

South Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Policy 2024-01

Adopted 9-19-2024

Well Registration Policy

1. Well Registration Policy Overview

The purpose of the well registration policy is to satisfy one of the fundamental requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) to identify the location and construction of active wells across the South Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“SFK GSA” or “GSA”). The GSA understands that some of the information requested duplicates some of the information being collected by the State Water Resources Control Board (“SWRCB”) during the probationary period and the SFK GSA has contacted the State to coordinate efforts. However, the SFK GSA well registration policy is intended to continue beyond the probationary period and collect information from wells exempt from the State requirements. Only with a complete understanding of all groundwater users can the GSA actively manage groundwater pumping across the area.

2. Existing Extraction Facilities

All existing extraction facilities shall be registered with the SFK GSA by December 1, 2024.

2.1 Existing Facility Registration Requirement

The owner of an extraction facility to be registered pursuant to this subsection shall provide, in full, the information required to complete the on-line registration form provided by the SFK GSA that includes the following, if such information exists:

- i. Name and address of the operator(s).
- ii. Name and address of the owner(s) of the land upon which the extraction facility is located.
- iii. Well Completion Report, filed with the Department of Water Resources, pursuant to California Water Code section 13751, or if not available, construction information about the extraction facility, including total depth of the well casing, size of the well casing, and depth of perforations.
- iv. Information on the size of the extraction facility, including pump size (horsepower) and pump test information or estimated pumping capacity.
- v. Location, latitude and longitude, parcel number and state well number of the water extraction facility.
- vi. Information on the type of installed flowmeter (if any).
- vii. Additional data as determined by the SFK GSA and/or the SWRCB

2.2 Penalty for Failure to Register

Failure to register an extraction facility pursuant to this subsection by the specified date, may incur a penalty to be determined by the SFK GSA board.

3. New Extraction Facilities

Any new groundwater extraction facilities constructed after December 1, 2024 shall be registered with the SFK GSA within ninety (90) days of the completion of drilling activities. All new extraction facilities registered with the SFK GSA, excluding de minimis users, shall install a flowmeter at the time of construction or show that a meter has been purchased in accordance with Section 5.

3.1 New Extraction Facilities Registration Requirement

The owner of an extraction facility to be registered pursuant to this subsection shall provide, in full, the information required to complete the on-line registration form available on the SFK GSA website that includes, at a minimum, the following:

- i. Name and address of the operator(s).
- ii. Name and address of the owner(s) of the land upon which the extraction facility is located.
- iii. Well Completion Report, filed with the Department of Water Resources, pursuant to California Water Code section 13751, or if not available, construction information about the extraction facility, including total depth of the well casing, size of the well casing, and depth of perforations.
- iv. Information on the size of the extraction facility, including pump size (horsepower) and pump test information or estimated pumping capacity.
- v. Location, latitude and longitude, parcel number and state well number of the water extraction facility.
- vi. Information on the type of installed flowmeter.
- vii. Additional data as determined by the SFK GSA and/or the SWRCB.

3.2 Penalty for Failure to Register

Failure to register an extraction facility pursuant to this subsection within three months of construction may incur a penalty to be determined by the SFK GSA board.

4. Change in Owner

The name of the owner of each registered extraction facility, the parcel number on which the facility is located, along with the names of all operators for each extraction facility shall be reported to the SFK GSA within ninety (90) days upon any change of ownership or operators, together with such other information required by the GSA

5. Flowmeters

All groundwater wells designed to produce more than five hundred (500) acre feet of water annually must be outfitted with flow metering device by March 1, 2025. This provision also applies to well owners who cumulatively pump more than 500 acre feet for one water year. Wells that pump less than two (2) acre feet are exempt from the metering requirement. Existing wells that pump between two (2) and five hundred (500) acre feet must install a meter by March 1, 2026. Similarly, newly constructed wells designed to produce more than two (2) acre feet annually are also required to include a compliant metering device at the time of construction. A compliant metering device must meet the following criteria:

- i. The meter shall report actual flow rate and contain an aggregate flow totalizer to capture production volume, with flow reported in cubic feet per second and total pumping reported in acre-feet.
- ii. The meter shall be accurate to within plus or minus two percent ($\pm 2\%$) of actual flow.
- iii. Each meter shall be appropriately sized for the production rate and discharge piping of the well.
- iv. Each meter shall have a measurement range that matches the expected range of production rates from the well on which it is installed.

Testing and/or calibration of meters shall be performed in accordance with manufacturer approved methods. Calibration records shall be made available to SFK GSA following each calibration event.