

From: Jon Haukaas <JHaukaas@blainemn.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2022 12:35 PM

To: CityCouncil <CityCouncil@blainemn.gov>

Cc: Nick Fleischhacker <nfleischhacker@blainemn.gov>; Stefan Higgins <shiggins@blainemn.gov>; Daniel Schluender <DSchluender@blainemn.gov>; George Linnngren <glinngre@blainemn.gov>; Christopher Nelson <cnelson@eckbergglammers.com>

Subject: Council Update - Well Interference

Mayor and City Council

The City has activated its four new wells associated with Water Treatment Plant 4. This does create a drawdown in the aquifer that will have a zone of influence. When we began the process of well development, Barr Engineering completed a Well Interference Study as required by the DNR. This study shows how far the well drawdown could potentially be – both distance away and depth of impact. (see attached map) The City of Blaine is responsible to pay for direct impacts that result from bringing our wells on line. A letter is being sent out to all well owners within the potential drawdown area to contact us if they have issues with their well. (Attached)

We have had immediate impact to several nearby wells. The City paid for a well contractor to lower the well pump so these properties can continue to draw water.

Word got out through the Well Contractors to others as far away as Ham Lake and we have begun receiving a lot of calls as a result. Several of the calls from the Ham Lake area show impacts much greater than could be caused by our new wells. We suspect some of these are properties adjacent to high capacity wells such as those that are serving sod farms. We are referring them to the DNR to go through a Well Impact Resolution process. The DNR representative is aware and agrees this is the right to handle these

complaints. https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt_section/appropriations/interference.html

The City of Ham Lake has posted a Notice about this on their webpage. It describes the potential for impact, the DNR Resolution process, and contact information here at the City if they are having problems.

<https://www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us/articles/blaine-well-pumping-may-impact-private-wells-ham-lake>

Staff is responding to every complaint and working with the well owners to work with us or go through the resolution process as appropriate.

We wanted to let you know about this in case you are contacted directly. Refer residents back through the appropriate staff or the DNR to make sure each case is handled properly.

Please let us know if you have additional questions.

Thanks



Jon Haukaas, PE

Director of Public Works

City of Blaine

Public Works Department

1801 101ST Ave NE, Blaine MN 55449

p: 763-785-6167 m: 763-760-8015

BlaineMN.gov