



Lawsuit settled; deadline nears for study requests

EVMWD will supply water for LEAPS; must pay Nevada Hydro \$2 million

A press release jointly issued Aug. 29 by the **Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District** and **The Nevada Hydro Company** quietly announced that a settlement had been reached in the **\$24 million lawsuit** the hydroelectric company filed in September 2012 against the water district.

The lawsuit claimed breach of contract by the water district when in 2011 the district terminated a 1997 agreement it had with Nevada Hydro for its **Lake Elsinore Advanced Pump Storage project (LEAPS)**.

The press release stated: *“After many years of litigation, the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD) and The Nevada Hydro Company (Nevada Hydro) have reached a settlement of litigation regarding a 1997 development agreement. ‘We have agreed to the settlement to protect EVMWD’s rate payers from the costs of ongoing litigation and to avoid exposure to millions in damages,’ said John D. Vega, general manager for EVMWD. The San Diego County Superior Court has entered a consent judgment approving the settlement agreement.”*

What the press release didn’t say:

- Basically, EVMWD will sell to Nevada Hydro and purchase if necessary the “initial fill” of 15,000 acre-feet of water for the LEAPS project and charge Nevada Hydro a 10 percent administrative fee based on its cost to purchase the water. EVMWD will purchase additional water as needed and sell it to Nevada Hydro.
- The water district will return to Nevada Hydro **\$154,852**, the amount that Nevada Hydro claims was erroneously refunded to EVMWD by the **U.S. Forest Service**.
- EVMWD must within 30 days of the settlement pay Nevada Hydro **\$2 million** in additional monetary compensation for dismissal of the lawsuit.
- The water district is expressly forbidden to oppose Nevada Hydro and/or the LEAPS project and must withdraw any opposition issued in the past and to the **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)**.

Read the consent judgment and settlement agreement:

[COURT DOCUMENT 1](#)
[COURT DOCUMENT 2](#)

NEVADA HYDRO RESPONSE FOR ADDITIONAL STUDIES DUE SEPT. 13



FIRE THEN FLOODS?: This incredible photo shot by **MARTIN LANGE** from Spanish Hills on the east side of the freeway shows the Holy fire raging in the mountains above Sycamore Creek homes. Will those same homes face the threat of floods and mudslides with the onset of winter rains? Riverside County and other agencies are assessing the possibility now.

Disaster Safe Council for Temescal Valley is a ‘GO!’

About 40 people turned out Aug. 30 to learn about the formation of a “**Fire Safe**” or “**Disaster Safe**” Council for Temescal Valley, and by the end of the meeting, all agreed there was a need and they would support the council’s creation.

Agencies represented included **Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District (RCRCD)**, **Sycamore Creek Interpretive Center**, **California Department of Fish and Wildlife**, **Natural Resources Conservation Service**, **U.S. Forest Service**, **Cal Fire** and **Supervisor Kevin Jeffries First District office**.

With the **Holy fire** at that time having burned about 23,136 acres and being 93 percent contained, forest officials said full containment was projected for Sept. 3. Since then, the possible containment date was moved to Sept. 10.

With the fire not actively burning in the area, except for occasional hot spots and small flareups that are to be expected for weeks, the meeting discussion turned to rehabilitation and reforestation of the valley’s charred mountains, and the preparation for possible flooding and mudslides with the advent of the rainy season.

Teams have been assessing fire damage to the hillsides – U.S. Forest Service’s **Burn Area Emergency Response (BAER)**, and Cal Fire’s **Watershed Emergency Response Team (WERT)**. Work on the BAER and WERT reports began while the fire still burned and should be completed soon. Rehabilitation efforts in

LEAPS STUDIES ...

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In June, FERC determined that 12 requests for additional studies for the LEAPS project from the 34 submitted held merit and that further evaluation was necessary. FERC gave Nevada Hydro a deadline of **Sept. 13** to submit the additional studies.

Three of the 12 studies have direct impact on **Temescal Valley**: Study 30 – Visual Simulations, Study 33 – Cultural Resources and Study 34 – Alternative Northern Transmission Alignments.

In Study 34, the report found that the alignment of the northern lines running east from the mountains and across Temescal Valley needs more study because of the area's development in the past 10 years.

Nevada Hydro was told the study should be done in consultation with area residential communities, including **Sycamore Creek**, **Terramor** and the not-yet-approved **Lakeside** community.

In August, Nevada Hydro emailed Sycamore Creek, Terramor and possibly Lakeside (not confirmed), outlining its reasoning for choosing the alignment it did. The 500kV transmission lines would run from the mountains above **Lake Elsinore** in an easterly direction and cross Temescal Valley between Sycamore Creek and **Glen Eden**. The lines would cross the freeway to a switchyard to be constructed at **Lee Lake** and then continue northeasterly to connect to Edison's Valley-Serrano lines.

Nevada Hydro explained two other alignment possibilities. Alternative 1 would keep the lines in the **Cleveland National Forest** where they would join the Valley-Serrano lines on the west side of the freeway instead of the east side. Nevada Hydro said this alternative was too costly.

Alternative 2 would have the lines descending from the mountains but crossing **Alberhill Ranch** and the **Pacific Clay** property and run adjacent to the southeastern border of **Horsethief Canyon Ranch**. The lines could connect to a switchyard built on the Edison property at Concordia Ranch and Temescal Canyon roads and continue northeast to connect to the Valley-Serrano lines above Lee Lake. Nevada Hydro said Pacific Clay had objected to the lines running across its property, plus the transmission towers would be close to Horsethief.

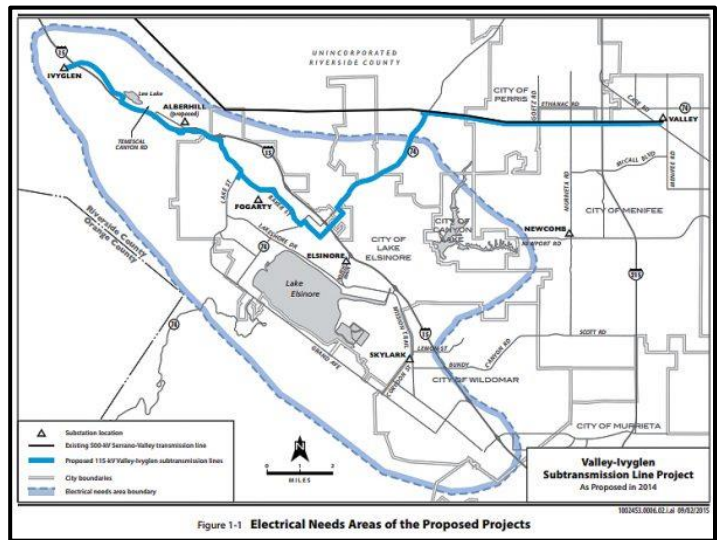
In deference to Sycamore Creek protests that the lines were too close to that community, Nevada Hydro said it would change the route to the south side of Glen Eden which would place the lines farther away from Sycamore Creek, but closer to Glen Eden.

In its email, Nevada Hydro asked the recipients to submit comments on the alignment by **Sept. 6**. Comments from the Sycamore Creek attorney stated the community's preferred alignment would be Alternative 1 – to keep the lines in the forest and on the west side of the freeway.

Although not consulted by Nevada Hydro, Glen Eden submitted comments also favoring Alternative 1.

Read the documents:

[Study 34 – Alternative Northerly Alignments](#)
[Sycamore Creek response](#)
[Glen Eden response](#)
[Read more about the LEAPS project](#)



VALLEY-IVYGLEN PROJECT: The dark blue line depicts the route of the powerlines. It starts at the Valley substation in Menifee, runs through Perris and Lake Elsinore, and continues into Temescal Valley, ending at the IvyGlen substation on Temescal Canyon Road. The lighter blue outline depicts the area to be serviced.

CPUC OKs SCE's Valley-IvyGlen line; denies Alberhill substation

After five postponements dating back to May, the **California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)**, on Aug. 23 approved **Southern California Edison's** 115-kV Valley-IvyGlen subtransmission lines but denied the utility's Alberhill substation proposal.

The decision followed closely the recommendation of **Hallie Yacknin**, CPUC administrative law judge, who after reviewing the final environmental impact report for the two projects, issued a proposed decision to approve the Valley-IvyGlen lines and to deny the Alberhill substation.

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A BICENTENNIAL MOMENT ...



The Butterfield Overland Mail stagecoaches, from 1858 to 1861, rushed through Temescal Valley carrying passengers and U.S. mail between St. Louis, Missouri, and San Francisco. There were 139 relay stations to change horses along the 2,812-mile route. The Temescal Station was located four miles north of Glen Ivy where Dos Lagos is today. The stagecoaches traveled through the valley along the route of the Southern Emigrant Trail, used by the Luiseno and Juaneno tribes whose villages were nearby, by clergy and soldiers traveling between the missions and later by gold seekers and pioneers heading west to begin new lives. The trail ran the length of what is known today as Temescal Canyon Road. Learn more historic facts on our bicentennial page: WeAreTV.org/Bicentennial/ and join us at 9 a.m., **Saturday, Sept. 15** for our next committee meeting in the Temescal Room at the Trilogy Lodge, 24503 Trilogy Parkway.

POWERLINES ...

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Yacknin, in the 104-page decision released in April, ruled the need for the Valley-IvyGlen lines as a backup power source outweighed the environmental impacts on noise and air quality the project will have during construction, as well as “its significant and unavoidable cumulative impacts on air quality and biological resources.”

Yacknin’s decision for the Alberhill project was based on her belief that SCE had overstated the need for the substation based on the utility’s forecast of increased electric demand in the area. Yacknin reasoned that because it was unlikely the **\$464 million project** will be needed, “at all or in any case by 2021, we do not find overriding considerations that merit approval.” The cost of the project would have been passed onto ratepayers.

In rendering the final decision, the CPUC ordered SCE to provide new evidence indicating a need for the substation based on more reliable projections of electrical demand.

Edison has spent 11 years working on the two projects – both located in **Temescal Valley**.

Valley-IvyGlen calls for 27 miles of single-circuit 115-kV subtransmission lines to run from the Valley substation in **Menifee**, through **Perris** and **Lake Elsinore**, and continue into Temescal Valley, running north along De Palma Road adjacent to **Horsethief Canyon Ranch** and **Glen Eden Sun Club**.

The above-ground lines will cross to the east side of the 1-15 north of Glen Eden and continue along Temescal Canyon Road. They will be placed underground at about Indian Truck Trail, where they will continue to the IvyGlen substation on Temescal Canyon Road near Maitri Road. Temescal Valley residents opposing the project wanted all the lines underground.

The 34-acre Alberhill substation would have been constructed on 124 acres of land owned by Edison at the corner of Temescal Canyon and Concordia Ranch roads east of the 1-15 and across the freeway from the 1,900-home Horsethief Canyon Ranch neighborhood.

SAVE THE DATE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2018 4 - 8 P.M.
THE TERRACE CLUB, TERRAMOR

TEMESCAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION
and
WE ARE TEMESCAL VALLEY
BUSINESS COMMITTEE
Present
LOCAL BUSINESS EXPO

Promote your products and services
Meet with other Temescal Valley Merchants
Offer Coupons and discounts

SAVE THE DATE: Bicentennial Business Expo – Tuesday, Oct. 16, 4 to 8 p.m. at The Terrace Club in Terramor. The We Are Temescal Valley Business Committee is encouraging all residents to “Shop Local” this holiday season. More info coming soon or contact Chairman **DAN SMITH** -- drs090651@aol.com

Thank you, Glen Ivy!



ENCHANTED EVENING: It was a wonderful party to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Temescal Valley and the 158th anniversary of Glen Ivy Hot Springs. Thank you to **CLIVE McNISH** (center) and staff for a special evening that raised more than \$2,000 for the Temescal Heritage Foundation.

Thank you, firefighters!

Glen Ivy Hot Springs is extending a very special invitation to all firefighters in appreciation of their heroic efforts in battling the Holy fire.

Firefighters are invited **after 4 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 27** to use any of the resorts 19 pools or dance to popular hits with **DJ Chris**. Firefighters receive free admission and a raffle ticket for drawings throughout the evening. ID must be presented.

Glen Ivy says, “This is our thank you for all the firefighters have done to protect Glen Ivy and Temescal Valley.”



SAVING GLEN IVY: This Cal Fire crew, with other first responders, saved resort structures from devastation as the Holy fire burned in the hills behind the historical landmark.

DISASTER SAFE COUNCIL ...

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the burned areas cannot begin without the assessments and reports on how the fire has impacted the probability of debris flow within the canyon's drainages. All reports will be released to the public as soon as they are available.

Here's what's been done and should be done now:

- The BAER team has rehabilitated newly cut fire lines for erosion control.
- Residents and homeowner's associations need to know where culverts and basins are located on their property and remove weeds and debris immediately. Check community site plans and/or specific plans for locations.
- Debris-laden flood control channels and clogged storm drains in county streets should be reported to the county **Flood Control and Water Conservation District -- 951-955-1200** or online: <http://rcflood.org/MaintenanceRequestForm.aspx>
- RCRCDC owns and manages about 1,300 acres of multi-species conservation habitat in Temescal Valley. If your home or HOA is in an area adjacent to riparian habitat, the habitat may have to be offset. Contact either **Shelli Lamb -- lamb@rcrcd.org** or **Erika Presley -- presley@rcrcd.org**, for assistance.
- When it's time to plant, the Sycamore Creek Interpretive Center has literature available on preparing for fire and planting after fire. The California Native Plant Society has a Fire Recovery Guide available online: <https://www.cnps.org/give/priority-initiatives/fire-recovery>
- The Natural Resources Conservation Service will seek federal funds to help with protective measures against flooding. The agency also can provide technical assistance for private homeowners, HOAs and businesses. Contact **Robert Hewitt -- robert.hewitt@ca.usd.gov**.
- While the threat of fire in Temescal Valley has been lessened by the massive Holy fire burn, through the years the valley has experienced many wildfires – usually on the east of the freeway. Be prepared with Cal fire's Ready, Set, Go! Information available online: <http://www.readyforwildfire.org/Prepare-For-Wildfire/>
- No – the burned area cannot be hydroseeded. Temescal Valley slopes are at least 50 percent grade – the seeds just tumble down.
- No – do not take it upon yourself to purchase and plant trees or other vegetation on U.S. Forest, conservation or RCRCDC wildland property adjacent to your home. Wait to be told what to do and when to do it.

Jeff Greene, chief of staff for Supervisor Jeffries, said the county has begun meetings to make possible flooding top priority for Temescal Valley, Lake Elsinore and Idyllwild, which already has had a flood scare with a recent thunderstorm.

He said the county team includes **Flood Control, Fire, Sheriff, Emergency Management Department, Transportation** and others within the county involved with flooding and mudslide issues.



LIFE GROWS FROM ASHES: Only one month after the fire, **JUANITA GUFFEY GRAY** shared with us this photo of baby sycamore trees growing on her property.

The county is looking at canyons, not communities and will create mapping grids down to the block and street based on the BAER and WERT assessments and other reports.

“Some areas may have to be evacuated during each rain for the next three years,” Greene said. “We’ve learned from Santa Barbara – a 72-hour warning, a 48-hour warning to remove disabled people and large animals, 24 hours – evacuation issued and 12 hours -- everyone out! Sadly, folks will get tired and start to ignore the warnings.”

He said the county is planning a series of meetings to educate residents to make the process easier. The Emergency Management Department will be sending staff to each HOA meeting.

Among those attending the meeting were **Municipal Advisory Council** members **Jerry Sincich, Bob Hafner, Glen Nelson, Lee Wilson and Kelli Noss**. Businesses represented were **Werner Corp.** and **Glen Ivy Hot Springs**, and a representative for a yet-to-be-approved housing development next to forest land. **Temescal Valley Water District** also was represented.

It was noted if the Disaster Safe Council is to achieve its goals, every community and HOA within Temescal Valley must be involved. Non-HOA neighborhoods in attendance were **Dawson Canyon, Spanish Hills** and the **Weirick Road** neighborhood. Public Safety chairmen from four communities attended the meeting.

The following HOAs sent a board member to the meeting: **Butterfield Estates, California Meadows, Glen Eden Sun Club, Glen Ivy RV Park, Horsethief Canyon Ranch, Montecito Ranch, Painted Hills, The Retreat and Sycamore Creek**.

If your HOA board was not represented at the meeting, contact your management company to let them know the next meeting will be at **6:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 27** at the **Trilogy Lodge**, 24503 Trilogy Parkway. The meeting is open to the public.

CALENDAR

EVENTS

- **Communitywide Garage Sales:** Throughout Sycamore Creek, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Painted Hills, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., **Saturday, Sept. 15.**
- **Sycamore Creek Interpretive Center:** A hands-on learning experience where all ages can study the local ecology and natural history of Temescal Valley through exhibits, displays, activities and touch tables. The center is open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., **Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays**, 11875 Indian Truck Trail. 951-277-- 0219 or scic@rcrcd.org. **FREE!**
- **100 Mile Club:** Log your miles -- for all kids from all schools, 8 to 9 a.m., **Sundays**, Deleo Park. No drop-offs, a parent must accompany runners.
- **El Cerrito County Library:** 7581 Rudell Road, behind El Cerrito Middle School. Many fun activities for the kids! 951-270-5012 or check out the September activities on Facebook.
- **County Bookmobile:** 9 to noon, **every Monday** and 2 to 4 p.m. **every Tuesday**, Deleo Regional Sports Park, 25655 Santiago Canyon Road.
- **Tom's Farms:** **FREE!** Every weekend -- **Craft Faire**, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; **Magic Show**, noon and 2 p.m.; **live music**, 12:30 to 5 p.m.

TEMESCAL VALLEY MEETINGS

- **Temescal Heritage Foundation Bicentennial Committee:** 9 a.m., **Saturday, Sept. 15**, Temescal Room, Trilogy Lodge, 24503 Trilogy Parkway.
- **We Are Temescal Valley Development Committee:** 6 p.m., **Wednesday, Sept. 19**, Trilogy Blue Water Sports Club, 24491 Trilogy Parkway.
- **We Are Temescal Valley Education Committee:** 6:30 p.m., **Thursday, Sept. 20**, Senor Tom's restaurant.
- **Temescal Valley Water District Board Meeting:** 8:30 a.m., **Tuesday, Sept. 25**, 22646 Temescal Canyon Road.
- **Temescal Valley Disaster Safe Council:** 6:30 p.m., **Thursday, Sept. 27**, Trilogy Lodge, 24503 Trilogy Parkway.
- **We Are Temescal Valley Identity and Beautification Committees:** 6 and 7 p.m., respectively, **Thursday, Oct. 4**, Senor Tom's restaurant.
- **We Are Temescal Valley citizens' group:** 8:30 a.m., **Saturday, Oct. 6**, Trilogy Lake Center, 24477 Trilogy Parkway. This meeting is open to the public -- find out what's happening in Temescal Valley!
- **Temescal Valley Municipal Advisory Council Meeting:** 6 p.m., **Wednesday, Oct. 10**, Trilogy Lodge, 24503 Trilogy Parkway.

MEETINGS THAT AFFECT US

- **Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board Meeting:** 4 p.m., **Thursday, Sept. 13 and 27**, 31315 Chaney St., Lake Elsinore.
- **Riverside County Board of Supervisors:** 9 a.m., **Tuesday, Sept. 18, 25 and Oct. 2**, Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon St., Riverside.
- **Riverside County Planning Commission:** 9 a.m., **Wednesday, Sept. 19 and Oct. 3**, Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon St., Riverside.
- **Corona-Norco Unified School District:** Business meeting, 7 p.m., **Tuesday, Oct. 2**, 2820 Clark Ave., Norco.
- **Lake Elsinore Unified School District:** 6 p.m., **Thursday, Oct. 11**, 545 Chaney St., Lake Elsinore.



AUGUST PHOTO WINNERS

The theme was "Public Safety Heroes." With almost 40 photos entered, a decision was made to divide the entries into two categories – Air Photos and Ground Photos. Congratulations to **SHAWN HIEGEL** of Horsethief Canyon Ranch for her photo (above) "Flying Heroes of Hope." Congratulations, too, to **NIKKI HAYES** of Montecito Ranch for her photo (below) of youngsters offering a "thank you" at ground level which could be viewed by first responder air resources.

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS! The theme for September's contest is "Anything Starting with the Letter M." It's easy to enter. Photos must be shot in Temescal Valley by Temescal Valley residents – limit five photos per photographer. Tell us who you are and in which Temescal Valley community you reside, and give your entries a title. Shots are due by Sunday, Sept. 30. Email the photos and requested info to:

tvfairephotos@gmail.com

