

LATEST NEWS OCTOBER 2019

We wish this was all over but the fat lady hasn't sung yet...

A REMINDER OF WHERE IT ALL STARTED:

December 2001: Edgewood annexed 13,538 acres of Campbell land in Bernalillo, Sandoval and Santa Fe counties for a 4,000 home and two golf course Campbell Ranch development after Campbell Ranch declined to comply with Bernalillo County development requirements.

June 2009: Aquifer Science applied to the Office of the State Engineer (OSE) for 1500 acre feet of water to be used on Campbell land (including the 13,538 acres of Bernalillo, Sandoval and Santa Fe County lands annexed by Edgewood). Aquifer Science LLC is 5% Campbell Ranch and 95% Vidler Water – a Nevada water 'exploration' company owned by PICO. They applied to drill four wells up to 4000' deep, on the east side of N14...pumping from anywhere along the 4000', including the shallow zones where other wells are located.

The strong community outcry forced the OSE to conduct a hearing.

Nov 14, 2014: After a 2 week hearing, the State Engineer DENIED the Aquifer Science water request stating "...there is no unappropriated groundwater available..". Aquifer Science filed an appeal with 2nd District Court.

RECENT HISTORY:

March 5-19, 2018: Judge Shannon Bacon presided over the Appeal Trial in Second District Court.

January 29, 2019: Judge Bacon found in our favor, citing significant impact on nearby wells and lack of conservation.

September 3, 2019: Judge Clay Campbell issued Final Judgement. 30 day Appeal clock started.

October 3, 2019: Aquifer Science filed notice of Appeal to the NM Court of Appeals.

WHAT'S COMING NEXT:

By 11/3/19 Aquifer Science must file a Docketing Statement (detailed brief stating their basis for Appeal).

By 11/17/19 Aquifer Science must file a Record Proper, which is the entirety of the trial record they need to show the NM Court of Appeals. We will review and add anything we feel should be included.

--- It could take up to 2 years or more to get on the NM Court of Appeals calendar and have a decision. ---

December 4, 2019: Judge Campbell's hearing to rule on the amount of our recoverable costs, OSE Liability for Costs and the Motion to Join PICO Entities. Depending on the outcome, AS, PICO or OSE may appeal.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- 1. Attend the hearing at 2pm on December 4, 2019 in District Court, Room 720 (400 Lomas Blvd NE). It is scheduled to last 3 hours – plan to come even if you can't stay for the whole time. A strong turnout will impress the Judge with the importance of this case to the community.**
- 2. We know it seems like this has gone on forever and everyone is sooo tired, but we still need your support. We will need to continue fundraising to make it through this next Appeal stage.**
- 3. Remember that any contact with the Judge is prohibited and could cause harm to our case.**

Donations can be made on our website www.deepwellprotest.org via Paypal or by mailing your check, made out to **N14 Forum Deep Well**, to Deep Well Protest, PO Box 311, Sandia Park, NM 87047.