



MCWRA Briefing Report: Ground Water Reporting Program Update

April 4, 2013

Subject: Ground Water Reporting Program

Current Status:

Program is collecting and processing data for Zones 2, 2A and 2B. No enforcement against non-filers has been initiated.

History:

February 1993, the County Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 3663 requiring water suppliers within Zones 2, 2A, and 2B to report water-use information for ground water extraction facilities (wells) and service connections to the Agency. County Ordinance No. 3717, which replaced Ordinance No. 3663 and was adopted in October 1993, modified certain other requirements in the previous ordinance while keeping the ground water extraction reporting requirements in place for wells with a discharge pipe having an inside diameter of at least three inches.

Agency has collected ground water extraction data from well operators, for the period beginning November 1 and ending October 31, since the 1992-1993 reporting year.

The intent of this program is to document the reported amount of ground water extracted from Zones 2, 2A, and 2B in the Salinas Valley Ground Water Basin (Basin) each year.

In 1996, an ordinance was passed that requires the filing of Urban Water Conservation Plans (Ordinance 3886). Developed as the urban counterpart of the agricultural water conservation plans, this program provides an overview of the best management practices being implemented by urban water purveyors as conservation measures.

Zone 2C was formed in July 2003 as part of the Salinas Valley Water Project (SVWP). In order to provide representative data related to the SVWP and the whole Basin, expansion of the program boundaries to contain all of Zone 2C is necessary.

Next Steps:

- Continue processing received data for this year to develop annual summary report
- Generate a delinquent filers report.
- Devise strategy for updating ordinances for expansion into Zone 2C
- Once updated ordinances are adopted by the Board of Supervisors, begin expansion of reporting program into Zone 2C.

Decision Points:

- What enforcement strategies are needed in the updated ordinances?
- Does Agency want to take enforcement action against non-filers?

Completion will require:

- Direction from the Board of Supervisors regarding ordinance content for enforcement
- Additional staff (beyond current staff participants) for Zone 2C expansion activities