



Lakeside Union School Water Supply

Since 2009, the Lakeside Union School has reported levels of arsenic above the maximum contaminant level (MCL). The MCL is the legal limit of the amount of a pollutant that is allowed in drinking water. Over the last four quarters, the average level of arsenic in the water has been 18 parts per billion, which is over the MCL of 10 parts per billion. Arsenic is a known human health hazard, and ingestion of water with arsenic over the MCL for many years has been reported to increase the risk of cancer in the liver, bladder, kidney, lungs, and skin. As a temporary solution, the State Board has been providing bottled water to the School. This is not a sustainable solution, here we present three alternatives to provide safe drinking water. The Board's preferred alternative is consolidation with the City of Bakersfield.

Alternative #1: Consolidation

- Consolidation is the joining of two or more water systems. Typically, a smaller system being absorbed into a larger water system.
- The City would own and maintain the pipeline and sell water to the School through a meter located near the entrance of the School.
- No capital costs to the City for construction of pipeline.
- The State Board supports consolidation as the best long term solution for its many benefits:
 - a. The City has Technical, Managerial, and Financial capacity to properly run a water system.
 - b. The City has economies of scale
 - c. Lakeside School would no longer be a regulated public water system

Alternative #2: Extension of Service

- Extension of service requires the School to submit a construction application to the State Board's Department of Financial Assistance for construction funding.
- The School would own and maintain the pipeline and purchase water from the City through a meter located near the City's water system.
- The School would no longer be a regulated public water system.

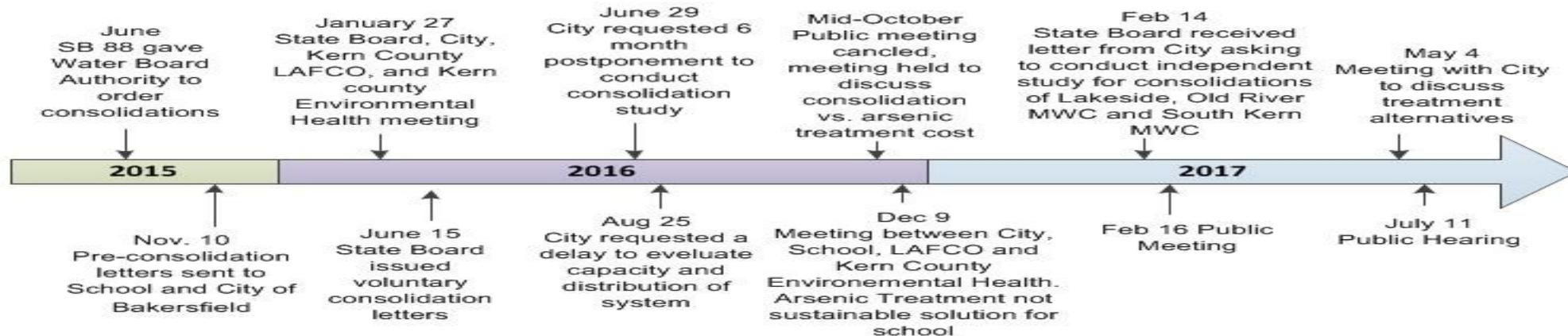
Alternative #3: Arsenic Treatment

- On site arsenic treatment at Lakeside School, which would be operated and maintained by the City.
- The City would sell treated water to the School at the same water rate the City sells water to other schools that are served by the City's water system.
- A pilot study would be required to evaluate treatment alternatives, operation & maintenance costs, as well as waste disposal costs before a construction application could be submitted.
- The School would continue to be a public water system and would be required to comply with all drinking water regulations and fees that are applicable.

For more information contact:

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Project timeline



Water Quality Project

- In **June 2015**, SB 88 authorized the State Board to order consolidation with a receiving water system where a public water system, within a disadvantaged community, consistently fails to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water.
- On **November 10, 2015**, the State Board sent pre-consolidation letters to the Lakeside School and the City of Bakersfield that strongly encouraged them to work out voluntary consolidation.
- On **January 27, 2016**, the State Board met with the City, Lakeside School, Kern County LAFCO, and Kern County Environmental Health.
- On **June 15, 2016**, the State Board issued letters to the School and the City requesting that they work out voluntary consolidation of their water systems and report the outcome within 6 months.
- On **June 29, 2016**, the City requested that the State Board postpone the 6 month response period until funding and a schedule to complete a comprehensive consolidation study have been determined.
- On **August 25, 2016**, the State Board had meeting with the City and Lakeside School. The City asked the State Board to consider a possible delay in the SB 88 process until the City could evaluate the source capacity and distribution system in the southwest area of the City's water system.
- On **September 19, 2016**, the State Board informed the City that after discussions with executive staff, the State Board was moving forward with a public meeting for the potential consolidation of Lakeside School with the City's in accordance with SB 88. The public meeting was scheduled for October 20, 2016.
- In **mid-October 2016**, the State Board cancelled the public meeting as a result of discussions between the City's lawyer and the Executive Director of the State Board. It was canceled to allow the City to again meet with the State Board to discuss the estimated costs of consolidation vs arsenic treatment.
- On **December 9, 2016**, the State Board met with the City, Lakeside School, LAFCO, and Kern County Environmental Health. The City expressed concern for consolidating the school and proposed the installation of an arsenic treatment plant. The Board indicated that treatment was not a sustainable long term solution for the school.
- On **February 14, 2017**, the State Board received three letters from the City, regarding the consolidation of Lakeside School, Old River MWC, and South Kern MWC. The City requested that the State Board cancel the public meeting and authorize funding for the City to conduct an independent study.
- On **February 16, 2017**, a public meeting was held to notify and inform the public of the ongoing water quality issues and possible solutions for the Lakeside School.
- On **March 28, 2017**, the State Board met with the City to discuss three alternatives for the City to provide safe drinking water to the School.
- On **May 4, 2017**, the City sent a letter to the State Board indicating the City was seriously considering the treatment alternative; but expressed several concerns.
- On **June 21, 2017**, the State Board sent the City a response that stated our concerns with the treatment alternative and our preference with the other two alternatives.
- On **July 11, 2017**, a public hearing was held to inform parents and staff

