NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Policy No:	NKGSA – 2024-002
Policy Title:	Domestic Well Mitigation Policy
Board Approval Date:	June 27, 2024
Policy Effective Date:	October 1, 2024

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to implement the rules and regulations for mitigation of domestic wells that go dry because of lowering groundwater levels within the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (NKGSA).

2.0 Background

The NKGSA's approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) anticipates continued decline of groundwater levels until sustainability is reached, and identifies future anticipated groundwater levels throughout the NKGSA. The NKGSA recognizes that some wells will go dry prior to 2040 when groundwater conditions must be stabilized. The NKGSA and other GSAs in the basin have indicated that it is not significant and unreasonable impacts if less than 15% of the shallow wells in the basin go dry, however the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has indicated that they interpret the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) regulations to require even a single well being impacted could be significant and unreasonable. In its approval of the NKGSA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), the DWR recommended corrective actions included the requirement to develop a Domestic Well Mitigation Program to address domestic wells going dry as a direct result of decreasing groundwater levels within the Kings Subbasin. The NKGSA's GSP therefore, included a plan to develop a basin-wide domestic well mitigation program. The GSAs within the Kings Basin have jointly developed a set of Rules and Regulations for the Domestic Well Mitigation Program to be adopted and implemented by each GSA within the basin.

3.0 Policy

The NKGSA adopts the Kings Basin Domestic Well Mitigation Rules and Regulations dated April 2024, and any future amendments to the Rules and Regulations, and shall implement a program in accordance with these Rules and Regulations for domestic well mitigation within the NKGSA.

4.0 Effective Date and Modification

a. This Policy shall become effective on October 1, 2024, in the same year of its passage and adoption.

b. NKGSA Board of Directors may modify this Policy at any time, at its sole discretion, pursuant to the applicable procedures described in the NKGSA's bylaws.

The foregoing Domestic Well Mitigation Policy was passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 27th day of June 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: 7

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 0

Chairman, Board of Directors
Mr. Jerry Prieto
North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

ATTEST:

Kassy D. Chauhan, P.E.
North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Executive Officer

Approved as to legal form and effect:

David Boyer, Esq, AALRR
Legal Counsel – North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency