



Consideration of New or Replacement Well Review Process Required by Governor's Executive Order

SCV GSA Board Meeting
July 27, 2023
Item No. 3.1

Overview

- Today's item is a follow up to the June 5, 2023, SCV-GSA Board meeting's Item 3.2
- Today's Item 3.1 contains numerous updates that reflect the June 5, 2023, discussion.
 - Board letter describes how the documents were updated.
 - Attachment 4 contains detailed listing of comments and responses.
- Quick Review of process next

Proposed Production Well Review Process

1. Applicant fills out and submits the “New or Replacement Groundwater Production Well Form”
2. SCV GSA staff fill out the “SCV-GSA Determination” form.
 - Well is exempt from further review, or a hydrogeologic report is required.*
3. If a hydrogeologic report is required, SCV-GSA reviews reports, recommends that a well be considered consistent or not consistent with the GSP
 - The Board memo with the recommendation will be considered by your board and it will make the final finding.

*Appeal to staff decision process added.

Updates Include

- Clarified County role in performing 4.b. analysis (well inference and subsidence)
- In addition to Landowner, a Well Owner option is added
- Requirements of additional detail regarding well design
- More clarity regarding additional review time will be requested if needed, and review of submittals may be stopped if landowner/well owner do not provide sufficient information
- Unused funds returned, additional funds may be requested
- Appeal process included

Updates Include

- Additional details added to Attachment 1
Acknowledgement Form
 - Landowner compliance with GSA conditions and the GSA retaining statutory authorities
 - Certification that extraction will not exceed proposed values, unless otherwise approved by GSA
 - GSA inspection to verify well is consistent with proposed
 - For replacement wells, legal destruction of replaced well(s) is required
 - Additional monitoring may be required by GSA
 - Clarified dates for semi-annual reporting
 - Annual reporting for water quality

Subsidence and Well Interference

- The Executive Order 4.b. requires the County first determine that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.
- Ventura County has a process to make this determination on its own, or in conjunction with GSAs.
- We are in contact with Los Angeles County to coordinate and support its 4.b. review.
- Hydrogeologic report requirements will help support the County determination

Conclusions

- Worked to incorporate all feedback from June 5, 2023
- We will continue to work with Los Angeles County and Ventura County to support their determination of the 4.b condition.
- With experience in reviewing potential new wells more will be learned about how to make this process better and we will recommend improvements along the way to your Board.

Recommendation

That the SCV-GSA Board of Directors adopt the approach in this Board memo and its attachments to review potential wells so that the SCV-GSA can adhere to the Governor's Executive Order N-3-23.