

Mary Malone

Replying to Ed Eby's post of 10/19/2012 10:37

Mr. Eby, you are wrong in your assumption of my identity. You are wrong when you say my water service is provided by Rural Water Company. I don't know "Harry," either. When you make such rash statements, not only does it undermine your credibility, it makes you sound a little paranoid. I don't know who ArXXXXle and Harry are, but she/he is having a good laugh at your expense right now.

I apologize to other readers for the length of this post, but I don't want Ed Eby to get away with his typical smoke-and-mirrors tactics. There is too much riding on this election.

Ed, you are not being honest about NCSD's devotion to its pet contractors and engineers, and about the stacking of the deck in the Supplemental Water Alternatives Evaluation Committee. You say in your post (#3 and #4):

"3. Boyle Engineering is a company that has not existed for a few years. They were bought by AECOM, and their pipeline design engineer no longer works there.
4. If the advisory committee is stacked, it was stacked by a selection committee chosen by Supervisor Teixeira and other mesa water companies, including your own, Rural Water Company. I don't think the selected experts would appreciate your attack of their character as rubber stampers, but you do it with cowardice behind your and Harry's pseudonyms."

While there may be a handful of contracting companies that have handled the Supplemental Water Project (SWP) and the Santa Maria water line project, there is one thing they all have in common: Engineer Mike Nunley, who is the engineer I believe you reference when you wrote "...their pipeline design engineer no longer works there." He may not still work THERE, but he still works for NCSD, doesn't he? And that's the point: NCSD has followed Michael K. Nunley from contracting company to contracting company.

A simple review of NCSD's records and other public records shows that at least as early as February 2003, Nunley worked for Boyle. Boyle was a regular provider of engineering services to NCSD from that point through when AECOM absorbed Boyle. Often he was the lead contracted engineer for very important (and \$\$\$expensive) projects.

At least as early as September 2006, Nunley was the Boyle engineer providing services to NCSD. From that point until AECOM absorbed Boyle (and Nunley), Nunley was a regular provider (through Boyle) of engineering services to NCSD.

On Feb. 11, 2009, AECOM published a press release, "AECOM Buys Boyle Engineering, NUNLEY Joins AECOM."

<http://pr.aecom.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=211994&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1106754&highlight=>

Whither Mike Nunley goes, so NCSD goes. Nunley didn't even miss a

beat in his engineering for NCS D when he went from Boyle to AECOM; he continued to be NCS D's go-to engineer for (at that point) the waterline project.

Nunley continued to provide engineering services to NCS D and, as of at least March 2011, Nunley was still presenting engineering information to NCS D under the AECOM banner. http://ncsd.ca.gov/Library/Board_Packet/2011/BP%2003-09-11/C1&C2.pdf

Then, at least by 8/8/2012, Nunley appears to be working for himself as "MICHAEL K. NUNLEY & ASSOCIATES" (AKA "MKN & ASSOCIATES" in NCS D's board records). Public records indicate his business address was the same as his home in AG. The NCS D Board Packet for 8/8/2012, indicates Mike Nunley (under the "MKN & ASSOCIATES" name) was contracting directly with NCS D.

http://ncsd.ca.gov/Library/Board_Packet/2012/BP%2008-08-12/E1-E3.pdf

The services he was/is providing: he was contracted to be the "SUPPLEMENTAL WATER ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION CHAIRPERSON."

Minutes for the 8/8/2012 board meeting indicate he was UNANIMOUSLY approved by the NCS D Board of Directors: Director Eby, Director Gaddis, Director Winn, Director Vierheilig, and President Harrison.

So, let's review. Boyle engineering contracted with NCS D starting at least by 2003. By 2006, Mike Nunley was, while working for Boyle, providing engineering services to NCS D. From that point until the present time, Mike Nunley has been (irrelevant of what company he was working for, or if he was just working for himself) providing engineering services to NCS D for the Supplemental Water Project (which evaluated different approaches to bringing supplemental water to Nipomo) AND, once NCS D decided on the Santa Maria water line project, the waterline project. (Nunley may have done other engineering tasks for NCS D, but the SWP and waterline project are the two big money-makers.)

Now you are so brazen as to come to a public message board and claim that it is NOT stacking the deck for NCS D to select Mike Nunley's company (the engineer who was FOR YEARS paid by NCS D for his engineering services to help NCS D CHOOSE the Santa Maria water line project, and then to BUILD the Santa Maria waterline project) to head the supposed independent the "SUPPLEMENTAL WATER ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION CHAIRPERSON"?

One of the biggest complaints I heard from Nipomo residents about the whole Supplemental Water Project and the waterline project, and certainly the assessment district measure they voted down, is that they did not want the Santa Maria water line project to be built. PERIOD.

Despite that, NCS D steadfastly forced the waterline project onto the Nipomo residents. The Nipomo residents finally, after NCS D had wasted so much money on out-of-town public relations hacks and The Wallace Group's services to form an assessment district, got the opportunity to vote down the measure.

Did that stop NCS D trying to force the waterline project on Nipomo residents? No, it did not. NCS D's general manager, despite a resounding and humiliating voters' statement on his own ability to lead NCS D, continued to

go right on talking to the media as if the only alternative for supplemental water was the water line project.

NCSD tried to make nice with the voters by forming the Supplemental Water Alternatives Evaluation Committee, which was supposed to bring “the people” in on the discussion of the best options for providing additional water to Nipomo in the future. And look at the special-interest gang that got appointed.

First, of course, there is Mike Nunley, the engineer NCSD like a little puppy from new company to new company; the engineer who helped NCSD choose the waterline project, and who then provided engineering services to design the waterline project.

You’ve already named the members of the committee, so I don’t have to say anything about them. These are not “the people.” They are people who have vested interests in bringing lots and lots of water to Nipomo, or in currying favor with NCSD and its board of directors.

So your blushing-virgin “what-ME?” comments about cronyism and stacking the deck of the Supplemental Water Alternatives Evaluation Committee prove to be nothing but smoke and mirrors. Unfortunately, “smoke and mirrors” is nothing new for you.

Finally, I’m curious. What finally convinced NCSD to protect the best interests of its customers (who have to pay for all of these \$\$\$millions in engineering services) and stop contracting with The Wallace Group? It wasn’t back when reports started coming in about his massive over-billing of the South County wastewater treatment plant. It wasn’t even after, thanks to Wallace’s poor administration of the plant, there was a massive raw sewage spill into the ocean, creeks, and spewing up residents toilets, into their homes, was it? The water board fined them over \$1million for that, which its rate payers are going to have to pay for. So when was it, Ed, when the NCSD board finally decided to serve its customers, and not its cronies like Wallace, first?

10/21/2012 02:21 AM 0 Like

Donald Scott

Kasho approved an 1100 unit development even though water was insufficient. He should be held to account for this. If the developers were allowed to build without sufficient water, they and Kasho should pay for any additional water required. Out of their own pockets. Period.

10/20/2012 06:21 PM 0 Like

Mary Malone

The Nipomo CSD board of directors has publicly admitted that it issues "intent-to-serve" letters (i.e., promise to install a water meter and deliver water) when they knew the Nipomo groundwater basin was at an SLO County Stage 3 level for shortage of a natural resource (in this case, water).

10/20/2012 11:50 PM in reply to Donald Scott 0 Like

Mary Malone

This quote is a small example of the much larger problem with the way Nipomo has been run by NCSD.

"Two candidates, Blair and Thompson, said they voted against the plan. During a candidate forum in Nipomo on Wednesday, Blair argued the district board is moving ahead with a pipeline project even though most residents said they didn't want it. " ' These people are running this place, going ahead full-steam like you didn't say anything," said Blair. "I don't think that's a way to run a business.' "

Mr. Blair is spot on in his assessment. Nipomo CSD's board of directors is set on the pipeline as the answer to the Nipomo Mesa's water issues. One of the first public comments made by Nipomo CSD's general manager, Michael LeBrun, was to indicate they were going back to the drawing board to find a different way to get the pipeline. The advisory committee is a joke. It is stacked with pro-pipeline members. They are just going through the motions. The outcome is already clear.

It is always difficult to decide on a candidate who does not yet have a track record at governing on a board of directors, but it is quite clear that Blair has listened and learned what the people of the Nipomo Mesa want, and believes that should guide the Nipomo CSD board of directors.

If there was ever an election in Nipomo's history where there was a choice between status-quo special interests and what the people believe is best for their community, the upcoming election is it.

If Nipomo Mesa voters vote for Nipomo incumbent candidates, they will continue to be ignored by the Nipomo CSD and its advisory committee.

If voters want more say-so in the major local decisions that will have to be decided in the future, voters need to think outside of the box and vote for non-incumbent candidates.

Read more here: <http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2...>

10/19/2012 07:15 PM 0 Like

Typoqueen 3

While being a LAFCO commissioner Ed Eby has proven that when it comes to water, he's the man.

Eby is very knowledgeable when it comes to the water issues faced by Nipomo. If Nipomoites were smart, they'd follow his lead when it comes to their water issues and they'd vote to re-elect him.

Ed's website is a simple to read and provides an education regarding water issues: edeby4ncsd.org

10/19/2012 07:27 AM

Mary Malone

Ed Eby is plenty savvy when it comes to Nipomo issues. With his background in engineering, he is plenty savvy, in general, when it comes to technical issues.

The question voters need to ask themselves is this: Will he represent the will of the people, or the will of the special interests? These special interests include long-term Nipomo CSD cronies, such as the Wallace Group, WSC and Boyle Engineering, who have played big roles in the development of the pipeline project.

Ed Eby has said that he was for the pipeline project, but now that they have the advisory committee, he will wait to see what they say before he makes a new decision.

The advisory committee is stacked with pipeline-friendly members, so only fool thinks that the advisory committee is going to do anything but rubber-stamp the Nipomo CSD's pipeline obsession.

Then Ed Eby will have an "independent" reason to rubber-stamp what the Nipomo CSD has already made quite clear will be the approach to providing water to Nipomo: the pipeline.

So then Eby will be able to say he was once for the pipeline, until he wasn't, but now he is for it again.

Does this sound like someone who is even remotely interested in representing the will of the Nipomo Mesa residents?

Nipomo is at a crossroads. The decision on what project will be used to bring water to Nipomo is an important one.

Ed Eby, a Nipomo CSD incumbent candidate, has already clearly shown, by years of support for the pipeline project, that he is solidly behind the pipeline project. Despite the fact that Nipomo Mesa residents have repeatedly demonstrated to the Board of Directors that they do not want pipeline project to be built, Ed Eby continued to use his power as board member to ensure that it would be built.

A vote for Ed Eby, and any incumbent until the pipeline option is discarded, is settled, will be a vote for the pipeline. Nipomo voters need to consider their options carefully in November. The future is riding on it.

A Like Reply 10/19/2012 07:29 PM in reply to Typoqueen 0 Like

EdEby 1 comment collapsed

Mary, or is it ArlXXXe,

Let me help you untwist your distortion of the facts:

1. The Wallace Group has not had and will not have any participation in any future pipeline. They provided assessment engineering services for the funding ballot process, nothing more. They are done.
2. WSC did the latest Urban Water Management Plan for the NCSD (and other agencies). They are done.
3. Boyle Engineering is a company that has not existed for a few years. They were bought by AECOM, and their pipeline design engineer no longer works there.
4. If the advisory committee is stacked, it was stacked by a selection committee chosen by Supervisor Teixeira and other mesa water companies, including your own, Rural Water Company. I don't think the selected experts would appreciate your attack of their character as rubber stampers, but you do it with cowardice behind your and Harry's pseudonyms.

5. I cannot assure that any pipeline will be built. First we will hear the alternatives evaluation from a new set of eyes of non-NCSD Nipomo Mesa experts. No action will be taken on any pipeline construction or any other imported water project until that committee makes their final report.

If people choose to vote for me (and I hope Craig Armstrong) they will end up with a very informed NCSD, most capable of continuing to provide a reliable, low-cost, clean water supply for NCSD customers.

Fortunately for NCSD customers you don't live here and can't vote in our election.

Visit my website at EdEby4NCSD.org

Ed Eby

10/19/2012 10:37 PM in reply to Mary Malone

Read more here: <http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2012/10/18/2267408/water-reigns-in-nipomo-election.html#storylink=rss#storylink=cpy>