



## Olympic View Water and Sewer District Customers

For the past several weeks, Olympic View Water and Sewer District (OVWSD) has been in the news because of our effort to protect the underground aquifer which provides water for treatment at the District's Deer Creek Treatment Plant. We continue to work on reaching a Water Service Agreement with Edmonds School District (ESD) related to the planned use of deep Underground Injection Control (UIC) wells for storm water management at the Madrona School.

Our actions are to make sure we can meet our legal obligation to protect our water supply from possible contamination using UIC wells in a protected zone. (see item one below).

This affects you because all costs related to providing water are received by collecting fees from you. It will be our customers who will have to bear the costs of changes in treatment or the loss of the water source if the UIC wells fail to provide adequate and indefinite protection.

The use of deep Underground Injection Control wells is governed by the Department of Ecology (DOE) and the local jurisdiction (City of Edmonds). As a result, OVWSD was not involved or consulted in the planning stages or the approval of the use of UIC wells. It is essential that part of the Water Service Agreement addresses the operations of the wells. Without a specific Water Service Agreement between OVWSD and ESD, the School District has no obligation to address OVWSD current and future concerns related to the use of deep UIC wells and their potential effect on our water source.

Below are the original Service Agreement requirements proposed by OVWSD.

What	Why
<p><b>UIC Wells not be allowed within a Source Supply Protection Area - an alternate method storm-water remediation should be required in drinking water protected area.</b></p> <p><b>If they are proposed within a protected area, more stringent guidelines should be imposed.</b></p>	<p>The UIC wells are located in a defined PROTECTED area, established in an adopted 2002 Surface Source Protection Plan, approved by the Washington State Department of Health, City of Edmonds and Town of Woodway. The areas are designated as "protected" based on the length of time it takes for water from the surface of the ground to make it to the location where water is withdrawn and treated for drinking water use.</p>
<p><b>Monitoring - Installation of up to five monitoring wells, placed so that ground water levels and quality can be measured both before and after the storm water enters the drinking water supply.</b></p>	<p>This provides the ability to watch what is going on at the bottom of the UIC wells and the effect on the drinking water source on an ongoing basis.</p>
<p><b>Testing before water can enter the UIC wells. Defined analytes (chemical components of the storm water)</b></p>	<p>Storm water is collected over the whole site. Parking lot, sidewalks, roofs, playgrounds and fields.</p>

<p><b>Specific list of analytes and physical characteristics, as compiled by OVWSD, Department of Health and Robinson Noble within the document.</b></p>	<p>Each area within the school site produces different analytes. The parking lot may have oil, fuel, asbestos, rubber, ballfield may have fertilizers, walkways may have salt, roof may have asphalt, oils and grease from kitchen use. OV has offered to assume all costs of gathering and processing these tests</p>
<p><b>Defined testing periods</b></p>	<p>Years 1-2 - Quarterly based the amount of time it takes for the storm water to reach the drinking water supply</p> <p>Years 3-5 twice a year testing.</p> <p>Years 6-14 – Every other year with the potential of extending the time, based on what monitoring indicates.</p>
<p><b>Costs of testing</b></p>	<p>Olympic View costs are recovered 100% through rates. Testing will have an impact on rates throughout the life of the UIC wells.</p>
<p><b>Direct notification of a spill</b></p>	<p>The City of Edmonds notifies the water district if there is a spill that enters their storm water system that is within the Source Protection Area. Since these wells will not flow into the City of Edmonds Storm Water system, we want to be notified directly by the school staff. This allows us to set up procedures to monitor at our treatment plant and plan for possible changes in treatment.</p>
<p><b>Make Olympic View “whole” if the UIC wells fail and Olympic View incurs additional costs because of the failure</b></p>	<p>In the event that the source water supply changes and either the treatment process must be change or the supply becomes untreatable and the source is lost, the customer of Olympic View should not have a bear the total costs.</p>

For more information on UIC wells in general:

<https://www.epa.gov/uic/basic-information-about-class-v-injection-wells>

<https://www.epa.gov/uic/class-v-wells-injection-non-hazardous-fluids-or-above-underground-sources-drinking-water>

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/DrinkingWater/SourceWater/SourceWaterProtection>

Please feel free to contact me via email at [lynned@ovwater.com](mailto:lynned@ovwater.com) with questions.

