

# Hydrogeologic Report Requirements and Review Procedures Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency

(July 27, 2023)

## Report Requirements

1. Landowner shall prepare and submit a hydrogeologic report to the GSA, signed by a California Certified Hydrogeologist with relevant work experience in Santa Clara River Valley Groundwater Basin, East Subbasin (DWR Basin No. 4-4.07) or similar basins, that includes, at a minimum, the following:
  2. Discussion of Certified Hydrogeologist's experience in preparation of hydrogeologic reports in the Santa Clara River Valley Groundwater Basin, East Subbasin (DWR Basin No. 4-4.07) or similar basins.
  3. Discussion of Certified Hydrogeologist's understanding of the Sustainable Management Criteria in the SCV-GSA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
  4. Discussion of the proposed well construction and well use that includes all details, or clearly identified updates, from the Landowner's previously submitted New or Replacement Groundwater Production Well form including but not limited to:
    - a. If the proposed well is a new well, or is a well replacing one or more wells, and the proposed well's intended use (agricultural, domestic, etc.)
    - b. Well site Information
    - c. Well construction and well operation information
    - d. Well driller information.
    - e. Other considerations identified by the Hydrogeologist or Landowner, e.g. known or potential issues regarding water quality, water levels, other nearby wells, etc.
5. A summary of all existing groundwater production wells (locations, age, depths, use type, etc.) on the proposed well's property, including:
6. Measured or estimated historical production volumes from any existing wells. Historical production is defined as the time period from initial well operation to January 1, 2015.
7. Measured or estimated current production volumes from the existing wells. Current production is defined as the time period from January 1, 2015, to time of application.
8. Measured historical groundwater depths below ground surface for existing wells (from the time the well was constructed until January 1, 2015) and current (from January 1, 2015, through the time of the application).
9. Flowmeter information – meter type, measurement precision, calibration history
10. Proximity to nearest known groundwater contamination site(s) and documentation of contaminants of concern for each site
11. Proximity to nearest groundwater dependent ecosystem, or potential groundwater dependent ecosystem in the GSP

12. Proximity of the proposed well to disadvantaged communities in the Santa Clara River Valley Groundwater Basin, East Subbasin (DWR Basin No. 4-4.07)  
(<https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#boundaries>)
13. Description of Landowner's understanding of SCV-GSA requirements for the well's flowmeter installation and calibration, extraction reporting, and water quality analysis and reporting.
14. Well operation and maintenance plan including:
  - a. Plan to inform the GSA of transfer of ownership of the well and contact information for the new owner
  - b. Estimated length of service of the proposed well
  - c. Plan for destroying the well at the end of service
15. The report on hydrogeology shall include any initial findings or recommendations by the hydrogeologist regarding anticipated effects of the well upon:
  1. Sustainable Management Criteria identified in the Groundwater Sustainability plan, and/or requirements in Executive Order N-3-23 including but not necessarily limited to:
    - a. Well interference with existing groundwater production wells
    - b. Groundwater extraction related subsidence
    - c. Disadvantaged communities
    - d. Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems and GDE Triggers.
    - e. Minimum thresholds for groundwater elevations, and
    - f. Measurable objectives as specified in the GSP
    - g. The potential impact on migration or remediation of a known area of groundwater contamination
    - h. Whether the proposed production is likely to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the sustainable yield of the Subbasin
16. Additional items may be required, as necessary, to ensure compliance with the SCV-GSA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan and/or the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.
17. If insufficient information is provided and the landowner is not responsive to requests for clarification, the SCV-GSA reserves the right to reject further review of materials.

## Review Procedures

1. The Landowner shall place funds on deposit with SCV Water so that its staff and or consultant team can be reimbursed for the state-required consistency determination. Estimated costs for the consistency determination were determined based on proposed groundwater production volumes. These costs are based on the estimated time required to evaluate an individual well. The estimated costs will be updated annually. Unused funds will be returned to the landowner. If additional fees are required of the landowner, the landowner will be notified in writing and after additional fees are provided, the review will continue.
  - a. Wells expected to produce between 2 AFY and < 50 AFY - \$10,000
  - b. Wells expected to produce between 50 AFY and < 100 AFY - \$15,000
  - c. Wells expected to produce between 100 and < 500 AFY - \$30,000
  - d. Wells expected to produce 500 or more AFY - \$50,000
2. The hydrogeologic report received by the GSA will be reviewed by GSA staff and/or a consultant contracted by the GSA within 30 business days of receiving a complete report and payment for the evaluation. If during the review process the SCV-GSA determines the hydrogeologic report is deficient, or clarification is needed then the SCV GSA will seek additional information from the Landowner and re start the review after information is provided.
3. The review will include an evaluation of the proposed well's effect(s) to Sustainable Management Criteria identified in the Groundwater Sustainability plan, and/or requirements in Executive Order N-3-23 including but not necessarily limited to:
  - a. Well interference with existing groundwater production wells
  - b. Groundwater extraction related subsidence
  - c. Disadvantaged communities
  - d. Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems and GDE Triggers.
  - e. Minimum thresholds for groundwater elevations, and
  - f. Measurable objectives as specified in the GSP
  - g. The potential impact on migration or remediation of a known area of groundwater contamination
  - h. Whether the proposed production is likely to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the sustainable yield of the Subbasin
4. Following SCV-GSA staff review, it will provide its findings to the landowner, and prepare a Board memo and technical report for the SCV-GSA Board of Directors that recommends the Board of Directors find the proposed well to be consistent, or not consistent, with the requirements of the Governor's Executive Order N-3-23 Paragraph 4 and the SCV-GSA adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
5. Consideration of the Board memo will be provided at a publicly noticed SCV-GSA Board meeting. During that meeting staff and/or consultants contracted by the GSA will present findings and recommendations to the GSA for review, and the landowner and/or Hydrogeologist will be provided with an opportunity to make a short presentation to the Board of Directors.
6. The Board of Directors, at a publicly noticed SCV-GSA Board meeting, will consider the Board memo, technical report, and staff recommendation to find the proposed well to be consistent, or not consistent, with the requirements of the Governor's Executive Order N-3-23 Paragraph 4 and the SCV-GSA adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Following any discussion, the Board will confirm or reject the staff recommendation via majority vote.

7. Providing the Board determines the proposed well is consistent, it will require the Landowner also comply with required well operation conditions described in Attachment 1 and 2, such as requirements for flowmeters, recalibration, water quality monitoring, etc.