

League of *independent* Voters of Texas

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July 16, 2020

Dear Post Oak Savannah Board Members, Staff and Attorneys:

I am attaching a public information request (PIR) filed yesterday with San Antonio Water System (SAWS) by the SAWS Act PAC, a San Antonio based citizens coalition that is working towards SAWS reform and an independent performance audit of Vista Ridge.

Because of the nature of the public-private partnership SAWS has with Vista Ridge LLC and related entities, the two sides of this project act in concert. We suspect you agree that both parties avail themselves of the POSGCD permit, and therefore both should abide by its terms and should be forthcoming to any inquiry from POSGCD.

The PIR is seeking to fully understand — with clear documentation:

How much water has been pumped to San Antonio through the Vista Ridge pipeline and where did it go?

We believe when Vista Ridge pumping began, on April 15 and continuing for approximately 58 days, 20 million gallons per day were purchased and delivered, not because SAWS needed that much for any beneficial purpose but because that was the minimum Vista Ridge was willing or able to deliver. SAWS has yet to contest our published claim that half of that amount was dumped into Mud Creek, daily for at least most of those 58 days. Yet, neither SAWS nor Vista Ridge has accounted for any use, beneficial or otherwise, of the discharged water by SAWS or its customers between the point of delivery to SAWS and its discharge to Mud Creek.

We believe that any claims that this is “beneficial use” should be seen in the context of the documentation, or the lack thereof, so far offered by SAWS to its ratepayers and the public.

To date, the SAWS Board of Trustees has failed to publicly and specifically ask its staff, the questions we asked in our PIR. At their July 7th public meeting, SAWS Trustees made little or no attempt to drill down on managements' handling of “the most expensive water in Texas,” let alone whether ratepayers were being treated cavalierly and how this news might be received by the “donor” communities.

We recognize that Post Oak Savannah GCD may have already asked these questions as a follow-up to the information posted on your website. We also realize you are more likely to get this information before we do. If we receive it before you do, we are happy to share this information with you and look forward to you making your information public.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Linda Curtis, Coordinator LIV