

News from the Helotes Heritage Association

Dear Readers,

The TCEQ recently ruled on requests to grant a contested case hearing on the proposed wastewater facility for the Hills of Castle Rock development. If approved and constructed, the wastewater facility would discharge effluent into San Geronimo Creek in the contributing zone of the Edwards Aquifer. People that could be affected by this facility had requested the hearing. Following is a web posting by Jerry Needham that describes TCEQ's decision to order the hearing. July 22, 2008 is the date of the hearing.

Sincerely,
Ron Green, President
Helotes Heritage Association

Builder gets hearing on water controversy

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Express-News

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has ordered a contested case hearing on a developer's application to discharge treated sewage from a controversial proposed housing subdivision into Geronimo Creek in Medina County.

A preliminary hearing for BP Real Estate Investments Ltd.'s application to discharge up to 225,000 gallons of wastewater daily into the creek near Park Road 37 and Texas 16 has been set for July 22. The San Antonio Water System has refused to extend water service to the proposed 1,766-acre subdivision due to fears of overdevelopment in the environmentally sensitive area, and developers still are seeking a source of drinking water.

The commission's executive director indicated April 8 his intention to approve the application. The deadline was Thursday for requests for reconsideration. The developer, in an unusual move, asked on April 25 for the application to go to a contested hearing, apparently expecting it to do so anyway after four dozen requests from the public. That could knock an estimated three months off the process of arriving at a final decision on the application.