SUBJECT: PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REGARDING IRRIGATION WITH SECONDARY EFFLUENT OF THE CITY OF PORTERVILLE SITE LOCATED AT WESTWOOD AND SCRANTON

SOURCE: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES DEPARTMENT - FIELD SERVICES

COMMENT: The City of Porterville has 160 acres of agricultural land at the northwest corner of Westwood and Scranton. The land has been permitted by the Regional Water Quality Control Board for secondary treated effluent waste water to irrigate crops. Property owners near the site have indicated concern regarding the use of treated effluent. City staff has held several meetings with property owners to assure them the public health is protected and provide owners with information. A procedure was developed for property owner participation regarding the irrigation of the Westwood and Scranton site. The procedure provides for the City to test the water from each participating property owners well initially, then test up to four wells selected by the property owners group on a quarterly basis. The results will be provided and semi-annual updates concerning the site will be scheduled. The procedure will remain in effect through June 30, 2004. At that time, the City will hold an open meeting to consider any proposed modifications to the procedures.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council:

1) Authorize the procedure for public participation of the irrigation at the 160 acre site at the northwest corner of Westwood and Scranton and;

2) Authorize that water testing be conducted at the City’s expense and;

3) Authorize the City Manager to sign each property owner’s participation procedure.

Attachment: Procedure

ITEM NO. 19
WHEREAS, Property Owners near Westwood and Scranton have indicated concern regarding
the use of secondarily treated effluent on a 160 acre site owned by the City and leased for
agriculture.

WHEREAS, the City of Porterville desires to work with property owners in the area to assure the
public health is protected and that information is available regarding the City’s plans and efforts.

THEREFORE, the following actions will be undertaken by the City to assure that there is
cooperation between the City and property owners in the area.

1. The City will base test water from wells in the area for fecal coliform, chlorides, and
nitrates. The results of the testing will be retained by the City and will be provided to the
property owners whose well was tested.

2. The City will test up to a total of four (4) wells on a quarterly basis, using the City’s
laboratory. The four (4) wells may be selected by the Westwood/Scranton property
owners. The results of the testing will be retained by the City and will be provided to the
property owner whose well was tested.

3. The City will provide semi-annual updates to you concerning the status of the 160 acres
and the types of irrigation used.

4. The City is not now planning to initiate spray irrigation of the site. However, should the
City consider spray irrigation of the site, prior to a final decision, the City Council will
hold a public hearing and will provide notice to the property owners that reside within
500 feet of the site.

The process defined in this statement will be in force and effect through June 30, 2004. At that
time, the City will hold an open meeting to consider any proposed modifications to the
procedures.

I agree to the City’s proposal as set forth above.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone #</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Longley, City Manager</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>City of Porterville</td>
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