

Welcome to

County Well Permitting Workshop

Part 1: Sharing Information and Receiving Preliminary Input

County of Mendocino and
Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

November 15, 2022



County Well Permitting Workshop Agenda

- 1) Welcome and Context Setting
- 2) County Requirements under Executive Order N-7-22
- 3) GSA Requirements under Executive Order N-7-22
- 4) How the County and GSA are working together
- 5) Facilitated Public Comment and Feedback Session
- 6) Wrap Up and Closing

November 15, 2022



Setting the context: What brings us here today?

Erik Cadaret
Ukiah Valley Basin GSA
Manager



County Requirements under Executive Order N-7-22

Marlayna Duley
Mendocino County
Environmental Health



Current County Water Well



Environmental Health Division

Ukiah Office: 860 N Bush St. Ukiah, CA 95482
Fort Bragg Office: 120 W Fir St. Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Phone: (707) 234-6625
Phone: (707) 961-2714



Permit #

EH Office Use Only

WW

Water Well Application / Permit

Application (submit 2 copies)

Site Address: _____

APN: _____

Owner Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone #: _____

TYPE OF PERMIT

- ☐ Regular ☐ Destruction
☐ Special Permit Area ☐ Repair

CONSTRUCTION

Casing: ☐ Steel ☐ Concrete ☐ Plastic

Diameter: _____ Bore Size: _____

Gauge or Wall: _____

Annular Space: Size: _____ Seal Depth: _____

Well Use Type: ☐ Domestic ☐ Community/Industrial

Seal Material: ☐ Concrete ☐ Sand Cement
☐ Bentonite ☐ Neat Cement
☐ Other (describe): _____

The following items are required to be submitted with this application:

- Vicinity Map and Directions** to the site i.e., mile post markers, cross-streets, lock combinations, or any other unique landmarks which help the inspector to locate and access the property. *Site address must be posted at driveway entrance.*
- Plot Plan** clearly showing the location of the proposed well on the parcel, demonstrating that required setbacks to sewer, septic systems and expansion leach fields are maintained.
- Coastal Zone Permit** for sites which fall within the coastal zone; you must obtain this permit from Planning, prior to well permit being issued.
- Name of Public Water Supplier** (if proposed well is within their service area): _____

Well Seal Notice

Date & Time Rec'd: _____
Seal Date & Time: _____
Call Back Number: _____
Action: _____

Payment Received

Date Received: _____
Received By: _____
Payment #: _____
Payment Amount: _____

Permit

Permit Agreement:

I agree to use **Best Management Practices** to prevent storm water pollution.

I agree to comply with all of the regulations of the Mendocino County Well Ordinance (County Code Chapter 16.04) and the State of California as they pertain to water well construction and destruction.

I further understand that the application **filing fee** is set by resolution of the Board of Supervisors and that **no part of the filing fee** shall be refundable (Mendocino County Well Ordinance §16.04.040 & Mendocino County Ordinance 1135, adopted 1973).

I will request a well seal inspection from Environmental Health no less than 24 hours prior to pouring the annular seal.

This permit expires 1 year from date of issuance if the authorized work has not been completed (*Mendocino County Code Section 16.04.090*)

'Wet' Signature required; faxed or photocopies will not be accepted.

Well Driller (Business Name): _____

License Number: _____ Phone #: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Driller Signature: _____ Date: _____

Inspector Notes: _____ **Coastal Zone: Y / N**
MS 4 Zone: Y / N

Health Inspector: _____ Date: _____

Well Seal Inspection By: _____ Date: _____

Executive Order N-7-22 Goals

- **Ensuring Vulnerable Communities Have Drinking Water**
 - Cuts red tape so communities that need access to emergency hauled or bottled water can get it immediately
- **Safeguarding Groundwater Supplies**
 - ***Requires local permitting authorities to coordinate with Groundwater Sustainability Agencies to ensure new proposed wells do not compromise existing wells or infrastructure, as 85 percent of public water systems rely heavily on groundwater during drought***
 - Streamlines permitting for groundwater recharge projects that help to refill aquifers when rains come
- **Protecting Vulnerable Fish And Wildlife**
 - Expedites state agency approvals for necessary actions to protect fish and wildlife where drought conditions threaten their health and survival
- **Preventing Illegal Water Diversions**
 - Directs the Water Board to expand site inspections in order to determine whether illegal diversions are occurring

Full executive order can be found online at <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/March-2022-Drought-EO.pdf>

County Requirements under Executive Order N-7-22

- 9(b) states:
 - To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not 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 that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, or that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.

2 acre-feet per year = ~1.24 gallons per minute, 372 gallons per hour,
651,270 gallons per year

Proposed County Procedures (draft)

- **Public Water Supply Wells (new, modification, or repair)**
 - proposed well or existing well to be altered will be exclusively used to provide groundwater to the public water supply system for human consumption as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 116275, *complete Declaration – Well for Public Water Supply System form*
- **Domestic wells (new, modification, or repair)**
 - Well will pump no more than 2 AFY and the water is used only for domestic needs of an individual residence, *complete Declaration – Well for Individual Domestic Use form*
- **Commercial, Industrial, Agricultural, Irrigation Use, or Multi-use Wells (new, modification, or repair)**
 - *Requirements and process will vary if it's a new well or a modification/repair to existing well*

Updated Permit Numbers

Permit Status	Count
Canceled	3
Closed (Dry Hole)	4
Finalized	33
Issued	108
Pending	20
Total	168

Pending Applications	Count
Pending CDP Review	9
Holder Per EO	4
Info Requested	6
Pending EH Review	1
Total	20

Mendocino County Environmental Health Water Well Permitting Process with EO N-7-22

1 Driller & Admin:

- ✓ Submit Application with fees
- ✓ Max. Three Site Locations
- ✓ Submit Signed EO N-7-22 Forms
- Incomplete application on hold

2 Admin Verification:

- ✓ Property Owner & APN
- ✓ Coastal Zone, MS4, UV Basin
- ✓ C-57 Bond & Signature
- ✓ Review Declarations
- ✓ Notify Driller of GSA Hold

3 Inspector Review:

- ✓ Review Application for completeness with Checklist
- ✓ Review for Special Permit Areas & UV Area
 - If within the Basin send Notification to Driller
- ✓ Return Approved Permit to the Admin Staff

4 Admin:

- ✓ Mail approved permit to Driller

5 Driller:

- ✓ Perform Work – Notify EH of any changes – Obtain Approval

Red Flags:



- Non-Exempt wells (Commercial, Industrial, Ag, Irrigation)
- Located in Ukiah Valley Area Basin
- Proposed casing 10" or greater
- No Domestic Infrastructure on-site
- Both Agriculture & Domestic Uses on site

6 Driller:

- ✓ Call EH Admin to request a seal inspection at least one day in advance

Do not leave voice messages on inspector phone lines. Only call the Admin. Staff & confirm with them if a voice mail was left

7 Inspector:

- ✓ Schedule & Conduct Site Inspection, or give Driller approval to seal without inspection conditional upon GPS & Photo submitted

8 Driller:

- ✓ Submit Well Completion Report within 60 days of drilling to DWR & EH Admin

9 Inspector:

- ✓ Review Well Completion Report for Completeness and Accuracy
- ✓ Notify Driller if errors need to be corrected
- ✓ Return to Admin staff

10 Admin:

- ✓ Receive Approved Well Log from Inspector
- ✓ Finalize Well Permit in Database

Executive Order N-7-22 Categories:

Private Domestic & Public Water System Use Wells:

- ✓ Submit Signed Declaration

Commercial, Industrial, Ag, Irrigation Wells:

- ✓ Submit a Hydrological Report

Ukiah Valley Area Basin Wells:

- ✓ Applications will be referred to the UV GSA
- ✓ Additional Reports may be required by the GSA
- ✓ Hydrological Report may be required

Proposed County Requirements (draft)

- **Well completion report**
 - Well/property owner information, date well was drilled, date well was constructed, water levels, and well construction information (casing material and depths, annular fill material and depths)
- **Pump information**
 - Type, HP, pump set depth, max pumping rate
- **Pump test data, report, and pump recommendation**
 - Must be prepared by a California licensed Professional Engineer (PE; Civil), Professional Geologist (PG), or Certified Hydrogeologist (CHG) with well experience
 - Must include a step-rate test and a minimum 24-hour constant rate test according to industry standards
- **GSA Consistency and Compliance Form**
 - General information, acknowledgements, signature, and indemnification clause

GSA Requirements under Executive Order N-7-22

Erik Cadaret
Ukiah Valley Basin
GSA Manager



GSA Requirements

Ukiah Valley Basin is a medium priority basin with an adopted GSP. Within the GSP, we have defined minimum thresholds and measurable objectives for each of the following sustainable management criteria that are tied to the sustainability goal

- Chronic lowering of groundwater levels
- Reduction in storage
- Degraded water quality
- Land subsidence
- Surface water depletion

9(a) applies to the GSA

Section 9(a) of the Executive Order reads:

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

This paragraph shall not apply to permits for wells that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, or that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.

Proposed GSA Procedures (draft)

- **Complete GSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan Consistency and Compliance Form**
 - General information and acknowledgements (Page 1)
 - Signature (Page 2)
 - Hold Harmless and Release Agreement (Page 3)
- Once GSA receives form, the GSA will conduct its review estimated to take 60 days or less.
- If GSA's preliminary review of a well permit may result in a UNABLE TO VERIFY determination, there will be a 30-day review and response period. The GSA will contact well owner to discuss deficiencies and possible changes to be made to well permit. The Well owner may choose to submit revised well permit or not. If Well owner chooses to submit revised well permit, GSA will use revised permit to make final determination and submit it and a communications log as attachments in one package to the County Environmental Health Services Department for final review.

How the GSA and County are working together

Erik Cadaret &
Marlayna Duley



Well Permitting Coordination

County and GSA are closely coordinating on well permitting compliance under Executive Order N-7-22 to:

- Learn and share information on how other County's and GSA's are approaching compliance
- Obtain stakeholder feedback and incorporate feedback where applicable to develop requirements and review process that's amenable to all who will be affected

Facilitated Public Comment and Feedback Session

**Facilitated by Emily Finnegan and
Marisa Perez-Reyes, Stantec**



We'd like your feedback on:

- Required Submittals
 - What are your impressions of the required submittal materials?
- Review Period
 - What are your impressions of the GSA review period timeline (60 to 90 das)?
 - How would you like the GSA and County to engage with you during the review period?
 - If the County or GSA identifies a deficiency in your application, would you prefer having that discussion in person, over the phone call, or via Zoom?
- Other questions? Comments?

What's Next?

Stay tuned for Part 2 to this workshop in early 2023!

Materials from this workshop will be posted on the GSA website:

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/affiliated-agencies/ukiah-valley-basin-gsa>

More questions or comments? Contact:

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