

TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY WATER METER POLICY AND PROCEDURES

1. Policy

It is the policy of the TCWA to collect groundwater extraction metering data from all non-domestic wells. The data will be integrated with other data being collected to track changing conditions in the Tule and Tulare Lake Subbasins of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin in order to evaluate the sustainability indicators of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA); chronic lowering of groundwater levels; and reductions in groundwater storage.

2. Scope

The procedures set forth in Section 3 to further the policy provided above apply to all non-domestic groundwater wells that pump more than 70 gallons per minute or two (2) acre-feet per year (af/y). Domestic wells are exempt from this Water Meter Policy and Procedures. Domestic wells are defined as water wells used exclusively to supply residential household needs.

3. Procedures

- A. **Meter Requirements:** All owners of non-domestic wells are required to install and maintain water meters for those wells in accordance with the following specifications:
 - A.1. **Meter Specifications:** All meters installed for non-domestic wells must comply with American Water Works Association (AWWA) Standard C700 and have flowrate indicators (gpm or cfs) and totalizers (gallons or acre-feet (af)).
 - A.2. **Meter Sizing, Installation, and Maintenance:** Meter sizing, installation and maintenance shall be in accordance with AWWA Standard M6 (Water Meters, Selection, Installation, Testing, and Maintenance) or the applicable manufacturer's published specifications.
 - A.3. **Meter Calibration and Certification:** Pursuant to AWWA Standard M6, each meter shall be tested and calibrated (or replaced) every four (4) years by an independent certified testing facility. If meter readings appear abnormal (indicator or totalizer), such meter shall be inspected, tested, and calibrated by the applicable owner within 30 days of first observing the abnormality. Certified meter calibration and testing reports shall be submitted for each meter to the TCWA for review and documentation.
- B. **Reporting to TCWA:** For each existing non-domestic well, the applicable owner shall provide the TCWA with the following information (as provided in the form included as Attachment A) no later than November 30, 2020. For any new non-domestic well, the applicable landowner shall provide the following information to the TCWA within 30 days of installing pumping equipment in the well:
 - B.1. Kings County or Tulare County Assessor's Parcel Number ("APN") of real property where the well is situated, State Well ID, and the longitude and latitude of the well.
 - B.2. Brand, model number, size, and serial number of the meter; and

B.3. The total depth of the well and the screen intervals.

C. Meter Recording and Reporting:

C.1. Recording Schedule: An owner with a non-domestic well or wells shall record the totalizer reading and report the totalizer reading for each well to the TCWA in April and October of each year.

C.2. Calibration Schedule: Meter calibration and testing reports for each non-domestic well, certified by an independent certified testing facility, shall be submitted to the TCWA by December 31, 2022, and every four years thereafter.

D. Existing Nonconforming Meters: Owners with existing meters that do not conform with the specifications set forth in Section 3.A. have until October 1, 2021, to replace the existing nonconforming meters with meters in compliant with Section 3.A. Notwithstanding the foregoing, owners with nonconforming meters shall comply with Sections 3.B and 3.C in the interim.

E. Costs and Fees:

E.1. For each non-domestic well, applicable owners shall be responsible for all costs associated with the purchase and installation of a meter specified in Section 3.A; for maintaining, record-keeping, and calibrating of the meter(s); and for reporting to the TCWA.

E.2. Fees: The TCWA will not impose any fees to landowners for its data collection and related activities.

6. Data Confidentiality: To address concerns regarding the confidentiality of well data, the raw data will remain confidential pursuant to Government Code §6254(e), and §6254.16 included in Attachment "A". The data will be maintained for use by the TCWA, and only aggregate values of the raw data will be made publicly available.

7. Enforcement: The TCWA's enforcement of compliance with the Well Meter Policy and Procedures is imperative to ensure effective implementation. Non-domestic well owners who fail to comply with the Well Meter Policy and Procedures or who provide inaccurate data to the TWCA will be subject to penalties. Specific enforcement and penalties will be outlined in an Enforcement and Penalties Policy and Procedures to be approved by the TCWA.

Compliance Schedule

Activity	Due Date
Notify TCWA of Existing Meter Specifications	November 30, 2020
Report Totalizer Readings to TCWA	April and October (annually)
Calibration Schedule	Every four (4) years starting December 31, 2022
Replace Nonconforming Meters	October 1, 2021