

GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS at Lost Pines GCD January 17, 2018m Board Meeting.

1. Sign up prior to the meeting to make public comments. You will be able to make a 3 minute comment.
2. Limit your comments to the issue of whether or not you want the Lost Pines District to appeal the court's decision to the state court of appeals. Short and specific comments are all that are needed.
 - State your name and how many acres of land you own in Bastrop or Lee counties.
 - State specifically that you are requesting that the District NOT APPEAL the Judge's ruling (or the opposite if you want the decision appealed).
 - Briefly state your reason(s) -- in your own words -- for making the request.
 - AVOID talking directly about what the District should do with End Op's/Recharge's permit, and
 - AVOID commenting whether or not the District should hold a hearing on the permit.

SEE: NOTE ON PUBLIC COMMENTS on the last page of the Lost Pines GCD January 17, 2018 Agenda which states the following:

"Note on Public Comments: The Board will receive comments from the public on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District, with the exception of pending permitting matters or other contested cases which are subject to a prohibition on ex parte communications. The Board will not take action on public comments, but may request that matters discussed during public comment be placed on a future agenda for consideration and action."

OUR GUIDANCE

We believe people can advocate all they want to about whether the District should appeal the trial court ruling, but then it gets complicated by legal rules. We believe all of us should 1) avoid talking directly about what the District should do with End Op's/Recharge's permit, and 2) avoid commenting that the District should hold a hearing on the permit. That is a fine line, but it should keep public comments within the guidelines provided by the District. Essentially, we need to avoid telling the District to take any action when it would mean they are making a decision that controls the outcome -- to tell them not to appeal simply tells them to acknowledge Judge Campbell is the decision maker on whether the landowners should be able to participate in a permit decision.