



AGENDA

May 25, 2023 at 3:00 pm

Council Chambers, Ojai City Hall

401 South Ventura Street, Ojai, CA 93023

Phone: 805.640.1207 **Web site:** obgma.com

Email: obgma@aol.com

Board of Directors

Richard Hajas, Casitas Municipal Water District	Jim Finch, Ojai Water Conservation District
Peter Theilke, Mutual Water Companies	Bob Daddi, Community Facilities District
Andrew Whitman, City of Ojai	

Zoom Teleconferencing for Public Call in Participation:

1. Zoom Dial in Information: 1-669-900-9128, Meeting ID: 827 5712 7464, Password: 218792.

For Public Viewing

2. Zoom Meeting
Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82757127464?pwd=Rm5JenhNUDNvRVovaEUwMzdScnFRdz09>
3. www.OBGMA.com
4. City of Ojai YouTube Channel at:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3DhCB5Z1DynNC7n8qcNeDQ/live> (2 Minute delay of transmission)
5. In Ojai, CA: Spectrum Channel 10.

Public Comments: Members of the public may provide public comments under Item 6 or on each agenda item presented herein. Please wait until the Board Chair asks if any members of the public wish to comment. This will provide for orderly participation during the meeting.

Members of the public may also submit written public comments in advance via e-mail no later than 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Public comment e-mails should be sent to OBGMA@aol.com "Attention Board of Directors".

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS/COMMENTS

- Mutual Water Companies
- Ojai Water Conservation District
- City of Ojai
- Casitas Municipal Water District
- Community Facilities District – CMWD Ojai Service Area

4. GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS

5. BASIN STATUS REPORTS

- Current Status of Basin: Input, Output, and Storage

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

The Board will receive comments from the public at this time. Other than for emergency items, no action can be taken during this period. Matters raised at this time may be briefly discussed by the Board and will generally be referred to staff and/or placed on a subsequent agenda.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Financial Report for April 2023

8. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Well Application – APN 024-0-031-160, 1205 Country Club Drive

- Adopt Resolution No. 2023-02 Authorizing Well Verification for a Proposed New Well Located Within the Boundaries of the Agency on APN 024-0-031-160

- b. Well Application – APN 029-0-020-040, 4274 Thacher Road

- Adopt Resolution No. 2023-03 Authorizing Well Verification for a Proposed New Well Located Within the Boundaries of the Agency on APN 029-0-020-040

- c. Seasonal Groundwater Level Monitoring Report

- Approve Agreement with Dudek to Perform and Seasonal Groundwater Level Monitoring to the California Department of Water Resources

- d. Banking Resolution

- Adopt Resolution No. 2023-04 Authorizing Signatory Authority for Banking Authorities

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Interim General Manager – Draft Work Plan
- b. Well Permit Verification Process including Revised Well Verification Application

10. ADJOURNMENT

The regular meetings of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency are scheduled for the last Thursday of each month. The meeting agenda will be posted at Ojai City Hall and the OBGMA website 72 hours prior to the meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency is scheduled for June 22, 2023, 3:00 p.m. to be held in the Council Chambers at Ojai City Hall and by Zoom Teleconferencing. Please contact OBGMA by email at obgma@aol.com or by calling 805.640.1207 with any questions.

Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency

Memorandum

To: Board of Directors
From: Julia Aranda, PE, Interim General Manager
Subject: Financial Report for April 2023
May 25, 2023

Recommendation

- Approve Financial Report for April 2023

Background and Discussion

The April 2023 Financial Report is attached for review and approval. Extractions and associated charges have not been updated for January/February/March 2023; it is anticipated these will be included in next month's report.

Budget Impact

There is no immediate budget impact related to approval of the Financial Reports.

Attachment: April 2023 Financial Report

OBGMA
Budget Actuals FYTD 22/23

	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	YTD
Beginning Bank Balance								
Checking	14,745.09	74,843.99	85,115.19	82,727.38	114,741.84	121,125.19	70,773.32	
Savings	5,021.30	5,021.30	5,021.30	5,021.91	5,021.91	5,021.91	5,022.55	
	19,766.39	79,865.29	90,136.49	87,749.29	119,763.75	126,147.10	75,795.87	
Income								
Returned Check Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GSP Extraction Fees	27,096.63	9,328.16		21,490.54	1,596.32	395.45	9,987.70	69,894.80
Well Head Fee	4,759.59	1,509.99		4,897.39	2,465.80	580.74	4,937.95	19,151.46
Interest Charges	-	-	-	-	1.25		2.50	3.75
Recordation Fee	289.35	87.95		303.91	125.00	34.67	284.44	1,125.32
Extraction Charges	19,214.92	6,428.25		15,314.59	3,616.00	307.21	7,612.35	52,493.32
Savings Acct Interest	-	-	0.61	-		0.64		1.25
Total Income	51,360.49	17,354.35	0.61	42,006.43	7,804.37	1,318.71	22,824.94	142,669.90
Total Income	51,360.49	17,354.35	0.61	42,006.43	7,804.37	1,318.71	22,824.94	119,844.96
Expense								
Equipment Purchased	-	-	-	-				-
Computer Repairs	-	-	-	-				-
Printing and Reproduction	-	-	-	-				-
Liability Insurance	-	1,176.00	-	-		2,898.00		4,074.00
Postage and Delivery	249.99	17.99	17.99	92.49	17.99	67.99	17.99	482.43
Bank Service Charges	-	3.00	-	-				3.00
Workers Comp Ins	-	-	-	-			161.08	161.08
Office Supplies	55.68	83.99	-	-	99.99	828.23		1,067.89
Payroll Expenses	2,874.26	2,422.12	2,422.13	2,471.63	2,471.62	2,767.78	2,841.96	18,271.50
Professional Fees	5,077.78	2,581.25	-	5,201.53		13,183.15	12,162.88	38,206.59
Rent	907.10	907.10	107.10	1,707.10	(922.90)	907.10	907.10	4,519.70
Special Events	-	-	-	-				-
Telecommunications	308.28	307.50	239.09	317.48	268.68	552.75	293.77	2,287.55
Total Expense	9,473.09	7,498.95	2,786.31	9,790.23	1,935.38	21,205.00	16,384.78	69,073.74
Net Ordinary Income	41,887.40	9,855.40	(2,785.70)	32,216.20	5,868.99	(19,886.29)	6,440.16	50,771.22
Grant Activity								
WCB Grant Income	16,516.35	-	-					16,516.35
WCB (WS) Expenses	-	-	-					-
GSP Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	30,975.00	2,868.75	33,843.75
	16,516.35	-	-	-	-	(30,975.00)	(2,868.75)	(17,327.40)
Net Income	58,403.75	9,855.40	(2,785.70)	32,216.20	5,868.99	(50,861.29)	3,571.41	33,443.82
Other Adjustments								
Transfer to Savings	-	-	-					
Transfer From Savings	-	-	-					
Deposit Adj from Bank	-	-	-					
Payroll Tax Liab Paymts	1,241.67	-	-	1,345.84			1,331.80	
Payroll Liab on hold	527.86	398.48	398.50	431.88	431.86	510.06	491.78	
Customer Overpayments	40.28	17.50	-	724.72	82.50		24.92	
Nominal Over/Short	-	(0.18)	-					
Refund- Work Comp Ins	-	-	-					
Customer Credits Applied	156.32	-	-	12.50				
Refunds	-	-	-				50.00	
State Comp Fund Dividend	25.00	-	-					
Rent Reimbursement	-	-	-					
Customer Reimbursement	2,500.00	-	-					
Ending Bank Balance								
Checking	74,843.99	85,115.19	82,727.38	114,741.84	121,125.19	70,773.32	73,579.63	
Savings	5,021.30	5,021.30	5,021.91	5,021.91	5,021.91	5,022.55	5,022.55	
	79,865.29	90,136.49	87,749.29	119,763.75	126,147.10	75,795.87	78,602.18	

OBGMA EXTRACTION CHARGES BY PERIOD

2022/2023

Oct/Nov/Dec 2022		(1-2023)		(\$25/acre foot)		
	Acre Feet	Charges	Well Head	Recordation	GSP Fees	Total Rec'd
Agriculture	242.81	\$6,160.57				
Dom/Land	10.39	\$449.50				
Muni/Indus						
CMWD	296.00	\$7,400.00				
Totals	549.20	\$14,010.07	\$6,955.00	\$395.00	\$20,435.81	\$41,795.88

Jan/Feb/Mar 2023		(2-2023)		(\$25/acre foot)		
	Acre Feet	Charges	Well Head	Recordation	GSP Fees	Total Rec'd
Agriculture						
Dom/Land						
Muni/Indus						
CMWD						
Totals	0.00	\$0.00	\$5,200.00	\$315.00	\$9,455.89	\$14,970.89

April/May/June 2023		(3-2023)		(\$25/acre foot)		
	Acre Feet	Charges	Well Head	Recordation	GSP Fees	Total Rec'd
Agriculture						
Dom/Land						
Muni/Indus						
CMWD						
Totals	0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00

Jul/Aug/Sept 2023		(4-2023)		(\$25/acre foot)		
	Acre Feet	Charges	Well Head	Recordation	GSP Fees	Total Rec'd
Agriculture						
Dom/Land						
Muni/Indus						
CMWD						
Totals	0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00

Total for water YTD 10/1/22- 9/30/23

Acre Feet	Charges	Well Head Fee	Recordation Fee	GSP Fees	Total Rec'd
549.20	\$ 14,010.07	\$12,155.00	\$710.00	\$29,891.70	\$56,766.77

OBGMA
Cash Flows
April 2023

Beginning Cash Balances April 1, 2023

Bank of the Sierra-Checking	70,773.32
Bank of the Sierra-Savings	5,022.55
	<u>75,795.87</u>

Inflows

GSP Extraction	9,987.70
Well Head Fee	4,937.95
Interest Charge On Extraction	2.50
Recordation Fee	284.44
Extraction Charges	7,612.35
Overpayments	24.92
Return of Key Card Deposit	50.00
	<u>22,899.86</u>

Outflows

Postage and Delivery	17.99
Insurance	161.08
Payroll Expenses	3,681.98
Professional Fees	12,162.88
Rent	907.10
Telephone	293.77
Ground Water Sustainability	2,868.75
	<u>20,093.55</u>

Ending Cash Balance April 30, 2023

Bank of the Sierra-Checking	73,579.63
Bank of the Sierra-Savings	5,022.55
	<u>78,602.18</u>

Net Change in Financial Position	<u>2,806.31</u>
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OBGMA Reconciliation Summary

Bank of the Sierra-Checking, Period Ending 04/30/2023

	<u>Apr 30, 23</u>
Beginning Balance	76,681.20
Cleared Transactions	
Checks and Payments - 16 items	-11,675.87
Deposits and Credits - 6 items	21,797.44
Total Cleared Transactions	<u>10,121.57</u>
Cleared Balance	<u><u>86,802.77</u></u>
Uncleared Transactions	
Checks and Payments - 3 items	-14,325.56
Deposits and Credits - 1 item	1,102.42
Total Uncleared Transactions	<u>-13,223.14</u>
Register Balance as of 04/30/2023	<u><u>73,579.63</u></u>
New Transactions	
Checks and Payments - 5 items	-2,678.28
Deposits and Credits - 2 items	2,525.80
Total New Transactions	<u>-152.48</u>
Ending Balance	<u><u>73,427.15</u></u>

OBGMA
Disbursements Journal
 April 2023

Date	Num	Name	Description	Amount
04/04/2023	ACH	AT&T	Telecommunications	-268.77
04/25/2023	e	Stamps.com	Postage and Delivery	-17.99
04/01/2023	e	Condor Self Storage	Rent	-107.10
04/03/2023	E	Employment Development Department	Payroll Liability	-124.74
04/03/2023	E	Employment Development Department	Payroll Liability	-112.00
04/03/2023	E	IRS	Payroll Liability	-1,095.06
04/10/2023	E	State Compensation Insurance	Workers Comp	-161.08
04/10/2023	3471	Roberta Barbee	Telecommunications	-25.00
04/10/2023	3472	Melissa J Smith	Professional Fees	-562.50
04/10/2023	3473	Dudek	Ground Water Sustainability	-2,868.75
04/17/2023	3475	Michelle Gaston	Professional Fees	-425.00
04/24/2023	3476	Kear Groundwater	Professional Fees	-11,175.38
04/24/2023	3477	417 Bryant Circle LLC	Rent	-800.00
04/30/2023	3478	Barbee, Roberta J	Payroll Expense	-2,350.18
				-20,093.55
				<u>-20,093.55</u>

Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency

Memorandum

To: Board of Directors
From: Julia Aranda, PE, Interim General Manager
Subject: Resolution No. 2023-02 Authorizing Well Verification for a Proposed New Well Located Within the Boundaries of the Agency on 024-0-031-160

May 25, 2023

Recommendation

- Adopt Resolution No. 2023-02 Authorizing Well Verification for a Proposed New Well Located Within the Boundaries of the Agency on APN 024-0-031-160

Background and Discussion

The attached Well Application for 1205 Country Club Drive was submitted for a domestic well with anticipated use of 0.5 acre-feet per year (AFY). The anticipated use is less than 2 AFY and is therefore exempt from Executive Orders No. N-7-22 and N-3-23. Resolution No. 2023-02 is attached for adoption; the draft verification letter is attached for information.

Budget Impact

There is no immediate budget impact related to well verification as no fees are involved.

Attachments: Well Application
Resolution No. 2023-02
Verification Letter with Conditions



OJAI BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY
428 Bryant Circle, Suite 100, Ojai CA 93023
P.O. Box 1779, Ojai, CA 93024
www.obgma.com

WATER WELL PERMIT APPLICATION (NO-FEE REQUIRED)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA) requires all groundwater extraction facilities within the boundaries of the Agency to be registered with the Agency. 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 Ventura County Watershed Protection District. No extraction facility may be operated or otherwise utilized so as to extract groundwater within the boundaries of the Agency unless that facility is registered with the Agency, metered and permitted and all extractions reported to the Agency as required.

All wells are now required to have a meter installed. (OBGMA Ordinance # 8)

Copies of this ordinance and other pertinent information on the OBGMA can be obtained by visiting our website: www.obgma.com or by calling (805)640-1207.

INSTRUCTIONS

(Fill in the requested information and provide a map as described under item D.)

A. OWNERSHIP

Owner's Name: Manuel Garcia
Operator's Name (if different from Owner): _____
Mailing Address: 1205 Country Club Dr. Ojai Ca 93023
Phone No(s): _____ Fax No: _____ Cell No: (805) 797-7168
Email: CleSandyg@att.net APN: 024-D-031-160

B. TYPE OF USE

If use of water is for irrigation, check box at step 1 and describe proposed crops and acreage. If water is for domestic, municipal, industrial or uses, check the appropriate box at step 2 and complete. If a monitoring well go to step 2.

Step 1. **Irrigation**

List types of crops and corresponding acreage that will be irrigated:

<u>Crop Type</u>

<u>Acreage</u>

TYPE OF IRRIGATION

Step 2. Domestic Municipal Industrial Monitoring

List number of people and /or number of housing units served. If industrial use is proposed please describe.

4 people / 1 house

C. PROPOSED EXTRACTION

Anticipated annual pumping in acre-feet per year (AF/yr): 0.5
Drilling contractors name: MDRILL Please notify OBGMA on drillers mobilization
Please note that the OBGMA staff may visit the site.

D. LOCATION OF PROPOSED USE

Please attach a map by using one of the following: Map Quest, Google Maps, Thomas Guide or Assessor Parcel Map.

Accurately plot and outline the location(s) of proposed groundwater use. Show location of proposed water well. Give dimensions of area(s) to be irrigated. Indicate crop type for each area. For M & I or other uses, show location of water distribution system, type of water and location of structures to be served. Attach the map to this application. *(No permit applications will be approved without an adequate attached map)*

E. APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE AND DATE

Sign, date and submit this application to the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency, P.O. Box 1779, Ojai CA 93024.

Applicant's signature M. D. Di Date 9/10/22

DISPOSITION OF OBGMA APPLICATION

(For office use only)

- Approved
- Approved with conditions
- Denied

State well number _____
GMA permit number _____
County permit number _____

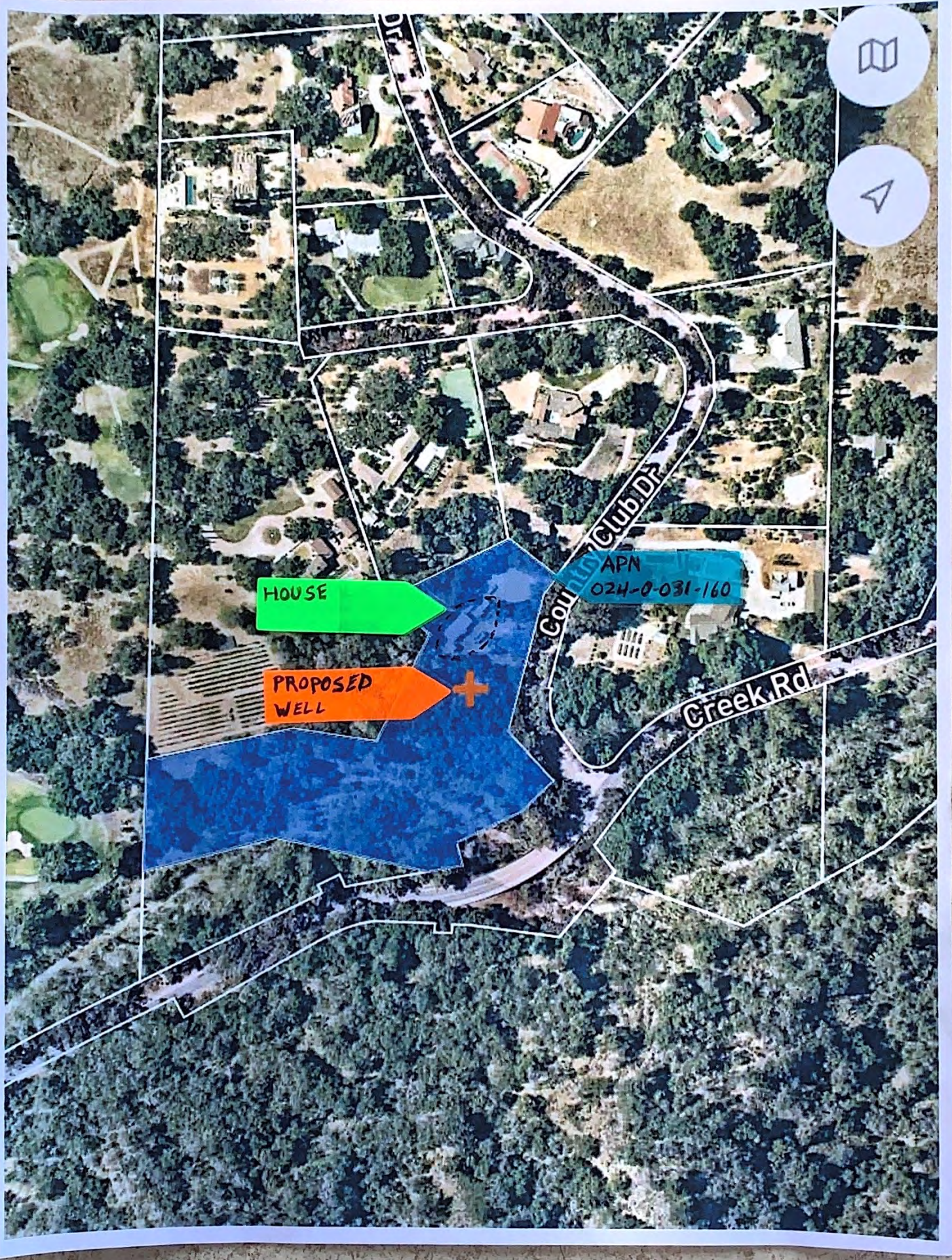
Owner will provide a copy of the well completion report within 30 days to OGBMA

Conditions/Reasons for Denial: _____

By: _____
This application is a permit when signed by the OBGMA Executive Officer or his/her designated appointee.

Cece VanDerMeer, Executive Secretary

Date _____



HOUSE

PROPOSED WELL

APN 024-0-031-160

Golf Club Dr

Creek Rd



RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE OJAI BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY AUTHORIZING VERIFICATION FOR A PROPOSED NEW WATER WELL LOCATED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE AGENCY ON ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 024-0-031-160

WHEREAS, by its enabling legislation, the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA) is responsible for managing the groundwater resource within its jurisdictional boundaries.

WHEREAS, the OBGMA jurisdictional boundaries contain the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin (Ojai Basin), as defined by the Department of Water Resources (DWR), as well as some, but not all, of the larger watershed area containing the Ojai Basin. The Ojai Basin is designated by DWR as a high priority basin.

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Water Code § 10723(c)(1), and by its Resolution No. 2014-4, OBGMA is designated as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Ojai Basin.

WHEREAS, by its Ordinance No. 8, the OBGMA requires all water wells constructed within the OBGMA boundary to be registered with the Agency and to be issued a verification letter from the Agency prior to the issuance of a Well Permit by Ventura County.

WHEREAS, in response to the severe drought, Governor Newsom issued Drought Executive Order N-7-22 on March 28, 2022, and issued a revision under Executive Order N-3-23 dated February 13, 2023, which included new well permitting requirements for local agencies to prepare for and lessen the effects of drought conditions. In compliance with Executive Order N-3-23 Paragraph 4 (a), Ventura County requires all applications for a permit to construct a new water well or for alteration of an existing water well shall be subject to the following in addition to the requirements of Ventura County Ordinance No. 4468:

To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not:

- a. Approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium- or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed to be located that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan.*

WHEREAS, the requirements set forth in Paragraph 4a of the Executive Order N-3-23 do not apply to wells that pump less than 2 acre-feet per year for individual domestic users or wells that exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the OBGMA Board of Directors finds as follows in consideration of the Well Permit Application of Manuel Garcia (APN 024-0-031-160) dated September 10, 2022:

1. The proposed water well will pump less than 2 acre-feet per year for individual domestic use and therefore findings required by California Executive Order N-3-23, Item 4a are not applicable.
2. The proposed well must be constructed and operated pursuant to the standards of Ventura County Ordinance 4468, Section 4814, which incorporates California Well Standards, Bulletin 74-81; the draft supplemental, Bulletin 74-90; and Ventura County Water Well Standards Bulletin No. 74-9.
3. The proposed well must meet OBGMA's requirements for construction of new wells including registration, monitoring, reporting, and any special conditions of approval.
4. The proposed well is not located near a source of contamination or other environmental concern that would require the OBGMA or the County of Ventura to exercise their discretion in order to mitigate potential adverse environmental effects of the proposed well. (See *Protecting Our Water & Env'tl. Res. v. Stanislaus Cnty.*, S251709 (Cal. May 29, 2020).)
5. The proposed well is located within the Southwestern Uppermost Saturated Zone (SWUSZ) of the Ojai Basin as determined by OBGMA. The well shall be equipped with a seal of adequate depth to preclude communication between the well's production zones and the SWUSZ. In most cases this condition will be met with a 50-foot seal around the conductor casing or production casing.
6. For the foregoing reasons, the Agency's consideration and approval of the Well Permit Application for Manuel Garcia (APN 024-0-031-160) is a ministerial action and not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
7. The following standard permit conditions shall be made a part of the Well Permit:
 - a. Compliance with all County permitting requirements;
 - b. OBGMA staff or consultants shall be provided an opportunity to confirm the drilling location prior to drilling;
 - c. OBGMA staff or consultants shall be provided an opportunity to observe drilling operations as they are occurring;
 - d. OBGMA staff or consultants shall be provided an opportunity to review all drill cuttings, and any geophysical logs following drilling; and

- e. Manuel Garcia shall comply with all applicable OBGMA Ordinances and Resolutions related to well metering, extraction reporting, and fee payment that are now in effect or as may hereafter be adopted.
- f. Well contractor to provide OBGMA with the completion Report and State Well Number within 30 days of well completion.

WHEREFORE, the Application of Manuel Garcia (APN 024-0-031-160) for a Well Verification dated September 10, 2022 is hereby **APPROVED** by the Board of Directors of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency on May 25, 2023.

Richard Hajas, President

Attest: _____
Peter Thielke, Secretary

Vote:

Richard Hajas, Casitas Municipal Water District	[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]
Peter Theilke, Mutual Water Companies	[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]
Jim Finch, Ojai Water Conservation District	[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]
Andy Whitman, City of Ojai	[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]
Bob Daddi, Community Facilities District	[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]



Member Agencies

Ojai Water Conservation District Ojai Basin Mutual Water Companies:
Casitas Municipal Water District Senior Canyon MWC
City of Ojai Siete Robles MWC
Community Facilities District Hermitage MWC

May 26, 2023

Manuel Garcia
1205 Country Club Drive
Ojai CA 93023

Subject: Well Application for APN 024-0-031-160, 1205 Country Club Drive, Ojai CA

Dear Property Owner:

California Governor, Gavin Newsom, signed Executive Order (EO) N-7-22 on March 28, 2022 and revised the order under EO N-3-23 dated February 13, 2023 as follows:

4. Paragraph 9 of Executive Order N-7-22 is withdrawn and replaced with the following text:

To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not:

a. Approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium- or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed to be located that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan; or

b. Issue a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well without first determining that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

This Paragraph shall not apply to permits for wells (i) that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, (ii) that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code, or (iii) that are replacing existing, currently permitted wells with new wells that will produce an equivalent quantity of water as the well being replaced when the existing well is being replaced because it has been acquired by eminent domain or acquired while under threat of condemnation.

To comply with Section 4a of EO N-3-23 water well applicants, not exempt under the order, are required to get a verification letter from the local Groundwater Sustainability Agency, in this case it is the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA), for submittal to the County of Ventura.

Office Address: 417 Bryant Circle Drive, Suite 112, Ojai CA 93023
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1779, Ojai CA 93024
www.obgma.com

805.640.1207
obgma@aol.com

<u>OBGMA Verification under Executive Order N-3-23 Paragraph 4a or</u> <u>Denial of Water Well Application.</u> <u>Your application is:</u>	
Verified:	<u> X </u> based on:
	1. Exemptions within the Executive Order; water use is intended for domestic use and the extraction and will be under 2 acre-feet each water year (October through September of each year)
	2. A verification analysis was completed and the water well is consistent with OBGMA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan. This verification is approved by the OBGMA Board of Directors and this is your authorization to proceed with application to the County of Ventura, subject to the General and Standard permit conditions contained herein. Requirements under Section 9b are to be coordinated with the County of Ventura.
Any verification shall be valid for one year from the date of this verification unless changes in law make this approval invalid.	
Not Verified:	<u> </u> based on:
	1. Needing the following additional information or clarification on your water well application (see attached); or
	2. Needing to meet the requirements under Section 4a, Executive Order N-3-23

The following general conditions are to be followed for the proposed water well:

1. The proposed well must be constructed and operated pursuant to the standards of Ventura County Ordinance 4468, Section 4814, which incorporates California Well Standards, Bulletin 74-81; the draft supplemental, Bulletin 74-90; Ventura County Water Well Standards Bulletin No. 74-9 and compliance with all other County permitting requirements.
2. The proposed well must meet OBGMA's requirements of new wells including registration, monitoring, reporting, and any other special conditions of approval.
3. The proposed well is not located near a source of contamination nor other environmental concern requiring the OBGMA or the County of Ventura to exercise their discretion in order to mitigate potential adverse environmental effects of the proposed well. (See *Protecting Our Water & Env'tl. Res. v. Stanislaus Cnty.*, S251709 (Cal. May 29, 2020).)
4. If the proposed well is located in an area overlying the Southwestern Uppermost Saturated Zone (SWUSZ) of the Ojai Basin as determined by OBGMA, the well shall be equipped with a seal of adequate depth to preclude communication between the well's production zones and the SWUSZ. In most cases this condition will be met with a 50-foot seal around the conductor casing or production casing. **The proposed well is located within the SWUSZ of the OBGMA jurisdiction.**
5. The following standard OBGMA permit conditions are also made a part of this water well authorization to proceed:

- a. OBGMA staff or consultants shall be provided an opportunity to confirm the drilling location prior to drilling
- b. OBGMA staff or consultants shall be provided an opportunity to observe drilling operations as they are occurring
- c. OBGMA staff or consultants shall be provided an opportunity to review all drill cuttings, and any geophysical logs following drilling
- d. The well owner shall comply with all applicable OBGMA Ordinances and Resolutions requiring metering of the well, extraction reporting, and fee payment to OBGMA now in effect or as may hereafter be adopted
- e. Well contractor to provide OBGMA with the completion Report and State Well Number within 30 days of well completion

The following forms are attached for your information and use:

- Resolution No. 2023-01
- Well Registration Form
- Blank Statement
- First Notice of Groundwater Extraction

Please contact us at obgmagm@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Julia Aranda, PE
Interim General Manager

c: County of Ventura

Attachments: Resolution No. 2023-02
Well Registration Form
Blank Statement
First Notice of Groundwater Extraction

Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency

Memorandum

To: Board of Directors
From: Julia Aranda, PE, Interim General Manager
Subject: Resolution No. 2023-03 Authorizing Well Verification for a Proposed New Well Located Within the Boundaries of the Agency on 029-0-020-040

May 25, 2023

Recommendation

- Adopt Resolution No. 2023-03 Authorizing Well Verification for a Proposed New Well Located Within the Boundaries of the Agency on APN 029-0-020-040

Background and Discussion

The attached Well Application for 4274 Thacher Road was submitted for an irrigation well with anticipated use of 4.0 acre-feet per year (AFY). An analysis of the proposed new well was performed by Kear Groundwater (attached) to comply with Governor Newsom's Executive Orders No. N-7-22 and N-3-23. The report is attached. Resolution No. 2023-03 is attached for adoption; the draft verification letter is attached for information.

Budget Impact

There is no immediate budget impact related to well verification as no fees are involved.

Attachments: Well Application
Kear Groundwater Memo dated April 18, 2023
Resolution No. 2023-03
Verification Letter with Conditions



OJAI BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY
428 Bryant Circle, Suite 100, Ojai CA 93023
P.O. Box 1779, Ojai, CA 93024
www.obgma.com

WATER WELL PERMIT APPLICATION (NO-FEE REQUIRED)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA) requires all groundwater extraction facilities within the boundaries of the Agency to be registered with the Agency. 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 Ventura County Watershed Protection District. No extraction facility may be operated or otherwise utilized so as to extract groundwater within the boundaries of the Agency unless that facility is registered with the Agency, metered and permitted and all extractions reported to the Agency as required.

All wells are now required to have a meter installed. (OBGMA Ordinance # 8)

Copies of this ordinance and other pertinent information on the OBGMA can be obtained by visiting our website: www.obgma.com or by calling (805)640-1207.

INSTRUCTIONS

(Fill in the requested information and provide a map as described under item D.)

A. OWNERSHIP

Owner's Name: Roger Birnbaum
Operator's Name (if different from Owner): Scott Cummings
Mailing Address: 4274 Thacher Rd Ojai CA 93023
Phone No(s): 805-223-0919 Fax No: _____ Cell No: _____
Email: scott@bobalunuts.com / lbreitman@billsandstoll.com APN: 029-0-020-040

B. TYPE OF USE

If use of water is for irrigation, check box at step 1 and describe proposed crops and acreage. If water is for domestic, municipal, industrial or uses, check the appropriate box at step 2 and complete. If a monitoring well go to step 2.

Step 1. **Irrigation**

List types of crops and corresponding acreage that will be irrigated:

<u>Crop Type</u>
<u>Avocados</u>
<u>Citrus</u>

<u>Acreage</u>
<u>6</u>
<u>3</u>

TYPE OF IRRIGATION

Microsprinkler

Step 2. **Domestic** **Municipal** **Industrial** **Monitoring**

List number of people and /or number of housing units served. If industrial use is proposed please describe.

C. PROPOSED EXTRACTION

Anticipated annual pumping in acre-feet per year (AF/yr):4_____

Drilling contractors name: Hansen Please notify OBGMA on drillers mobilization

Please note that the OBGMA staff may visit the site.

D. LOCATION OF PROPOSED USE

Please attach a map by using one of the following: Map Quest, Google Maps, Thomas Guide or Assessor Parcel Map.

Accurately plot and outline the location(s) of proposed groundwater use. Show location of proposed water well. Give dimensions of area(s) to be irrigated. Indicate crop type for each area. For M &I or other uses, show location of water distribution system, type of water and location of structures to be served. Attach the map to this application. *(No permit applications will be approved without an adequate attached map)*

E. APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE AND DATE

Sign, date and submit this application to the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency, P.O. Box 1779, Ojai CA 93024.

Applicant's signature: Roger Birnbaum Date 4/19/23

DISPOSITION OF OBGMA APPLICATION

(For office use only)

- Approved
- Approved with conditions
- Denied

State well number _____
GMA permit number _____
County permit number _____

Owner will provide a copy of the well completion report within 30 days to OGBMA

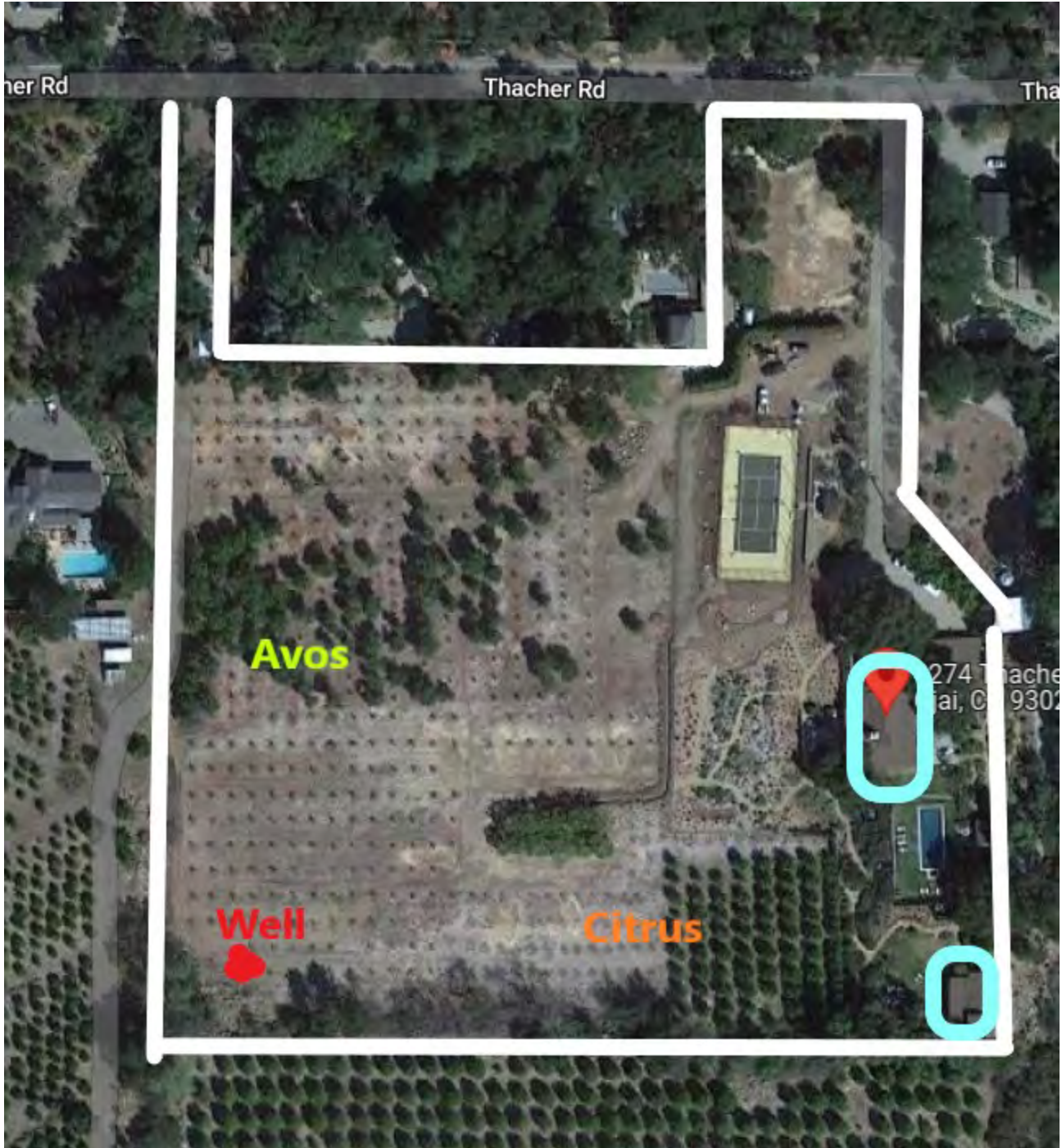
Conditions/Reasons for Denial: _____

By: _____

This application is a permit when signed by the OBGMA Executive Officer or his/her designated appointee.

_____ Date _____

Cece VanDerMeer, Executive Secretary





TO: Richard Birnbaum

FROM: Kear Groundwater
P.O. Box 2601
Santa Barbara, CA 93120-2601

DATE: April 18, 2023

SUBJECT: *New Water Well Permissibility & County Ordinance No. 4468 Compliance
4274 Thacher Road, Ojai, Ventura County, California*

Dear Mr. Birnbaum,

Kear Groundwater (KG) provides this letter to demonstrate the regulatory compliance of the planned new groundwater well at 4274 Thacher Road parcel (Assessor Parcel Number [APN] 029-0-020-040) in northeastern Ojai with Ventura County Well Ordinance No. 4468, which now also incorporates Action 9 of the Governor’s Drought Executive Order N-7-22.

The Thacher Road parcel is entirely within the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin (“Ojai Basin,” Number 4-2, DWR Bulletin 118) and under jurisdiction of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA). Groundwater in the Ojai Basin primarily occurs in unconfined aquifers within Holocene- and Pleistocene-aged alluvium. The basin’s vertical extent, or bottom, is considered to be the contact between alluvium and the various Tertiary-aged bedrock formations. The planned new well is to be comprised of a 6-inch-diameter PVC casing reaching upwards of 1200 ft below ground surface (bgs), penetrating entirely through the basin alluvium (anticipated from ground surface to around 500 ft bgs) and into the underlying Sespe Formation sedimentary bedrock. Casing perforations are to be adjacent to both the lower alluvium of the Ojai Basin itself and the fractured bedrock aquifers (considered a composite well). Future extraction from the planned new well is estimated to be around 4 acre-feet per year (AFY) for primarily agricultural use; the operational rate is anticipated to be around 50 gallons per minute (gpm) for durations of little more than one hour per day.

Unless a *de minimus* extractor (<2 AFY), the additional March 2022 requirements for new well permit issuance stipulate that a qualified professional finds the well (1) is not likely to interfere



with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) is not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure. While Ventura County does not appear to define the “not likely to interfere” standard in its well ordinance, Santa Barbara County for example defines it to mean that the “estimated average annual yield and peak pumping capacity of groundwater from the proposed new well not reduce the static groundwater level within a nearby [1000 horizontal ft] well greater than 5 feet over a one-year period.”

Additionally, medium- or high-priority ranked basins (per the Department of Water Resources) such as Ojai require written verification from the local Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) that future extraction by the planned new well is not inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program and does not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal. The OBGMA’s sustainability goal is to “preserve the quantity and quality of groundwater in the Ojai Basin in order to protect and maintain the long-term water supply for the common benefit of the water users in the Basin.”

Ultimately, the planned well is compliant with the updated County and State regulations because:

1. There is only one mapped existing well (*State Well Number [SWN] 04N/22W-04D01S*) within the 1000 horizontal ft radial envelope from its postulated location per Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD) shapefiles (see Figure 1), and that well is listed as ‘Can’t Locate’ from <1970s and is likely inactive if not abandoned/destroyed.
2. Assuming an alluvial aquifer transmissivity of 10,139 ft²/day and a storativity of 0.0002 (after Dudek, 2022a), the modeled interference using Theis distance-drawdown equations by pumping the new well is <0.1 ft at basin Representative Monitoring Point wells.
3. Land subsidence is currently not an undesirable result for the Ojai Basin per the submitted Groundwater Sustainability Plan by Dudek (2022b). Furthermore, groundwater extracted from the lower casing perforations adjacent to the Sespe bedrock is both outside of the Ojai Basin bottom and not subject to subsidence (bedrock retracts is structural competence regardless of groundwater presence or absence).
4. The sustainable yield of the OVGB ranges between 4100 to 5000 AFY (Dudek, 2022b); future extractions of around 4 AFY from the 6-inch-diameter PVC casing represent about

KEAR GROUNDWATER



0.1% of this yield and are thus not inconsistent with any sustainability goal.

5. The recommended location is not in an area of impacted groundwater quality and no degradation of quality, which is closely linked to chronic groundwater level decline in the Ojai Basin per Dudek (2022b), is anticipated due to the similar lack of groundwater level minimum threshold exceedances.

In sum, operation of the planned new well is not anticipated to cause undesirable results in the Ojai Basin or to the OBGMA's sustainability goals.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy Becker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

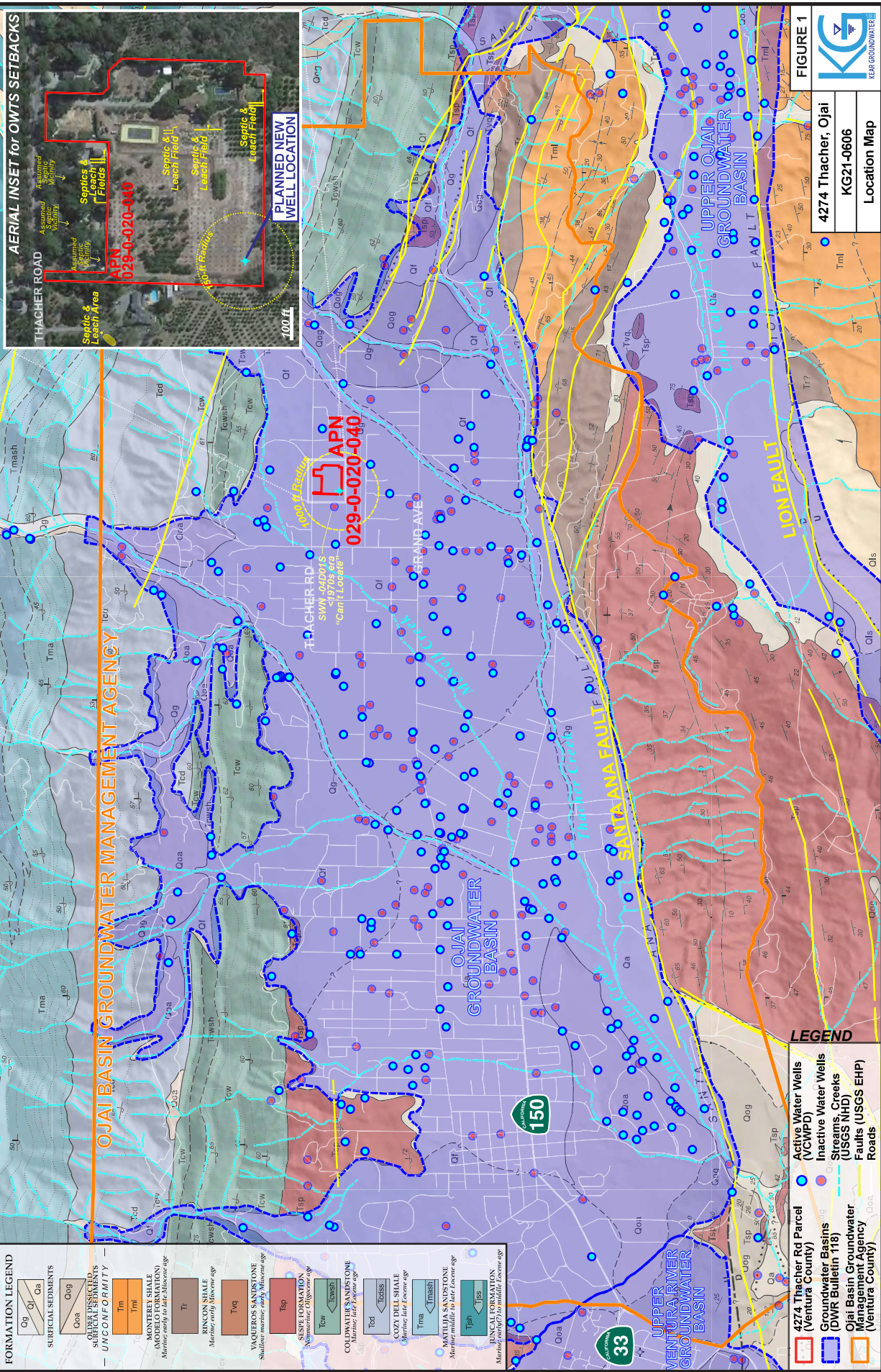
Timothy Becker
Professional Geologist No. 9589
Certified Hydrogeologist No. 1109

References

Dudek (2022a), Assessment of GSP Consistency – Proposed New Well Located at 4424 Thacher Road: Prepared for the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency.

Dudek (2022b), Draft Final Groundwater Sustainability Plan for Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin: Prepared for the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency.

KEAR GROUNDWATER



FORMATION LEGEND

Qr	Qc	Qa
SERIAL SEDIMENTS		
Ooa	Oog	
OJAI BASIN		
UNCONFORMITY		
Tm	Tml	
MONTEREY SHALE (MODELO FORMATION) Marine early to late Miocene age		
Tr		
RINCON SHALE Marine early Miocene age		
Tq		
VAQUEROS SANDSTONE Shallow marine early Miocene age		
Tsp		
SERRA FORMATION Nonmarine Oligocene age		
Tow		
COLDWATER SANDSTONE Marine late Eocene age		
Tcd		
COZA DELL SHALE Marine and Eocene age		
Tma		
MATILJA SANDSTONE Marine middle to late Eocene age		
Tjsh		
BUNCAL FORMATION Marine early to middle Eocene age		

LEGEND

[Red Box]	4274 Thacher Rd Parcel (Ventura County)
[Blue Box]	Groundwater Basins (DWR Bulletin 118)
[Cyan Line]	Streams, Creeks (USGS NHD)
[Orange Line]	Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (Ventura County)
[Blue Circle]	Active Water Wells (VCWPD)
[Red Circle]	Inactive Water Wells (USGS NHD)
[Dashed Blue Line]	Faults (USGS EHP)
[Yellow Line]	Roads



FIGURE 1

4274 Thacher, Ojai

KG21-0606

Location Map



Geologic Basemaps: Dibblee (1987a, b)
Shaded Relief: Modified from USGS NED

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-03

**A RESOLUTION OF THE OJAI BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY
AUTHORIZING VERIFICATION FOR A PROPOSED NEW WATER WELL LOCATED WITHIN THE
BOUNDARIES OF THE AGENCY ON ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 029-0-020-040**

WHEREAS, by its enabling legislation, the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA) is responsible for managing the groundwater resource within its jurisdictional boundaries.

WHEREAS, the OBGMA jurisdictional boundaries contain the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin (Ojai Basin), as defined by the Department of Water Resources (DWR), as well as some, but not all, of the larger watershed area containing the Ojai Basin. The Ojai Basin is designated by DWR as a high priority basin.

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Water Code § 10723(c)(1), and by its Resolution No. 2014-4, OBGMA is designated as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Ojai Basin.

WHEREAS, by its Ordinance No. 8, the OBGMA requires all water wells constructed within the OBGMA boundary to be registered with the Agency and to be issued a verification letter from the Agency prior to the issuance of a Well Permit by Ventura County.

WHEREAS, in response to the severe drought, Governor Newsom issued Drought Executive Order N-7-22 on March 28, 2022, and issued a revision under Order N-3-23 dated February 13, 2023, which included new well permitting requirements for local agencies to prepare for and lessen the effects of drought conditions. In compliance with Executive Order N-3-23 Paragraph 4 (a), Ventura County requires all applications for a permit to construct a new water well or for alteration of an existing water well shall be subject to the following in addition to the requirements of Ventura County Ordinance No. 4468:

To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not:

- a. Approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium- or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed to be located that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the OBGMA Board of Directors finds as follows in consideration of the Well Permit Application of Roger Birnbaum (APN 029-0-020-040) dated April 19, 2023:

1. The proposed water well will pump more than 2 acre-feet per year for individual domestic use and therefore findings required by California Executive Order N-3-23 Item 4a are applicable.
2. Groundwater extraction by the proposed well will not be inconsistent with the Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted for the Ojai Basin and will not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin.
3. The proposed well must be constructed and operated pursuant to the standards of Ventura County Ordinance 4468, Section 4814, which incorporates California Well Standards, Bulletin 74-81; the draft supplemental, Bulletin 74-90; and Ventura County Water Well Standards Bulletin No. 74-9.
4. The proposed well must meet OBGMA's requirements for construction of new wells including registration, monitoring, reporting, and any special conditions of approval.
5. The proposed well is not located near a source of contamination or other environmental concern that would require the OBGMA or the County of Ventura to exercise their discretion in order to mitigate potential adverse environmental effects of the proposed well. (See *Protecting Our Water & Env'tl. Res. v. Stanislaus Cnty.*, S251709 (Cal. May 29, 2020).)
6. For the foregoing reasons, the Agency's consideration and approval of the Well Permit Application for Roger Birnbaum (APN 029-0-020-040) is a ministerial action and not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
7. The following standard permit conditions shall be made a part of the Well Permit:
 - a. Compliance with all County permitting requirements;
 - b. OBGMA staff or consultants shall be provided an opportunity to confirm the drilling location prior to drilling;
 - c. OBGMA staff or consultants shall be provided an opportunity to observe drilling operations as they are occurring;
 - d. OBGMA staff or consultants shall be provided an opportunity to review all drill cuttings, and any geophysical logs following drilling; and
 - e. Roger Birnbaum (APN 029-0-020-040) shall comply with all applicable OBGMA Ordinances and Resolutions related to well metering, extraction reporting, and fee payment that are now in effect or as may hereafter be adopted.
 - f. Well contractor to provide OBGMA with the completion Report and State Well Number within 30 days of well completion.

WHEREFORE, the Application of Roger Birnbaum, APN 029-0-020-040 for Well Verification dated April 19, 2023 is hereby **APPROVED** by the Board of Directors of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency on May 25, 2023.

Richard Hajas, President

Attest: _____
Peter Thielke, Secretary

Vote:		
Richard Hajas, Casitas Municipal Water District		[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]
Peter Theilke, Mutual Water Companies		[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]
Jim Finch, Ojai Water Conservation District		[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]
Andrew Whitman, City of Ojai		[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]
Bob Daddi, Community Facilities District		[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]



Member Agencies

Ojai Water Conservation District Ojai Basin Mutual Water Companies:
Casitas Municipal Water District Senior Canyon MWC
City of Ojai Siete Robles MWC
Community Facilities District Hermitage MWC

May 26, 2023

Roger Birnbaum
4274 Thacher Road
Ojai CA 93023

Subject: Well Application for APN 029-0-020-040, 4274 Thacher Road, Ojai CA

Dear Property Owner:

California Governor, Gavin Newsom, signed Executive Order N-7-22 on March 28, 2022 and revised the order under N-3-23 dated February 13, 2023 as follows:

4. Paragraph 9 of Executive Order N-7-22 is withdrawn and replaced with the following text:

To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not:

a. Approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium- or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed to be located that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan; or

b. Issue a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well without first determining that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

This Paragraph shall not apply to permits for wells (i) that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, (ii) that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code, or (iii) that are replacing existing, currently permitted wells with new wells that will produce an equivalent quantity of water as the well being replaced when the existing well is being replaced because it has been acquired by eminent domain or acquired while under threat of condemnation.

To comply with Section 4a of EO N-3-23 water well applicants, not exempt under the order, are required to get a verification letter from the local Groundwater Sustainability Agency, in this case it is the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA), for submittal to the County of Ventura.

Office Address: 417 Bryant Circle Drive, Suite 112, Ojai CA 93023
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1779, Ojai CA 93024
www.obgma.com

805.640.1207
obgma@aol.com

OBGMA Verification under Executive Order N-3-23, Paragraph 4a or
Denial of Water Well Application.

Your application is:

Approved: X based on:

1. Exemptions within the Executive Order; water use is intended for domestic use and the extraction and will be under 2 acre-feet each water year (October through September of each year)
2. A verification analysis has been completed and the water well is consistent with OBGMA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan. This verification is approved by the OBGMA Board of Directors and this is your authorization to proceed with application to the County of Ventura, subject to the General and Standard permit conditions contained herein. Requirements under Section 4b are to be coordinated with the County of Ventura.

Any approval shall be valid for one year from the date of this verification unless changes in law make this approval invalid.

Not Approved: _____ based on:

1. Needing the following additional information or clarification on your water well application (see attached); or
2. Needing to meet the requirements under Section 9a, Executive Order N-7-22

The following general conditions are to be followed for the proposed water well:

1. The proposed well must be constructed and operated pursuant to the standards of Ventura County Ordinance 4468, Section 4814, which incorporates California Well Standards, Bulletin 74-81; the draft supplemental, Bulletin 74-90; Ventura County Water Well Standards Bulletin No. 74-9 and compliance with all other County permitting requirements.
2. The proposed well must meet OBGMA's requirements of new wells including registration, monitoring, reporting, and any other special conditions of approval.
3. The proposed well is not located near a source of contamination nor other environmental concern requiring the OBGMA or the County of Ventura to exercise their discretion in order to mitigate potential adverse environmental effects of the proposed well. (See *Protecting Our Water & Env'tl. Res. v. Stanislaus Cnty.*, S251709 (Cal. May 29, 2020).)
4. If the proposed well is located in an area overlying the Southwestern Uppermost Saturated Zone (SWUSZ) of the Ojai Basin as determined by OBGMA, the well shall be equipped with a seal of adequate depth to preclude communication between the well's production zones and the SWUSZ. In most cases this condition will be met with a 50-foot seal around the conductor casing or production casing. **The proposed well is not located within the SWUSZ of the OBGMA jurisdiction.**
5. The following standard OBGMA permit conditions are also made a part of this water well authorization to proceed:

- a. OBGMA staff or consultants shall be provided an opportunity to confirm the drilling location prior to drilling
- b. OBGMA staff or consultants shall be provided an opportunity to observe drilling operations as they are occurring
- c. OBGMA staff or consultants shall be provided an opportunity to review all drill cuttings, and any geophysical logs following drilling
- d. The well owner shall comply with all applicable OBGMA Ordinances and Resolutions requiring metering of the well, extraction reporting, and fee payment to OBGMA now in effect or as may hereafter be adopted
- e. Well contractor to provide OBGMA with the completion Report and State Well Number within 30 days of well completion

The following forms are attached for your information and use:

- Resolution No. 2023-03
- Well Registration Form
- Blank Statement
- First Notice of Groundwater Extraction

Please contact us at obgmagm@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Julia Aranda, PE
Interim General Manager

c: County of Ventura

Attachments: Resolution No. 2023-03
Well Registration Form
Blank Statement
First Notice of Groundwater Extraction

Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency

Memorandum

To: Board of Directors
From: Julia Aranda, PE, Interim General Manager
Subject: Semi-Annual Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting
May 25, 2023

Recommendation

- Authorize Dudek to perform services for Seasonal (Semi-Annual) Groundwater Level Monitoring and Reporting for Spring 2023

Background and Discussion

The Sustainable Groundwater Act (SGMA) requires measurement of static groundwater levels semi-annually, in the spring and fall. The data is submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) through their Monitoring Network Module and is due July 1, 2023.

Dudek provided the attached proposal for consideration. The scope of work includes:

- Coordination with monitoring entities and review of monitoring data
- Data submittal to DWR through the SGMA Monitoring Network Module
- Project Management

Budget Impact

The not-to-exceed fee for Dudek's services is \$2,450.00. The General Manager requests a contingency of 10% for a total budget of \$2,695.00 for this work.

Attachments: Dudek proposal dated May 12, 2023

May 12, 2023

Julia Aranda
Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency
417 Bryant Circle, Suite 112
Ojai, California 93023

Subject: Proposal to Support OBGMA's Compliance with SGMA Monitoring Reporting Requirements

Dear Julia Aranda:

Dudek is pleased to provide the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA) with this proposal to support the agency's compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act's (SGMA) groundwater monitoring reporting requirements. SGMA requires that static groundwater elevations be measured semi-annually, to represent seasonal low and high groundwater conditions, from the groundwater wells that compose the GSP monitoring network (23 §CCR 354.34(c)(1)(B)). These measurements are required to be submitted to the DWR semi-annually, with the seasonal low measurements submitted by January 1 and the seasonal high measurements submitted by July 1 (23 §CCR 354.40). Dudek has actively supported the OBGMA's compliance with these reporting requirements since adoption of the GSP in January 2021.

Groundwater elevations in the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin (OVGB) are measured by multiple entities: (1) the Ventura County Watershed Protection District, (2) the Ojai Valley Sanitation District¹, and (3) Kear Groundwater, on behalf of the OBGMA. The GSP monitoring network consists of groundwater wells that are measured by Ventura County Watershed Protection District and Kear Groundwater. The scope of services provided below includes time to coordinate delivery of groundwater level data from these entities, perform quality control/review of the data, and upload the data to SGMA's Monitoring Network Module.

1 Anticipated Scope of Services

Task 1 Coordination with monitoring entities and review of monitoring data

Dudek will contact both the Ventura County Watershed Protection District and Kear Groundwater to request groundwater elevation data collected within the OVGB between the period of January 1, 2023 and June 30, 2023. Dudek will review the data provided by each monitoring entity to ensure that groundwater level measurements are reflective of static (e.g. non-pumping) conditions and characterize seasonal high levels.

Dudek understands that multiple monitoring wells in the OVGB are instrumented with pressure transducers that provide a high-frequency measure of local hydraulic head. To account for any instrumentation drift associated

¹ Ojai Valley Sanitation District maintains a network of shallow monitoring wells that are used to characterize conditions in the southwester upper saturated zone. These wells are not currently incorporated into the GSP monitoring network. The potential inclusion of these wells into the monitoring network will be re-evaluated during the 5-year GSP update.

with this data, Dudek requests that manual groundwater level measurements be collected from the monitoring wells instrumented with pressure transducers.

Dudek will reach out to each monitoring entity by June 1, 2023. Dudek requires that manual groundwater level measurements and transducer data be provided no later than June 26, 2023 to meet the July 1, 2023 submittal deadline.

Dudek has budgeted four (4) hours to coordinate with the County and Kear Groundwater and review groundwater level data.

Task 1.....\$880.00

Task 2 Data Submittal to DWR’s SGMA Monitoring Network Module

DWR requires submittal of monitoring network data to the SGMA Monitoring Network Module. Following review of the data provided by Ventura County Watershed Protection District and Kear Groundwater, Dudek will upload data for the 23 wells in the monitoring network to DWR’s Monitoring Network Module.

Dudek has budgeted six (6) hours to complete submittal of the monitoring network data to DWR.

Task 2\$1,320.00

Task 3 Project Management

This task covers general project management and invoicing. Dudek has budgeted one (1) hour for general project management tasks associated with this task order.

Task 3\$250.00

2 Cost Estimate

A summary of the scope and fee estimate is provided in Table 1. Dudek will bill on a time and materials basis in accordance with rates in the attached 2023 Dudek Standard Schedule of Charges (Attachment A). To ensure that the OBGMA Board and staff remain apprised of all activities and costs associated with projects performed under this task, Dudek will copy OBGMA staff (Julia Aranda) on all email correspondence and submittal activities.

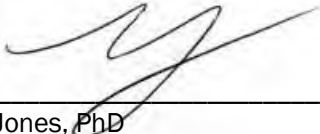
Table 1. Cost Summary

Task and Fee Summary		
Task 1:	Coordination with Monitoring Entities and Review of Groundwater Level Data	\$880.00
Task 2:	Data Submittal to DWR	\$1,320.00
Task 3:	Project Management	\$250.00
Total		\$2,450.00

TO: JULIA ARANDA
SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO SUPPORT COMPLIANCE WITH SGMA MONITORING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Dudek appreciates this opportunity to assist the OBGMA. If you have any questions or require further discussion, please contact me at tjones@dudek.com or 760.407.4042.

Sincerely,



Trevor Jones, PhD
Senior Hydrogeologist

Att.: Attachment A, 2023 Standard Schedule of Charges

Attachment A

2023 Standard Schedule of Charges

DUDEK 2023 Standard Schedule of Charges

Engineering Services

Project Director	\$325.00/hr
Principal Engineer III	\$290.00/hr
Principal Engineer II	\$280.00/hr
Principal Engineer I	\$270.00/hr
Program Manager	\$260.00/hr
Senior Project Manager	\$260.00/hr
Project Manager	\$250.00/hr
Senior Engineer III	\$245.00/hr
Senior Engineer II	\$235.00/hr
Senior Engineer I	\$225.00/hr
Project Engineer IV/Technician IV	\$215.00/hr
Project Engineer III/Technician III	\$205.00/hr
Project Engineer II/Technician II	\$195.00/hr
Project Engineer I/Technician I	\$175.00/hr
Senior Designer II	\$195.00/hr
Senior Designer I	\$190.00/hr
Designer	\$180.00/hr
Assistant Designer	\$175.00/hr
CADD Operator III	\$170.00/hr
CADD Operator II	\$160.00/hr
CADD Operator I	\$145.00/hr
CADD Drafter	\$130.00/hr
CADD Technician	\$120.00/hr
Project Coordinator	\$150.00/hr
Engineering Assistant	\$125.00/hr

Environmental Services

Senior Project Director	\$300.00/hr
Project Director	\$265.00/hr
Senior Specialist V	\$250.00/hr
Senior Specialist IV	\$235.00/hr
Senior Specialist III	\$225.00/hr
Senior Specialist II	\$210.00/hr
Senior Specialist I	\$200.00/hr
Specialist V	\$185.00/hr
Specialist IV	\$175.00/hr
Specialist III	\$165.00/hr
Specialist II	\$155.00/hr
Specialist I	\$145.00/hr
Analyst V	\$135.00/hr
Analyst IV	\$125.00/hr
Analyst III	\$115.00/hr
Analyst II	\$105.00/hr
Analyst I	\$95.00/hr
Technician III	\$85.00/hr
Technician II	\$75.00/hr
Technician I	\$65.00/hr

Mapping and Surveying Services

Application Developer II	\$195.00/hr
Application Developer I	\$155.00/hr
GIS Analyst V	\$205.00/hr
GIS Analyst IV	\$165.00/hr
GIS Analyst III	\$145.00/hr
GIS Analyst II	\$130.00/hr
GIS Analyst I	\$115.00/hr
UAS Pilot	\$115.00/hr
Survey Lead	\$185.00/hr
Survey Manager	\$145.00/hr
Survey Crew Chief	\$120.00/hr
Survey Rod Person	\$95.00/hr
Survey Mapping Technician	\$95.00/hr

Construction Management Services

Principal/Manager	\$195.00/hr
Senior Construction Manager	\$185.00/hr
Senior Project Manager	\$175.00/hr
Construction Manager	\$170.00/hr
Project Manager	\$165.00/hr
Resident Engineer	\$160.00/hr
Construction Engineer	\$155.00/hr
On-site Owner's Representative	\$145.00/hr
Prevailing Wage Inspector	\$145.00/hr
Construction Inspector	\$140.00/hr
Administrator/Labor Compliance	\$100.00/hr

Hydrogeology/HazWaste Services

Project Director	\$325.00/hr
Principal Hydrogeologist/Engineer II	\$295.00/hr
Principal Hydrogeologist/Engineer I	\$275.00/hr
Senior Hydrogeologist V/Engineer V	\$260.00/hr
Senior Hydrogeologist IV/Engineer IV	\$250.00/hr
Senior Hydrogeologist III/Engineer III	\$240.00/hr
Senior Hydrogeologist II/Engineer II	\$230.00/hr
Senior Hydrogeologist I/Engineer I	\$220.00/hr
Project Hydrogeologist V/Engineer V	\$205.00/hr
Project Hydrogeologist IV/Engineer IV	\$195.00/hr
Project Hydrogeologist III/Engineer III	\$185.00/hr
Project Hydrogeologist II/Engineer II	\$175.00/hr
Project Hydrogeologist I/Engineer I	\$165.00/hr
Hydrogeologist/Engineering Assistant	\$130.00/hr

District Management & Operations

District General Manager	\$225.00/hr
District Engineer	\$215.00/hr
Operations Manager	\$165.00/hr
District Secretary/Accountant	\$140.00/hr
Collections System Manager	\$140.00/hr
Grade V Operator	\$130.00/hr
Grade IV Operator	\$115.00/hr
Grade III Operator	\$105.00/hr
Grade II Operator	\$85.00/hr
Grade I Operator	\$80.00/hr
Operator in Training	\$75.00/hr
Collection Maintenance Worker	\$75.00/hr

Creative Services

Creative Services IV	\$165.00/hr
Creative Services III	\$150.00/hr
Creative Services II	\$135.00/hr
Creative Services I	\$120.00/hr

Publications Services

Technical Editor IV	\$165.00/hr
Technical Editor III	\$150.00/hr
Technical Editor II	\$135.00/hr
Technical Editor I	\$120.00/hr
Publications Specialist IV	\$125.00/hr
Publications Specialist III	\$115.00/hr
Publications Specialist II	\$105.00/hr
Publications Specialist I	\$95.00/hr
Clerical Administration	\$90.00/hr

Expert Witness – Court appearances, depositions, and interrogatories as expert witness will be billed at 2.00 times normal rates.

Emergency and Holidays – Minimum charge of two hours will be billed at 1.75 times the normal rate.

Material and Outside Services – Subcontractors, rental of special equipment, special reproductions and blueprinting, outside data processing and computer services, etc., are charged at 1.15 times the direct cost.

Travel Expenses – Mileage at current IRS allowable rates. Per diem where overnight stay is involved is charged at cost.

Invoices, Late Charges – All fees will be billed to Client monthly and shall be due and payable upon receipt. Invoices are delinquent if not paid within 30 days from the date of the invoice. Client agrees to pay a monthly late charge equal to 1% per month of the outstanding balance until paid in full.

Annual Increases – Unless identified otherwise, these standard rates will increase in line with the CPI-U for the nearest urban area per the Department of Labor Statistics to where the work is being completed) or by 3% annually, whichever is higher.

The rates listed above assume prevailing wage rates does not apply. If this assumption is incorrect Dudek reserves the right to adjust its rates accordingly.

Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency

Memorandum

To: Board of Directors
From: Julia Aranda, PE, Interim General Manager
Subject: Banking Authority
May 25, 2023

Recommendation

- Adopt Resolution No. 2023-04 Authorizing Signatory Authority for Banking Authorities

Background and Discussion

The attached Resolution No. 2023-04 updates signatories for banking activities with Bank of the Sierra.

Budget Impact

There is no budget impact to approval of the Resolution.

Attachment: Resolution No. 2023-04

RESOLUTION 2023-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE OJAI BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY AUTHORIZING SIGNATORY AUTHORITY FOR BANKING ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, California law requires a local agency to deposit all money belonging to, or in the custody of that local agency into specified state or national banks; and

WHEREAS, the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency has authorized certain public funds to be deposited with Bank of the Sierra; and,

WHEREAS, from time to time the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency has cause to withdraw, deposit, reinvest, or otherwise change the disposition of those invested assets to fulfill the mission of the Agency; and,

WHEREAS, the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency has had a change in staffing and Board Members requiring a change in signatories with the Bank of the Sierra.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

1. The Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency designates that two signatures are required for approval of transactions and the dispersing of funds conducted with the Bank of the Sierra, and,
2. The following persons are approved as authorized signatories on the banking accounts of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency held at the Bank of the Sierra:

Richard Hajas, President of the Board
Jim Finch, Vice President
Peter Thielke, Secretary
Bob Daddi, Board Member
Andrew Whitman, Board Member
Julia Aranda, Interim General Manager

The following individuals are to be removed as signatories on the banking accounts of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency held at the Bank of the Sierra:

William Weirick
John Mundy
Roberta Barbee

APPROVED by the Board of Directors of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency this May 25, 2023.

Richard Hajas, President

Attest: _____
Peter Thielke, Secretary

Richard Hajas, Casitas Municipal Water District	[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]
Peter Theilke, Mutual Water Companies	[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]
Jim Finch, Ojai Water Conservation District	[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]
Andy Whitman, City of Ojai	[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]
Bob Daddi, Community Facilities District	[Yes / No / Abstain / Absent]

Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency

Memorandum

To: Board of Directors
From: Julia Aranda, PE, Interim General Manager
Subject: Draft Work Plan
May 25, 2023

Background and Discussion

The General Manager is seeking direction on short-term goals to set the Agency up for Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) implementation and regulatory compliance related to the GSP and other agencies. The attached draft Work Plan is intended to solicit feedback and input from the Board on priorities.

Budget Impact

There is no immediate budget impact. The General Manager will bring any potential financial decisions to the Board for approval.

Attachment: Draft Work Plan

OBGMA WORK PLAN MAY 2023 - OCTOBER 2023

TASK	DUE DATE/GOAL	AGENCY
Resolution for Banking Authority	6/22/2023	
Update Well Verification Application	6/30/2023	
Finalize Well Verification Requirements	6/30/2023	
State Controller's Annual Report	6/30/2023	STATE
Semi-Annual GW Level Evaluation and Submittal	7/1/2023	DWR
Update Cost of Service Analysis	7/31/2023	
Well Registration Outreach	7/31/2023	
Prepare 5-year Budget/Cost of GSP	7/31/2023	
Board meeting minutes	8/31/2023	
Finalize Municipal Service Report	8/31/2023	LAFCO
Prepare FY 23/24 Budget	8/31/2023	
Update website	9/30/2023	

Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency

Memorandum

To: Board of Directors
From: Julia Aranda, PE, Interim General Manager
Subject: Well Verification Process Under Governor's Executive Order N-3-23
Date: May 25, 2023

Background and Discussion

OBGMA has used a Water Well Permit Application for those seeking to install a new well within OBGMA boundaries. OBMGA is not the actual permitting agency for new or modified wells within its boundaries; that authority rests with the County of Ventura pursuant to County Ordinance No. 4468.

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has designated the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin (DWR Bulletin 118 Basin No. 4-002) a "high priority" basin for purposes of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. As such, prior to issuing a permit for either a new or modified groundwater well within the DWR-defined boundaries of the Ojai Basin, the County is required to seek written verification from the Groundwater Sustainability Agency, which is OBGMA, in compliance with Executive Order (EO) N-3-23, paragraph 4a (attached). The written verification must find that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with the groundwater sustainability program adopted by OBGMA pursuant to its Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving any of the sustainability goals OBGMA has established for the Basin in its GSP. In addition, pursuant to EO N-3-23, paragraph 4b, the County (as the primary permitting agency) must find the extraction of groundwater will not likely interfere with existing nearby wells nor cause subsidence that will adversely affect nearby infrastructure. (See EO N-3-23, paragraph 4b, attached.)

For proposed new or modified wells located within the DWR-defined Ojai Basin boundaries, the requirements of both Paragraphs 4a and 4b must be met. OBGMA is the agency responsible for complying with Paragraph 4a, which requires review of individual well permit applications and findings, based on substantial evidence, that the requirements of 4a are satisfied. The County, on the other hand, is the agency responsible for complying with Paragraph 4b. The County relies on well permit applicants to provide hydrogeologic analysis from qualified professionals (e.g., Professional Geologists, Certified Hydrogeologists, or Professional Engineers) to support the findings the County is required to make pursuant to Paragraph 4b.

Because OBGMA's jurisdictional boundaries are not always co-extensive with the DWR-defined Ojai Basin boundaries, and in some areas extend beyond the DWR-defined Basin boundaries, situations could arise (and have in the past) where a new or modified well is proposed outside the DWR-defined Ojai Basin, but within OBGMA's jurisdiction. In these situations, there is no requirement that OBGMA provide written well verifications pursuant to Paragraph 4a. The County, on the other hand, remains obligated to comply with Paragraph 4b. In addition, as with all new proposed wells with OBGMA's jurisdiction, the well applicant is required to (i) ensure the well the is registered with the Agency, (ii) equip it with a water meter, and (iii) report all extractions to the Agency in compliance with OBGMA Ordinance No. 8.

EO N-3-23 includes exemptions for wells: 1) that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of extraction for individual domestic users, 2) that will exclusively provide groundwater to a public water supply system (defined by section 116275 of the Health & Safety Code as serving 15 or more service connections with water intended for human consumption), or 3) that are replacing existing, currently permitted wells with new wells that will produce an equivalent quantity of water as the well being replaced when the well is being replaced because it was acquired by eminent domain or acquired under threat of condemnation. If any of these criteria apply, the additional well permitting requirements of EO N-3-23 are not applicable, and neither OBGMA nor the County must make the findings required by Paragraphs 4a and 4b. The County will still direct applicants to OBGMA for some kind of authorization/verification prior to issuing any well permit.

Staff recommends the Board consider adopting a "Well Verification Application" (draft attached) to clarify the process and requirements for well permit applicants subject to Paragraph 4a requesting written verification from OBGMA.

To streamline the process of review and approval/denial of requests for written verification pursuant to EO N-3-23, paragraph 4a, the attached flow chart presents circumstances for possible administrative approval by the General Manager versus formal action by the Board. Because substantial evidence must support all well verification approvals, staff recommends the flow chart be referred to either Dudek or Jordan Kear for a determination and confirmation that General Manager administrative approvals consistent with the flow chart will not result in any GSP inconsistencies. With such a determination in hand, any administrative approvals by the General Manager for issuance of written verifications consistent with the flow chart will be supported by substantial evidence. The General Manager would keep the Board informed of administratively and Board-approved wells as an Information Item on a regular basis. When consensus is reached regarding the circumstances supporting General Manager administrative approvals, a Resolution will be prepared for Board approval to formalize the process.

All well verification requests that do not meet the criteria for General Manager administrative approval must be referred to either Dudek or Kear Groundwater for a determination of consistency with the GSP. Such a determination will constitute substantial evidence in support of approval or denial of the well verification request. In order to offset the costs, staff recommend applicants deposit a pre-determined amount of funds with OBGMA which will be used to engage the consultant. If the Board agrees directly engaging a consultant is in the best interests of OBGMA, an administrative process for this will be developed.

Items for discussion:

- Terminology for Well Application (Permit vs. Verification)
- Threshold for General Manager administrative approval
- Tracking frequency of new wells
- Engagement of outside consultant

Attachments: Executive Order N-3-23

Draft Well Verification Application

Draft Well Verification Process Flowchart

Well Reporting Template

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-3-23

WHEREAS on April 21, 2021, May 10, 2021, July 8, 2021, and October 19, 2021, I proclaimed States of Emergency due to drought conditions that continue today and exist across California; and

WHEREAS climate change continues to intensify the impacts of droughts on our communities, environment, and economy, and these impacts continue to affect groundwater basins, local water supplies, and ecosystems, resulting in continuing drought in the State; and

WHEREAS the ongoing drought continues to have significant, immediate impacts on communities with vulnerable water supplies, farms that rely on irrigation to grow food and fiber, and fish and wildlife that rely on stream flows and cool water; and

WHEREAS early, substantial rains in October and December 2021 gave way to the driest January-February-March period in over 100 years in California, leading the October 2021 to September 2022 water year to end with statewide precipitation at 76 percent of average, with statewide reservoir storage at 69 percent of average, and with Lake Oroville—the State Water Project's largest reservoir—at 64 percent of average; and

WHEREAS in January 2023, the State experienced one of the wettest three-week periods on record, yielding a snowpack that was at 205 percent of average on February 1, 2023, yet to date February has been drier than average; and

WHEREAS the current snowpack has not reduced stresses upon the State's water resources, including low storage levels, depleted aquifers, and diminished local water supplies; and

WHEREAS the State can expect continued swings between extreme wet and extreme dry periods that can present risks of severe flooding and extreme drought in the same year; and

WHEREAS California must adapt to a hotter, drier future in which a greater share of rain and snowfall during the wetter months will be absorbed by dry soils, consumed by plants, and evaporated into the air, leaving less water for communities, species, and agriculture; and

WHEREAS the frequency of hydrologic extremes experienced in the State is indicative of an overarching need to continually reexamine policies to promote resiliency in a changing climate; and

WHEREAS Californians continue to make progress conserving water, with urban water users conserving 17.1 percent statewide in December 2022 compared to December 2020 and agricultural producers continuing to invest in more efficient irrigation; and

WHEREAS despite this progress, the uncertainty of precipitation during the remainder of the winter and spring, and the potential of dry conditions next

winter and of drought conditions extending to a fifth year, make it necessary for the State to continue water-conservation measures and drought-resilience actions to extend available supplies, protect water reserves, and maintain critical flows for fish and wildlife; and

WHEREAS as directed in "California's Water Supply Strategy: Adapting to a Hotter, Drier Future," the State plans to stretch water supplies by storing, recycling, de-salting, and conserving the water it will need to keep up with the increasing pace of climate change; and

WHEREAS multiple regions of the State, such as the Klamath Basin and the Colorado River system, face severe water shortage conditions, and groundwater basins in the Central Valley continue to be depleted from years of drought and overdraft; and

WHEREAS groundwater use accounts for 41 percent of the State's total water supply on an average annual basis but as much as 58 percent in a critically dry year, and approximately 85 percent of public water systems rely on groundwater as their primary supply; and

WHEREAS capturing and storing storm and snowpack runoff underground to recharge aquifers is an important strategy to help regions stabilize water supplies in the face of hydrologic extremes; and

WHEREAS state agencies have created streamlined permitting pathways to enable groundwater recharge that augments natural aquifer recharge, while protecting the environment and other water users, but more opportunities exist to facilitate groundwater recharge; and

WHEREAS coordination between local entities that approve permits for new groundwater wells and local groundwater sustainability agencies is important to achieving sustainable levels of groundwater in critically overdrafted basins; and

WHEREAS to protect public health and safety, it is critical the State take certain immediate actions without undue delay to prepare for and mitigate the effects of the drought conditions, and under Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Order would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the drought conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567, 8571, and 8627, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The orders and provisions contained in my State of Emergency Proclamations dated April 21, 2021, May 10, 2021, July 8, 2021, and October 19, 2021, and Executive Orders N-10-21 (July 8, 2021) and N-7-22 (March 28, 2022), remain in full force and effect, except as modified by those proclamations and orders and herein. State agencies shall

continue to implement all directions from those proclamations and orders and accelerate implementation where feasible.

2. To maximize the extent to which winter precipitation recharges underground aquifers, the Department of Water Resources, the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board), and the Department of Fish and Wildlife shall continue to collaborate on expediting permitting of recharge projects and shall work with local water districts to facilitate recharge projects.

3. Paragraph 4 of my State of Emergency Proclamation dated May 10, 2021 and Paragraph 4 of my State of Emergency Proclamation dated July 8, 2021 are withdrawn, and each is replaced with the following text:

To ensure adequate water supplies for purposes of health, safety, the environment, or drought resilient water supplies, the Water Board shall consider modifying requirements for reservoir releases or diversion limitations in Central Valley Project or State Water Project facilities to:

- (i) conserve water upstream later in the year in order to protect cold water pools for salmon and steelhead,
- (ii) enhance instream conditions for fish and wildlife,
- (iii) improve water quality,
- (iv) protect carry-over storage,
- (v) ensure minimum health and safety water supplies,
- or (vi) provide opportunities to maintain or to expand water supplies north and south of the Delta.

The Water Board shall require monitoring and evaluation of any such changes to inform future actions. For any actions taken pursuant to this paragraph and any approvals granted in furtherance of this paragraph, Water Code Section 13247 and Public Resources Code, Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are suspended. Nothing in this Paragraph affects or limits the validity of actions already taken or ongoing under Paragraph 4 of my May 10, 2021 Proclamation or Paragraph 4 of my July 8, 2021 Proclamation.

4. Paragraph 9 of Executive Order N-7-22 is withdrawn and replaced with the following text:

To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not:

- a. Approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium- or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed to be located that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan; or

- b. Issue a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well without first determining that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

This Paragraph shall not apply to permits for wells (i) that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, (ii) that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code, or (iii) that are replacing existing, currently permitted wells with new wells that will produce an equivalent quantity of water as the well being replaced when the existing well is being replaced because it has been acquired by eminent domain or acquired while under threat of condemnation.

5. No later than April 28, 2023, state agencies shall send me their recommendations for what further actions, if any, are necessary for on-going emergency drought response, and their views on whether any existing provisions in my proclamations and executive orders related to the drought emergency are no longer needed to prepare for and mitigate the effects of the drought conditions.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have
hereunto set my hand and caused
the Great Seal of the State of
California to be affixed this 13th day
of February 2023.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY N. WEBER, PH.D.
Secretary of State



**OJAI BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY
A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY**

428 BRYANT CIRCLE, SUITE 100
OJAI CA 93023

P.O. BOX 1779
OJAI CA 93024

WWW.OBGMA.COM

**WATER WELL VERIFICATION REQUEST
NO FEE REQUIRED**

GENERAL INFORMATION

Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA or Agency) requires all groundwater extraction facilities within its jurisdictional boundaries to be registered with the Agency. No extraction facility may be operated or otherwise utilized so as to extract groundwater within the boundaries of the Agency unless the facility is registered with the Agency, equipped with a water meter, and all extractions are reported to the Agency as required by OBGMA Ordinance No. 8. In addition, pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-3-23, Paragraph 4a, all non-exempt proposed new or modified extraction facilities located within the boundaries of the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin (DWR Bulletin 118 Basin No. 4-002) require written verification from the Agency prior to issuance of a well permit by the Ventura County Watershed Protection District. The written verification must find that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with the Agency's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin, and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving any of the

ALL WELLS MUST HAVE A METER INSTALLED PER OBGMA ORDINANCE #8

A. PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION

NAME: _____
 PROPERTY ADDRESS: _____
 ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER: _____
 PHONE NO.: _____
 EMAIL: _____

B. OPERATOR INFORMATION (IF DIFFERENT FROM OWNER)

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 PHONE NO.: _____
 EMAIL: _____

C. TYPE OF WELL

<input type="checkbox"/>	NEW	EXISTING WELL NO.:	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	REPLACEMENT	EXISTING WELL NO.:	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	ALTERATION OF EXISTING WELL		

D. TYPE OF USE

<input type="checkbox"/>	IRRIGATION			
	<u>CROP TYPE</u>	<u>EXISTING OR NEW?</u>	<u>ACREAGE</u>	<u>TYPE OF IRRIGATION SYSTEM</u>
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____

<input type="checkbox"/>	DOMESTIC	NO. OF HOUSING UNITS:	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	MUNICIPAL		
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDUSTRIAL	TYPE OF INDUSTRY:	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	MONITORING		



E. PROPOSED EXTRACTION

ACRE-FEET PER YEAR: _____

F. EXISTING WATER SUPPLY

NO OTHER SUPPLY
 EXISTING WELL WELL NO.: _____
 PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIER WATER AGENCY: _____

G. WELL DRILLER

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 PHONE NO.: _____
 EMAIL: _____

H. MAP REQUIREMENTS

Attach a map accurately plotted and show the location of the proposed well. If a replacement well, show location of existing well and distance to proposed well. Provide dimensions of area to be irrigated, indicating crop type for each area, as applicable. For domestic, municipal, or industrial, show the water distribution system and location of structures to be served. Include a north arrow, the Assessor's Parcel Number, and the nearest streets. No permit applications will be accepted without an adequate map.

I. APPLICANT SIGNATURE

 Applicant Date

A WELL COMPLETION REPORT MUST BE PROVIDED TO OBGMA WITHIN 30 DAYS OF COMPLETION

**WELL VERIFICATION
FOR OBGMA USE ONLY**

This Well Verification is provided pursuant to Executive Order N-3-23. If the box marked "Exempt" below is checked, it means the proposed well meets the criteria for exemption set forth in Executive Order N-3-23. If the box marked "Verified" below is checked, it means the Agency has found based on substantial evidence that groundwater extraction by the proposed well meets the requirements for well verification set forth in Executive Order N-3-23, Paragraph 4a, specifically that extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with the sustainable groundwater management program established by the Agency in the GSP adopted for the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin, and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving any of the sustainability goals for the Basin established by the Agency pursuant to the GSP. If the box marked "Denied" below is checked, it means substantial evidence does not support a finding the proposed well meets the requirements for well verification set forth in Executive Order N-3-23, Paragraph 4a.

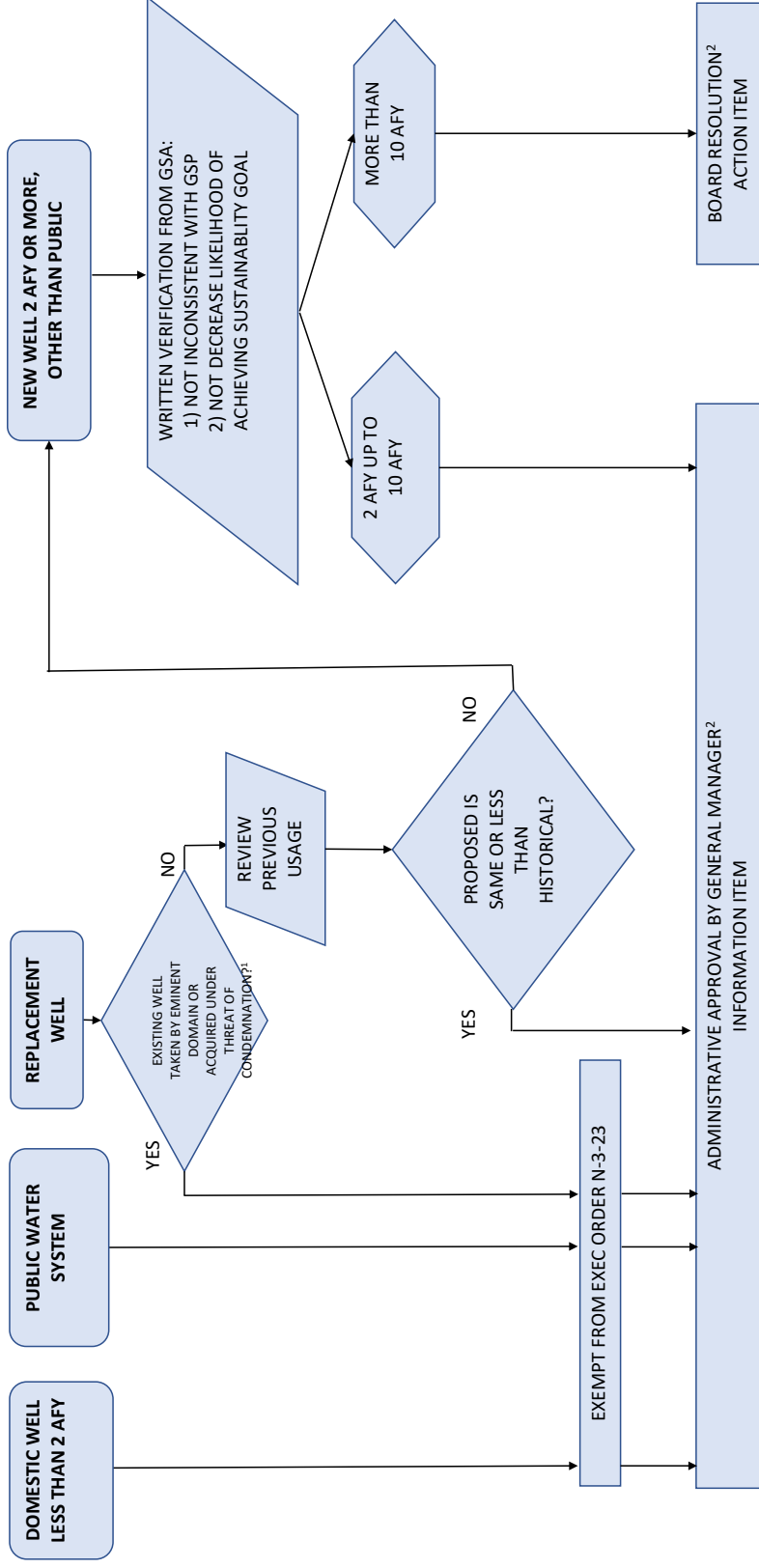
<input type="checkbox"/> Verified	<input type="checkbox"/> Exempt	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	
State Well No. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Less than 2 AFY for domestic use Public water system	
OBGMA Well No. _____			Replaces existing well of equivalent quantity when existing well replaced due to eminent domain or under threat of condemnation
County Permit No. _____			Reasons: _____ _____

BY: _____
General Manager

DATE: _____

OBGMA WELL VERIFICATION PROCESS - DRAFT

Flow chart assumes proposed well is located within DWR-defined Ojai Basin. If outside DWR-defined Ojai Basin, no well verification is required



¹ Written verification required

² All well verification letters will include requirements for well registration, metering, and reporting.

**OBGMA
WELL PERMIT APPLICATIONS 2023**

APN	ADDRESS	OWNER	DEMAND		BOARD		RESOLUTION		COMMENTS
			(AFY)	TYPE	ACTION	DATE	NO.		
024-0-042-015	904 CREEK ROAD	GERTA MARITZ TRUST	1.9	NEW	APPROVED	4/27/2023	2023-01	EXEMPT, <2 AFY	
024-0-031-160	1205 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE	MANUEL GARCIA	0.5	NEW	PENDING	5/25/2023	2023-02	EXEMPT, <2 AFY	
029-0-020-040	4274 THACHER ROAD	ROGER BIRNBAUM	4	NEW	PENDING	5/25/2023	2023-03	ANALYSIS PERFORMED, KEAR GW	
014-0-040-200	1388 ORANGE ROAD	CALVIN ZAHN	15	REPLACEMENT	PENDING			ANALYSIS PENDING	
			TOTAL						
			21.4						