

SACRAMENTO CENTRAL GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (SCGA)
Well Protection Program Sub-Committee Meeting
Final Minutes
January 18, 2008

LOCATION: 9280 West Stockton Boulevard, Suite 220
Elk Grove, CA 95758
1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

MINUTES:

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting commenced at 1:10 p.m.

The following meeting participants were in attendance:

Board Members (Primary Rep.)

Stuart Helfand, Agricultural-Residential
Ron Lowry, Omochumne-Hartnell Water District

Board Members (Alternate Rep.)

Walter Sadler, City of Folsom

Staff Members

Darrell Eck, Executive Director, Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority
Ramón Roybal, Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority

2. Public Comment

None

3. Well Protection Program Criteria

General discussion on further development of the Well Protection Program (WPP) including review of the text of the following Draft Well Protection Ordinance chapters: Trust Fund (Ch. 2.15), Well Protection Fee (Ch. 2.20), and the Sunset Provision (Ch. 2.35). The Collection of Fees (Business Agreements with land use agencies) and requirements for fee exemptions (see January 9, 2008 Board Meeting Notes – City of Sacramento) were also discussed.

Fee Exemption – In order to address issues related to participation in the Well Protection Program Walt Sadler suggested that all property exclusively served by surface water within the Central Basin be exempt from the fee, not just properties within the City of Sacramento. Darrell Eck pointed out that this type of broad exemption could be complicated to implement

as service from the Freeport project could result in areas of Zone 40 that would be exclusively served by surface water. Ron Lowry stated that he felt the language in the Trial Balloon concerning fee exemptions was adequate and that the City of Sacramento can provide comments as they feel necessary to any proposed language for the Ordinance. All concurred.

Trust Fund (Ch. 2.15) was reviewed without significant comment from sub-committee members. Darrell Eck stated that he will edit language regarding Fund Shortfall (Paragraph 2.15.050) in conjunction with recommendations made by Counsel.

Sunset Provision (Ch. 2.35) was reviewed without significant comment from sub-committee members.

Collection of Fees (Business Agreements with land use agencies) was discussed. The purpose of the discussion was to determine the best means for collecting the Well Protection Fee through the various land use agencies. General discussion followed. Mr. Sadler suggested the idea of having the fee officially paid to "SCGA" (i.e., separate check) in order to emphasize that the fee is for the Authority and not the respective land-use agencies. Mr. Eck indicated that the intent was to make the program as simple and straight forward as possible and that collecting the fee in the same way other fees are collected when a building permit is issued is preferable. Mr. Sadler stated that he will speak with the City of Folsom's finance manager to determine the logistics of fee collection.

Stuart Helfand commented on the definition of the term "private well" versus "rural-domestic well". Mr. Helfand stated that in some areas of the City of Elk Grove land owners have drilled their own wells in order to avoid the cost of municipal water service, even though this service is readily available. In some instances these land owners were customers of a municipal water service. Mr. Helfand stated that in his opinion these properties should not be eligible for protection because they opted out of municipal water service by choice. The intent of the Well Protection Program is to protect those property owners that don't have a choice.

4. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss meeting adjourns at 2:30 p.m.

By:

Stuart D. Fort
Chairperson

2/13/08
Date

Attest:

Michelle Fiorino

2/13/08
Date

