**Brine Waste**

It has come to my attention that the county has embarked on a plan to work with other counties to assess a fee for barrels of brine injected into wells in excess of the 500,000 barrels that are assessed by the state. My understanding is that some of the money is to be set aside for spill clean-up and I commend the county for taking this action to protect its’ citizens.

While I am encouraged that adding fees for brine waste disposal may discourage companies from bringing their waste to our counties, I do not feel that the current disposal price is enough to slow them down much and would like to see the price raised. Furthermore, I feel that **all** the funds collected by the county should go to well monitoring and to a clean-up fund so that there is no incentive for the county to encourage brine disposal.

It must be recognized that the environmental risks of brine disposal are a threat to the citizens of our county and our neighboring counties, that no amount of money can abate.