Quartz Hill County Water District wants more water

Quartz Hill County Water District is going to ask for more water from the State Water Project, even though it hasn't received any yet.

An official of the water system, which serves more than 1600 homes and businesses in Quartz Hill, said State Project water won't be available until Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency can build its proposed regional water delivery system. That can't be done until voters authorize a bond issue. In the meantime, the Quartz Hill district keeps pumping from groundwater wells.

Manager Herb Spitzer said the Quartz Hill district has a water service contract with the Water Agency, signed almost four years ago. Agency representatives met recently with the OHWD board of directors to learn whether the amount of water specified in the contract is still enough.

Spitzer said it probably won't be. Growth in the district during the past few years justifies "a substantial increase" in the district's request for State Project water. But they won't know how much to boost their water request until they finish some studies.

He said the district is able to meet all its present water demands, thanks to a big new water storage tank and an additional well drilled recently. He expects another new well to be drilled soon. However, he warned that drilling more wells is not the way to meet future water needs.

"Water levels in our wells dropped about eight feet during the past year," he said, adding that good well sites are getting scarce within the district.

"The most feasible way to get more water is to buy State Project water through the Water Agency system," Spitzer said. "It would be expensive for us to go outside our district boundaries to drill more wells."

He said drilling too many wells in a limited area will aggravate the existing groundwater "overdraft" and make well water levels drop faster.

During the recent meeting with Water Agency officials, the district was pointed out that utility use policies in the Antelope County will tend to concentrate future population growth in already-developed areas like Quartz Hill. Spitzer said a new 25-house tract to be completed next month will bring more than 50 new homes added to the Quartz Hill water system in just the past seven months.

Paul W. Schmidt selected
William Clark Club proxy

Paul W. Schmidt, service center foreman for General Telephone Company in Lancaster, has been elected president of the William Clark Club, local chapter of the Independent Telephone Pioneer Association (ITPA).

The ITPA is composed of employees with 15 or more years of service in the independent telephone industry as well as individuals who have retired from the communications industry.

Founded 50 years ago, the association's purpose is to perpetuate the pioneering spirit and preserve the ideals of the independent telephone industry. The organization boasts 2,000 members in California and more than 22,000 members throughout the United States.

All 51 members of the William Clark Club live in the Lancaster area and devote considerable amount of time to the Circle Y Boys Ranch in Lancaster. Other ITPA clubs in California are similarly involved in helping youth organizations, the mentally retarded, blind and hard-of-hearing.

An employee with Gene Telephone for the past 15 years, Paul and his wife Alice, who also works for the utility, reside at 44503 Denmore Avenue, Lancaster.