

**April 16, 2009**

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## **Preparations under way for exploratory deep well drilling at Central County Water Reclamation Facility**

An approximately 70-foot-high drilling tower – not a cell phone tower – has been erected at the Central County Water Reclamation Facility in preparation for drilling a new Class V deep exploratory well that will provide nearly quadruple the capacity for effluent disposal in the north and central sections of the county. The well will be located at the reclamation facility off McIntosh Road in the Palmer Ranch area.

The Sarasota County Commission last week awarded the \$1.9 million contract for the Phase 1 well project to Youngquist Brothers Inc. of Fort Myers, Fla.

Although the drilling hasn't begun yet, the county's Call Center is already fielding calls from residents who mistakenly believe that the drilling tower is a cell phone tower, according to county project manager Rodney Jones. He assures residents and users of The Legacy Trail, which runs alongside the tower, that the drilling tower is temporary and will be taken down when the deep exploratory well is completed. The drilling is scheduled to begin April 27, with project completion within nine months. Although the drilling is expected to be under way 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the drill apparatus is electric so the noise level will be kept to a minimum, Jones said.

For more information about the well project, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000, or visit the county's Web site, [www.scgov.net](http://www.scgov.net).

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