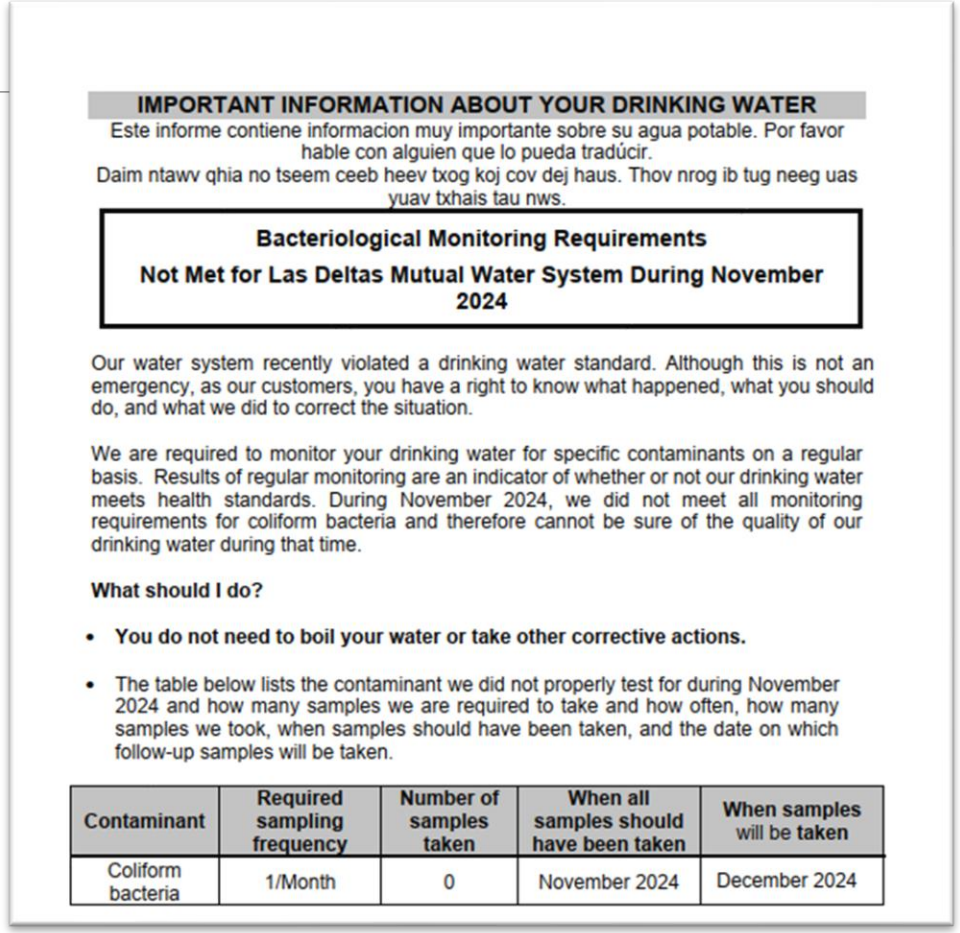
What is being done?

- We have established a double-checking system for samples to ensure they are checked by P&P and CCW before being submitted to DDW.
- Notices were mailed to customers regarding the missed sample.

Have we sampled since then?

- Yes – samples were taken in December 2024 and scheduled again January 2025. They will continue to be taken monthly.

If you were impacted, please let us know



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Por favor hable con alguien que lo pueda tradúcir.

Daim ntawv qhia no tseem ceeb heev txog koj cov dej haus. Thov nrog ib tug neeg uas yuav txhais tau nws.

Bacteriological Monitoring Requirements

Not Met for Las Deltas Mutual Water System During November 2024

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did to correct the situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During November 2024, we did not meet all monitoring requirements for coliform bacteria and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.**
- The table below lists the contaminant we did not properly test for during November 2024 and how many samples we are required to take and how often, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples will be taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples will be taken
Coliform bacteria	1/Month	0	November 2024	December 2024

Upcoming Activities & Look Ahead

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Major Projects and Plans

Technical Assistance is underway

- Self Help Enterprises is managing long-term consolidation assistance and construction of new HUD tank and transmission line.
- Routine maintenance, upgrades to water system planned under operations and maintenance funding.

<u>Please do not</u> touch or adjust any system infrastructure. This is the responsibility of the certified operator.

Project Timeline

Initial Assessment: Completed March 3, 2021.

Administrator Assigned: June 26, 2024.

Planned Construction: HUD tank and transmission line construction has begun. Scheduled to be completed February 2025.

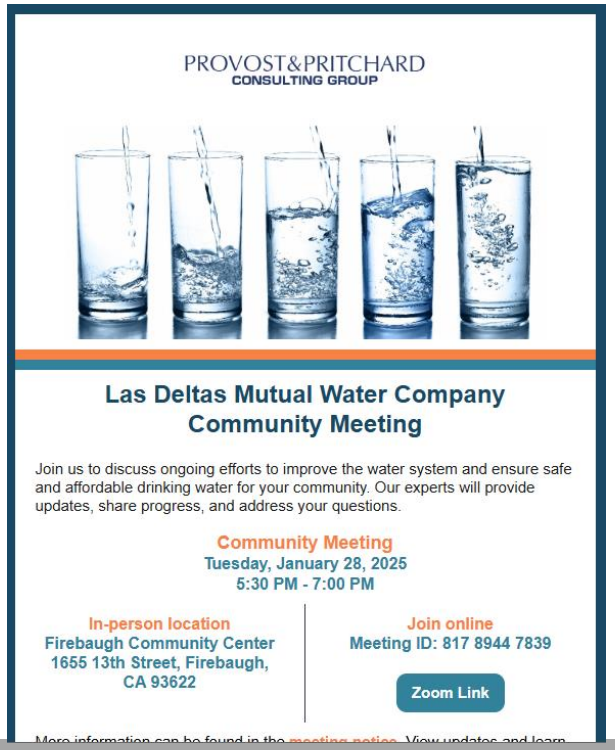
Administrator Duration: Administrator assigned for 24 months (until June 26, 2026) unless construction and consolidation are completed earlier.

Community Engagement

- Quarterly public meetings
- Complete and submit a survey
- Visit the Las Deltas MWC website:

  www.admin.provostandpritchard.com/las-deltas-mutual-water-company

- Join our email list
  - Write your email on the sign-in sheet
  - Submit survey



Receive Text Alerts

Join our contact list and receive important alerts:	• Service line breaks • System shut-offs • Meeting reminders
Sign-up for text alerts:	• Leave your information on the sign-in sheet • Text “Join” and your email to **(559) 778-8700**.
This **does not** replace the number for Central Cal Waterwork Inc.	• Call: (559) 575-5627 • Website: centralcalwaterworks.com/contact-us

Contact Us

For questions about your water system, contact us at:

Hamish Kellam, Provost & Pritchard

- Office: 559-449-2700 Ext. 183
- Mobile: 424-442-0171

Stacey Claros, Provost & Pritchard

- Office: 559-449-2700 Ext. 375

Central Cal Waterwork Inc. – *Certified Operator*

- Call: (559) 575-5627
- Website: centralcalwaterworks.com/contact-us

Public Comment

Write on the comment card provided to you and turn it in before you go

Call **559-449-2700**

Email **lasdeltasadmin@ppeng.com**

Mail us your comment card to Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group, 455 W Fir Ave., Clovis, CA 93611