PROPOSED CHANGES TO RULES

November 11, 2025

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BUSINESS & WATER LITIGATION

PROCESS AND REVIEW

The Rules, Bylaws, & Policies Committee Has Been Reviewing the Rules Adopted on September 8, 2020, and as amended on June 8, 2022 and December 1, 2023.

- The District hosted several stakeholder meetings and accepted written comments on the existing rules.
- The committee considered all information received.
- The General Manager, Permitting Director, and legal and technical consultants provided input.
- The committee made recommendations.
- Based on recommendations, legal counsel prepared proposed changes to the rules with technical and operational input.

Potential Action at Tonight's Meeting

- Approve proposed changes for public comment
- If approved for publication, the proposed changes to the rules will be released for public comment, and a hearing on the proposed changes will be held on December 9, 2025.

PROPOSED CHANGES

- Replacement Wells
- Alterations
- Inspections
- Meters
- Reporting
- Exempt Wells
- Application Requirements
- Legislative Changes
- Clarifications

Replacement Wells: Rule 2.13

- In same aquifer at generally similar depth interval
- Replacement well pumping equipment cannot be capable of producing at a higher instantaneous pumping rate than well pump being replaced (contractor information for the replacement pump must be provided)
- Drill, inspect, and meter within 365 days

Alterations: Rule 2.13

- Notice of Alteration to a Well form shall be submitted before any alteration is conducted.
- A substantial alteration constitutes major permit amendment.
- An alteration that is not substantial but requires a change to a permit is a minor permit amendment.
- An alteration that is not substantial and does not require a change in the permit, Notice of Alteration to a Well form is all that is required.

Inspections: Rule 12.2

All existing, new, altered and rehabbed wells (exempt and non-exempt) subject to inspections pre-and-post drilling to verify:

- location of the well
- casing size
- production capabilities of permanent pump
- observe flow test

Applicants, drillers, and permittees must cooperate with inspections and provide 24 hours' notice before drilling, permanent pump installation, and permanent flow test.

Meters: Rule 10.6

- Monthly meter readings submitted via software with log-in credentials
- Quarterly photo of meter submitted via software with log-in that clearly and legibly depicts the meter reading and matches the monthly meter reading submitted for the corresponding month.

Reporting: Rule 11.2-11.5

- Driller's Well Report
- Well Completion Report
- Notice of Alteration to a Well
- Plugging and Capping
- Monthly Meter Readings and Quarterly Photos
- Permit Production Reports
- Groundwater Transport Report

Exempt Wells: Rule 2.2

- 5 inch or less casing wells can be on tract size of 1.5 acres to 10 acres
- Well can be on less than 1.5-acre tract if lot was platted prior to Dec. 1, 1986.
- All 5 inch or less casing wells must be incapable of producing more than 25,000 gallons per day (~17 gpm)

Registrations & Applications

- Maps with applicable spacing buffer
- Contractor information for the pump
- Total water demand and sources
- Info re smart irrigation, drought resistant landscaping and rain harvesting barrels
- Must be in compliance with rules for application to be processed

Legislative Changes

- Exemption for water used to drill a groundwater well
- Transport fees
- Penalties for violations
- Contested case hearing deadlines
- Joint planning

Clarifications

- Ownership of groundwater
- Rule 1.19 Petition to Change Rules merged
- Initial review for complete package versus technical review for administrative completeness
- Changes to HUPs
- Fees for inspections and audits
- Spacing exceptions: on surface and vertically in aquifer or subdivision; notarized waivers; and return receipt
- Curtailment based on produced amounts
- Early conversions credits
- Rule violations; can't contest violation you paid
- Other minor clarifications

QUESTIONS

Discussion