



To: Property Owners in Madison Water Utility Pressure Zone 4 (Southeast Side)

Re: Public Hearing before Water Utility Board

December 15, 2009 4:30 P.M.

Madison Water Utility Main Office Conference Room

119 East Olin Avenue

Madison, WI

Notice of Public Hearing

Dear Interested Citizen,

You are invited to listen, ask questions, and share your thoughts and concerns at a Public Hearing before the Water Utility Board regarding the Pressure Zone 4 Water Supply Augmentation Project. We have evaluated alternatives and will *recommend a new well* to serve Pressure Zone 4 at this meeting. The Water Board will consider public input and comment on the proposed project before a decision is made to 1) move ahead with the recommended alternative, 2) reject the alternative, or 3) postpone the decision. If the Board approves the new well, the Water Utility will begin evaluating sites for a new well.

Written comments regarding this project will be accepted up to the start of the public hearing. Comments can either be via email to water@cityofmadison.com or by US mail to Madison Water Utility, 119 East Olin Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin, 53713. The public is also invited to participate in this project by joining the Citizens Advisory Panel (CAP) which has been sent up for this project. For more information on this project visit the Madison Water Utility web site at www.madisonwater.org and click on the "Plans and Projects" tab.

Background

The mission of the Madison Water Utility is to supply high quality water for consumption and fire protection, at a reasonable cost, while conserving and protecting our ground water resources for present and future generations. Madison's water system operates with 23 unit wells, over 800 miles of water main, over 8,200 hydrants, almost 19,000 valves, and 31 reservoirs providing over 33 million gallons of storage. To serve the City of Madison, this complex system is divided into 11 district "pressure zones". Water is supplied by high capacity wells located within each pressure zones.

In 2004 the Madison Water Utility commissioned an engineering study to evaluate the existing water distribution system facilities and pipelines. This study resulted in the preparation of the November 2005 Infrastructure Management Plan Report, which included recommendations for improving the existing system. In December 2006 a Water Master Plan Update Report was prepared to identify short-term (through year 2010) and long-term (through year 2025) projects to improve current City wide service and meet anticipated growth demand over the next 20 years. The Water Utility used information obtained from these studies to develop a City wide 20-year Capital Improvements Program.

For major capital improvement projects, the Water Utility initiates a public participation process that includes public meetings and the formation of Citizen Advisory Panels. Citizen Advisory Panels meet periodically with the Water Utility and public meetings are held at predetermined milestones as projects progress. The Water Utility then incorporates information obtained from this public participation process into the decision making process.

Pressure Zone 4 - Alternative Evaluation Summary

Pressure Zone 4 is located in the far south eastern corner of Madison, and currently serviced by a single unit well. Land use in this area includes a mix of residential, retail, commercial, office, and light industry. In response to these existing conditions, needed improvements for Pressure Zone 4 identified by the Water Utility include the following:

- 1) Provide a backup source of water (redundancy) for this pressure zone because it is currently supplied by a single well; and 2) Improve the water supply and distribution pressure needed for fire protection.

The Water Utility has evaluated various alternatives needed to improve service for Pressure Zone 4. Preliminary alternatives evaluated include the following:

- Status quo – no action;
- Obtain water from adjacent pressure zone;
- Obtain water from nearby communities;
- Construct a reservoir to increase storage capacity within the pressure zone; and
- Install a new well and pump station.

These preliminary alternatives are described in detail in a Project Scoping document and Alternative Evaluation documents, which have been prepared by Water Utility staff. The alternatives evaluated for Pressure Zone 4, and will be discussed at the upcoming public meeting. These documents are available at Madison Water Utility web site (www.madisonwater.org) under the “Plans and Projects” tab.

Based on this evaluation, Water Utility staff will recommend construction of a new well and pump station for Pressure Zone 4. Upon Board authorization staff will begin searching for suitable sites. This public hearing will give all citizens an opportunity to express their concerns and opinions on this project to the Water Utility Board.

Sincerely,



Thomas Heikkinen Water
Utility General Manager

cc: Alder Judy Compton, District 16
Alder Larry Palm, District 15
Water Utility Board