

ORDINANCE NO. 2

AN ORDINANCE OF THE UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1 (WELL REGISTRATION, METERING, AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS), SECTION 2.1.1, AS IT RELATES TO NEW WELL REGISTRATIONS

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency as follows:

WHEREAS, the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency ("Agency") was formed for the express purpose of cooperatively carrying out the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"), including, but not limited to, the funding, development, adoption and implementation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("GSP") that achieves groundwater sustainability in the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin.

WHEREAS, the Agency is the exclusive Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin (Department of Water Resources (DWR) Basin 4-3.01).

WHEREAS, the Agency adopted the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin on January 6, 2022.

WHEREAS, a fundamental component of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin is the accurate measurement, reporting and monitoring of groundwater extractions and, with the exception of certain extraction facilities, SGMA provides the Agency with the express power to require the metering of all extraction facilities in the Basin.

WHEREAS, the Agency, adopted Ordinance No. 1 concerning Well Registration, Metering, and Reporting Requirements ("the Ordinance") on July 14, 2022.

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2022, Governor Newsom signed Executive Order N-7-22 (EO), directing cities and counties to implement new water conservation measures. The EO includes a new local well permitting regulation that expands the role of GSA's. Under the EO, counties, cities, or other public agencies must obtain written approval from the GSA before approving a permit for a groundwater well or alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to SGMA and classified as medium- or high- priority. Domestic and small wells are excluded from the order. The GSA must determine that the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any GSP adopted by the GSA and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin.

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Ordinance requiring that all new water extraction facilities constructed within the Agency Boundary shall obtain a no-fee permit from the Agency prior to the issuance of a well permit by the County are now redundant to the new local well permitting requirements imposed by the EO.

WHEREAS, the Agency, as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), in consultation with the Agency’s Legal Counsel, determined that the charges adopted by resolution are exempt from further CEQA review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, sections 15307 and 15308 which exempt actions taken for the protection of natural resources and the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Sustainability Agency that the Ordinance establishing well registration, metering, and reporting requirements established pursuant to Water Code Section 10730 shall be amended as it relates to new water extraction facilities as follows:

1. Repealed and Replaced.

Chapter 2, Registration of Wells and Levying of Charges, Ordinance No.1 is repealed and replaced to read as follows:

CHAPTER 2.0
Registration of Wells and Levying of Charges

2.1. Registration of Wells

2.1.1. Agency Water Well Notice Requirement – All applicants seeking County permit approval for any new extraction facilities constructed within the Agency Boundary shall deliver a copy of any applicable permit application to the Agency prior to the issuance of a well permit by the County. The applicant shall be required to provide supplemental information to the Executive Director that is reasonably necessary for compliance with Executive Order N-7-22.

2.1.2. Registration Requirement – All groundwater extraction facilities within the boundaries of the Agency shall be registered with the Agency within 30 days of the completion of drilling activities or within 30 days after notice is given to the owner of such facility. No extraction facility may be operated or otherwise utilized so as to extract groundwater within the Agency Boundary unless that facility is registered with the Agency, flow metered and permitted, if required, and all extractions reported to the Agency as required. The owner of an extraction facility shall register his extraction facility and provide in full, the information required to complete the form provided by the Agency that includes the following:

- 2.1.2.1. Name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the owner(s) of the land upon which the extraction facility is located
- 2.1.2.2. Name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the well operator(s), if different than owner(s).
- 2.1.2.3. A description of the equipment associated with the extraction facility.
- 2.1.2.4. Location, parcel number and state well number of the water extraction facility.
- 2.1.2.5. Digital photographs showing (1) the well and discharge piping with meter location visible, (2) flowmeter face with all totalizer digits and flowmeter units visible and legible; and (3) flow meter serial number. The digital photographs shall be date stamped and the file name shall include the state well number and meter serial number. The digital photographs shall be submitted to the Agency via e-mail or by other electronic method approved by the Executive Director.


2.2. Change in Owner or Operator - The name of the owner of each extraction facility, the parcel number on which the well is located along with the names of all operators for each extraction facility shall be reported to the Agency within 30 days upon any change of ownership or operators, together with such other information required by the Executive Director.

2.3. Reporting Extractions - All extractions shall be reported to the Agency. All extractions shall be flowmetered in accordance with the requirements and methods for flowmetering extractions as specified by Chapter 3. In cases where flowmetering is not required, the volume of water extracted shall be estimated and reported to the Agency. The Agency shall send a "Quarterly Groundwater Extraction Statement" (QGEs) form to each well operator in January, April, July, and October each year. Each operator shall return the completed QGES form on or before the due date for all wells they operate. QGES forms are due forty-five (45) days after being sent by the Agency. The QGES shall contain the following information:

- 2.3.1. The information required under Section 2.1.2.1 through 2.1.2.5, above.
- 2.3.2. The method of measuring or computing groundwater extractions.
- 2.3.3. Total extractions from each extraction facility in acre-feet for the preceding period.

- 2.3.4. A digital photograph of each flowmeter associated with each well listed on the QGES shall be submitted with the QGES. Each digital photograph shall be date stamped and shall show the entire meter face with all totalizer digits and flowmeter units visible and legible. The digital photograph file name shall include the state well number and meter serial number. The digital photograph(s) shall be submitted to the Agency via e-mail or by other electronic method approved by the Executive Director.

ADOPTED this 9th day of March, 2023.


Michel Etchart (May 11, 2023 09:39 PDT)

Board Chair
Upper Ventura River
Groundwater Agency

ATTEST:



Bryan Bondy
Executive Director

ATTEST:



Keith Lemieux (May 11, 2023 10:17 PDT)

Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency
General Counsel

CHAPTER 2.0 Registration of Wells and Levying of Charges

2.1. Registration of Wells

2.1.1. ~~Agency Water Well Permit Requirement (No-Fee Permit) — All new extraction facilities constructed within the Agency Boundary shall obtain a no-fee permit from the Agency prior to the issuance of a well permit by the County.~~

Agency Water Well Notice Requirement – All applicants seeking County permit approval for any new extraction facilities constructed within the Agency Boundary shall deliver a copy of any applicable permit application to the Agency prior to the issuance of a well permit by the County. The applicant shall be required to provide supplemental information to the Executive Director that is reasonably necessary for compliance with Executive Order N-7-22.

2.1.2. Registration Requirement – All groundwater extraction facilities within the boundaries of the Agency shall be registered with the Agency within 30 days of the completion of drilling activities or within 30 days after notice is given to the owner of such facility. No extraction facility may be operated or otherwise utilized so as to extract groundwater within the Agency Boundary unless that facility is registered with the Agency, flow metered and permitted, if required, and all extractions reported to the Agency as required. The owner of an extraction facility shall register his extraction facility and provide in full, the information required to complete the form provided by the Agency that includes the following:

2.1.2.1. Name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the owner(s) of the land upon which the extraction facility is located

2.1.2.2. Name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the well operator(s), if different than owner(s).

2.1.2.3. A description of the equipment associated with the extraction facility.

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2.1.2.5. Digital photographs showing (1) the well and discharge piping with meter location visible, (2) flowmeter face with all totalizer digits and flowmeter units visible and legible; and (3) flow meter serial number. The digital photographs shall be date stamped and the file name shall include the state well number and meter serial number. The digital photographs shall be submitted to the Agency via e-mail or by other electronic method approved by the Executive Director.

- 2.2. Change in Owner or Operator** - The name of the owner of each extraction facility, the parcel number on which the well is located along with the names of all operators for each extraction facility shall be reported to the Agency within 30 days upon any change of ownership or operators, together with such other information required by the Executive Director.
- 2.3. Reporting Extractions** - All extractions shall be reported to the Agency. All extractions shall be flowmetered in accordance with the requirements and methods for flowmetering extractions as specified by Chapter 3. In cases where flowmetering is not required, the volume of water extracted shall be estimated and reported to the Agency. The Agency shall send a “Quarterly Groundwater Extraction Statement” (QGEs) form to each well operator in January, April, July, and October each year. Each operator shall return the completed QGES form on or before the due date for all wells they operate. QGES forms are due forty-five (45) days after being sent by the Agency. The QGES shall contain the following information:
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 - 2.3.3. Total extractions from each extraction facility in acre-feet for the preceding period.
 - 2.3.4. A digital photograph of each flowmeter associated with each well listed on the QGES shall be submitted with the QGES. Each digital photograph shall be date stamped and shall show the entire meter face with all totalizer digits and flowmeter units visible and legible. The digital photograph file name shall include the state well number and meter serial number. The digital photograph(s) shall be submitted to the Agency via e-mail or by other electronic method approved by the Executive Director.












UVRGA Ordinance No 2

Final Audit Report

2023-05-11

Created:	2023-04-13
By:	Bryan Bondy (bryan@bondygroundwater.com)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAAgVe6_iRojlMXfrPcCeyZKgM2cl4M2c9

"UVRGA Ordinance No 2" History

-  Document created by Bryan Bondy (bryan@bondygroundwater.com)
2023-04-13 - 11:22:58 PM GMT- IP address: 104.32.1.8
-  Document e-signed by Bryan Bondy (bryan@bondygroundwater.com)
Signature Date: 2023-04-13 - 11:25:06 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 104.32.1.8
-  Document emailed to etchart@meinersoakswater.com for signature
2023-04-13 - 11:25:07 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by etchart@meinersoakswater.com
2023-05-11 - 4:38:29 PM GMT- IP address: 104.28.85.120
-  New document URL requested by etchart@meinersoakswater.com
2023-05-11 - 4:38:41 PM GMT- IP address: 107.77.227.225
-  Signer etchart@meinersoakswater.com entered name at signing as Michel Etchart
2023-05-11 - 4:39:40 PM GMT- IP address: 107.77.227.225
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Signature Date: 2023-05-11 - 4:39:42 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 107.77.227.225
-  Document emailed to klemieux@awattorneys.com for signature
2023-05-11 - 4:39:43 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by klemieux@awattorneys.com
2023-05-11 - 5:16:49 PM GMT- IP address: 47.180.247.174
-  Signer klemieux@awattorneys.com entered name at signing as Keith Lemieux
2023-05-11 - 5:17:11 PM GMT- IP address: 47.180.247.174
-  Document e-signed by Keith Lemieux (klemieux@awattorneys.com)
Signature Date: 2023-05-11 - 5:17:13 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 47.180.247.174



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2023-05-11 - 5:17:13 PM GMT