

County Order:

Water Crisis 8-3-77

BC Rationing

1977
Residents of the Boulder Creek Country Club area are under a county-mandated water rationing program that allows only 85 gallons per day (gpd) per household, the County Environmental Health office reported this morning.

Following board of supervisors' action Tuesday, which gave authority to the county public health officer to mandate a rationing program, the health office said its rationing program would follow board recommendations that the 85 gpd limit per customer be set.

However, customers of the Big Basin Water Company, purveyors of the area, who can prove they have excessive hardship (such as a large family) can apply for extra water through the County Environmental Health office.

A late-morning action by the county board to implement a building permit ban in the Country Club Estates area was overturned later in the afternoon Tuesday after the board learned the ban could cost the company two water sources.

Bill Nugent, owner of Galleon Heights Properties which is building a housing development in the area, told the board that a ban which includes his development would cause him to re-cover ownership of the two wells on his property, which are now part of the Big Basin Water Co.

At this time, the two wells are providing about 27 per cent of the company's 40,000 gpd which it needs to serve its 340 customers.

Nugent said that according to his contract with the company, he could repurchase the wells for \$1 in the event of a building ban.

The rationing program is scheduled to be heard by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on Aug. 9, and at that time the PUC is expected to end county jurisdiction.

County jurisdiction was taken on the basis that the area must preserve sufficient water to fight fires, and Borovatz suggested that a reserve of 500,000 gallons should be maintained.

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