

Reservoir decision near

BIG GOALS

Clean water source, recreation are goals of parish reservoir

LONG PROCESS

Development of potable reservoir is complex, decade-long process

THE SITE

Choosing a viable site here, if one exists, is up to engineers

Commission to meet next month for engineer's report

BY ELEANOR EVANS
THE DAILY NEWS

BOGALUSA – For residents concerned with the potential construction of a reservoir in Washington Parish, the wait will be over in one week.

The Washington Parish

Reservoir Commission announced that it will meet Jan. 5 to receive and act upon an engineering recommendation from Denmon Engineering, who is scheduled to determine if – and when – a reservoir could be constructed in the parish.

When the commission last met in

The reservoir has been touted by developers as a recreational facility that could provide an economic boom for the area, as well as a means to provide safe, potable drinking water to the area for generations ahead.

Residents in Allen Parish

June, Denmon presented three remaining sites as possibilities for the location of a reservoir.

Site one is located between LA Highway 10 and LA Hwy. 436, east of Franklinton and west of Pine.

Site two is located south of La. Highway 10 between Franklinton and Bogalusa, extending north to touch the south side of Sheridan.

Site three is located on the eastern side of the parish, in the Varnado/Angie area north of La. Hwy. 436 and west of La. Hwy. 21.

The third proposed site has brought some concern among a group of property owners in the

area, who have formed Save the Pushepatapa in an effort to prevent any development in their area of the state.

“I think it’s wrong to flood out and take people’s property and sell it to those who can sell luxurious homes,” Save the Pushepatapa spokesperson Hayward Boone said. “We’re flooding the poor out, and I think it’s wrong to flood out churches, cemeteries and Indian burial grounds...there’s a lot of history behind that creek when the Indians ran the place.”

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decision will come soon

were also concerned with reservoir development until October, when Denmon gave a site recommendation to the Allen Parish Reservoir Commission. Boone, who has been in contact with resident groups in Allen Parish, said the rec-

ommended site was one “everyone could agree upon.”

The meeting will be held Jan. 5 at 4:30 p.m. at the Washington Economic Development Foundation building, located at 526 Georgia Ave., Bogalusa.