



Groundwater Basin Boundary Modifications

Background

Groundwater basin boundaries define the physical characteristics and boundaries of the basin to be managed under a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). California’s 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and associated regulations include provisions for local agencies to request updated basin boundaries based on new information.

In 2015, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) adopted regulations for modifying basin boundaries. In 2016, DWR approved the first round of requested modifications. However, local entities were in the process of forming their groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs), which resulted in additional demand for modifying basin boundaries. In January 2018, DWR opened another round of basin boundary modifications, giving agencies nine months to submit their requests. DWR received 43 requests for boundary modifications. On November 26, 2018, DWR released its draft decisions, approving 36 and denying seven of the requested modifications.

The public comment period on draft Basin Boundary Modifications opened on November 29, 2018, and closed on January 4, 2019. Public comments may be viewed on the SGMA website, here: <https://water.ca.gov/News/Events/2018/Nov-18/Draft-Basin-Boundary-Modifications-Public-Comments>

SGMA also requires that the DWR present draft revised boundaries to the Commission to hear and comment on the draft revisions pursuant to Water Code section 10722.2(e).

DWR staff will brief the Commission on the proposed basin boundary modifications, with an opportunity for the public to comment.

This is an informational item.

Contact

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