Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

January 15, 2020
California Water Commission
Board Backstop Basics

1. Board only steps in when local efforts fail.
2. Temporarily protects the basin until locals come up-to-speed.
3. Backstop is triggered by SGMA deadlines.
January 2020
Critically Overdrafted Basins
No GSA that intends to develop a plan for the entire basin

Critical overdraft & No plan adopted for the entire basin, or DWR fails plan

No plan for the entire basin or DWR fails plan and long-term overdraft

DWR fails plan & significant surface water depletions
AVOIDING the BACKSTOP

1 GSA 1 PLAN

1 PLAN

GSA 1
GSA 2
GSA 3
GSA 4

GSA 1 PLAN 1
GSA 2 PLAN 2
GSA 3 PLAN 3
GSA 4 PLAN 4
Backstop

1. Trigger Intervention
2. Basin Probation
3. Issues Not Fixed?
4. Interim Plan

Issues Not Fixed?
Probationary groundwater BASIN

- State Water Board makes decisions
- Opportunity to fix issues
- Board gathers data
- May require meters
Extraction REPORTS

Reports are submitted annually.

Reports require…
- well location & capacity
- monthly extraction volumes
- place & purpose of use

Reports must be filed electronically.

Fees required with each report.
FEES beginning in Water Year 2018

- **Base Filing Fee** (per well): $300
- **Volumetric Rate** (per acre-foot)
  - Unmanaged: $25
  - Probation: $40
  - Interim Plan: $55
- **Late Fee** (per month): 25%

*special studies extra*
Backstop

Trigger Intervention ➔ Issues Not Fixed?

Basin Probation ➔ Interim Plan
Interim PLAN

Corrective Actions

Enforcement

Monitoring Plan

Schedule
AVOIDING the BACKSTOP

1 GSA
1 PLAN

1 PLAN
GSA 1
GSA 4
GSA 3
GSA 2

GSA 1
PLAN 1

GSA 4
PLAN 4

GSA 2
PLAN 2

GSA 3
PLAN 3
January 2020
Critically Overdrafted Basins
Probation
Public notice of hearing and contact cities and counties

Local Agencies
Remedy deficiencies resulting in probation

Water Board
Develops Interim Plan
INADEQUATE Plan

180 Days
- Local Agencies
- Remedy Plan Inadequacies

90 Days
- Probation
- Public notice of hearing and contact cities and counties

1 Year
- Local Agencies
- Remedy deficiencies resulting in probation

Water Board
Develops Interim Plan

Board - DWR coordination
SGMA Fact Sheets

- Probationary designation and groundwater regulation
- Stakeholder inclusion
- State and regional boards basics
- Funding opportunities for GSAs
- Purpose of use for underground storage projects
- Water Quality FAQ
- More coming…
Groundwater management in California is best accomplished locally.

Former Governor Jerry Brown

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Groundwater Management Program
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