

Monterey County

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Board Report

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Receive an update on Well Permit Application Activities

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency - Basin Management Advisory Committee receive an update on well permit application activities.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The Well Permit Application Process is regulated by the Environmental Health Bureau (EHB) and the Agency provides technical support to EHB. Adoption of the 2010 County General Plan resulted in the addition of well impact assessments to the well permit review process.

The attached table provides a summation of well permit applications evaluated by Agency staff for compliance with 2010 Monterey County General Plan policies PS-3.3 (domestic wells) or PS-3.4 (high capacity wells), categorized by type of well impact assessment and Salinas Valley subbasin. This table is provided to the Board of Directors and Basin Management Advisory Committee on a monthly basis.

In response to requests from the Board of Directors regarding data about construction of wells in the Deep Aquifers, Staff has also included a chart depicting the history of well installation in the Deep Aquifers (Figure). This chart, which includes both production and monitoring wells, indicates that a total of forty-nine (49) wells have been installed in the Deep Aquifers since 1974, with eighteen (18) of those wells being constructed in the last ten years.

Applications have been filed for two (2) additional wells but construction has not been completed as of the date of this report. Both proposed wells in the Deep Aquifers have been applied for as "replacement wells" under provisions of interim Ordinance No. 5302, which was passed by the Board of Supervisors and adopted on May 22, 2018.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

FINANCING:

None

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Attachments:

Table - Summary of Well Impact Evaluations

Figure - Timeline of Well Installation in the Deep Aquifers