

The Vista Ridge Project, if completed, will transport 16 billion gallons/year of Simsboro and Carizo groundwater to San Antonio – for as long as the water marketer and San Antonio (the contract calls for San Antonio to take over the wells in 2050) are able to pump the groundwater from 2,000-foot deep wells located 19 miles west of Caldwell.

groundwater leases were solicited and signed under questionable circumstances. One common complaint mentioned at the meeting was that the people trying to induce landowners to sign a lease agreement would use the covert threat that even if the landowner did not sign, the water marketers would still take their groundwater because all of their neighbors had signed leases

validated them. The groundwater district should hire a third party to confirm the legitimacy of the groundwater leases, he said.

Hovorak asked: “How is San Antonio going to put faith in the Vista Ridge Project when the groundwater district doesn’t even know if the groundwater leases are valid?”

One landowner wondered

Mike Sutherland and the groundwater district’s general manager, Gary Westbrook, had a meeting with him to express their concerns about an outside organization (namely the League of Independent Voters) coming into Burleson County to share information about the Vista Ridge Project and other groundwater management issues.