

Letter to the Editor, The Cambrian—October 21, 2010

Desal not for fires

Cambria needs fresh thinking on the Cambria Community Services District Board of Directors and Valerie Bentz will provide that. A major reason put forward by our current CCSD Board is that we need a desalination plant to provide water to fight fires. They also say in order to make this work, we need increased storage capacity, i.e., tanks and maybe ponds. What we really need are the tanks and ponds to STORE water, and we can do without the extremely costly and environmentally unfriendly de-sal facility.

Desal cannot directly help in fighting fire because (a) the production is too slow and (b) it is the most expensive water on earth, other than water in plastic bottles. (Think of fighting a fire with them.) Tanks and ponds for fighting fire or home use can be filled with (a) winter run-off or (b) secondarily treated waste water stored in tanks can be used specifically for fire and/or garden use. This is legal in California!

Currently we use a large percent of our prime potable water outside our homes. Compare your winter and summer water bills. The increase in summer is mostly garden use, a perfect place for treated water. Valerie Bentz cares about Cambrians and the specialness of our town. Please vote for Valerie to keep it that way.

Steve Figler
Cambria