

POLICY FOR THE METERING OF GROUNDWATER EXTRACTIONS WITHIN THE ALISO WATER DISTRICT

ADOPTED: October 26, 2021

Introduction

This Policy for the Metering of Groundwater Extractions within the Aliso Water District (this “Policy”) is adopted by the Aliso Water District (“AWD”) Board of Directors. The intent of this Policy is (i) to assure that accurate metering and recording of groundwater pumping of wells within the AWD is maintained, and (ii) to obtain information regarding the metered wells for implementation of the AWD Groundwater Sustainability Agency groundwater sustainability plan.

Applicability

The Policy applies to any meter included in any AWD program or activity, including meters used to provide groundwater extraction data to determine capital facilities fees for the AWD Groundwater Sustainability Agency groundwater sustainability plan.

Policy

1. **Meter Requirements:** All wells are required to be complaint with Madera County metering requirements (Madera County Municipal Code Title 13, Chapter 13.101 and 13.28)
 - a. Requirements of specific concern to Aliso Water District:
 - i. Meters must be installed per manufacturer recommendations.
 - ii. Meters must perform when installed to an accuracy of +/- 5%.
 - iii. Only one well per meter.
 - iv. Meter must be installed upstream of any take-off or delivery.
 - v. Flow Meter register shall display volume in acre-feet (AF) to a precision of a hundredth of AF (0.00) and flow rate in gallons per minute (GPM) to a precision of tenth of a GPM (0.0).
 - vi. Site must be accessible for inspection.

2. **Meter Calibration, Certification, and Installation:** Meters shall be tested and calibrated by an independent certified testing facility. If meter readings appear abnormal (indicator or totalizer), meters shall be inspected, tested, and calibrated within 30 days of first observing the abnormality. Certified meter calibration and testing reports shall be submitted to the AWD for review and documentation.

- a. Verification: Meter data will be compared to calculated groundwater extraction based on crop and climate information, per the current fee study or policy. Variances greater than 10% will be cause for investigation and may lead to requiring a recertification of the meter.
 - b. Installation: Meter must be installed, and facilities configured, per the manufacturer's specifications, including but not limited to requirements for upstream and downstream pipe lengths and diameters.
3. Calculation of Capital Facilities Fee by Meter: To enroll specific parcels in AWD's program for calculating capital facilities fees by metered extraction, the landowner shall provide the AWD with the information requested in Exhibit A no later than January 1st of the subject calendar year (e.g. for calendar year 2022 fees, information must be received by January 1, 2022). Once enrolled, the parcel must remain enrolled for the remainder of the calendar year. A parcel will remain enrolled for succeeding calendar years, unless landowner provides AWD with written notice of termination not later than January 1.
 - a. Landowner shall provide the Exhibit A information for any new wells serving the enrolled parcel within 60 days of installation of pumping equipment and appurtenances.
 - b. Landowner must provide the Exhibit A information for all wells that irrigate the enrolled parcel.
 - c. Existing well construction data (i.e., diameter, depth and perforated intervals) must be provided within 24 months of enrollment. The AWD provides this grace period so the collection of this information may coincide with well and pump maintenance and reduce the financial burden on the landowner. AWD may terminate enrollment of any parcel for failure to provide well construction information that 24-month period.
4. Meter Recording and Reporting:
 - a. Access: The landowner shall grant the AWD access in the form of an access agreement (Exhibit C).
 - b. Recording Schedule: The landowner shall record the totalizer reading at the end of each month during operation. Self-certified extraction logs (Exhibit B) shall be provided to the District by the 15th of each month for the previous month.
 - c. Calibration
 - i. Schedule: Certified meter calibration and testing reports shall be submitted to the AWD for review and documentation during

enrollment. The meter shall be recertified on an as-needed basis or as recommended by the manufacturer.

5. Exceptions: In the event of a failed flow meter or skeptical measurement that cannot be resolved, the reading for the affected period shall be prorated against the AWD's calculated groundwater extraction value.
6. Costs, Fees, and Penalties:
 - a. Costs: The landowner shall be responsible for all costs for purchasing, installing, maintaining, record-keeping, and calibrating the meter on any of its groundwater wells.
 - b. Fees: AWD shall not impose any fees for field reviews, collection and recordation of data, landowner communications, and related activities.
 - c. Enforcement:, Failure to comply with this policy will result in the landowner being subject to the AWD's calculated groundwater extraction value for any period of non-compliance.
7. 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. The data will be maintained for use by the AWD, and only aggregate values of the raw data will be made publicly available where possible.

EXHIBIT A
Meter Data Extraction Well Enrollment Form

- **Owner Name**
- **Contact information**
- **APN well is located**
- **Well Name**
- **Well Coordinates**
- **Well Construction Data (may defer up to 24-months)**
 - **Well Diameter**
 - **Well Depth**
 - **Well Perforated Interval**
- **Meter Make and Model**
- **Meter Type (mag or prop or other)**
- **Meter Diameter**
- **Meter Serial Number**
- **Date of Meter Calibration**

Attach:

- **Map** - A map illustrating APN(s) of the landowner's parcel(s) and well locations on the property. The map should also include a description of whether the parcel(s) is served by any outside wells or surface water. If so, identify the other well(s) locations(s) and surface water source(s).
- **Site Picture**
- **Installed Meter Picture**
 - Photograph of the flowmeter indicator to clearly show:
 - The measurement units for the flow indicator and totalizer (i.e., gpm and af); and
 - The length and configuration of the discharge pipe upstream and downstream of the meter.
- **Well Construction Log or Video (May already be on file)**
- **Meter calibration certificate**
- **Access Agreement (may already be on file)**

**EXHIBIT B
Monthly Extraction Log**

Farming Entity Name: _____

Month/Year: _____, 202_____

Well Name	Observed Flow rate (GPM)	Previous Month Ending Totalizer Reading (AF)	Current Month Ending Totalizer Reading (AF)	Total Extraction (AF)	Notes/Comments

By providing your signature below you are certifying that the information above is accurate and consistent with the District's current metering policy.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

EXHIBIT C
Standard Access Agreement

ALISO WATER DISTRICT

**CONSENT TO ENTER PROPERTY FOR GROUNDWATER
MEASUREMENT ACTIVITIES**

As owner of the irrigation or domestic wells located at:

Assessor's Parcel Number (s): _____

Address: _____

Additional information regarding well location: Use the back of this sheet or additional sheets to provide other information useful in locating wells. Information could include a location sketch with distances to a public road, section line, or other landmarks.

Please check this box if additional information is provided.

I hereby grant permission and consent for the Aliso Water District, and its representatives, agents and consultants (the "District"), to enter upon the above-described property for the purpose of installing, reading and maintaining groundwater level monitoring equipment, measuring the groundwater level, and collecting other relevant data from wells located on the property, from time to time and as is reasonably necessary for the District to conduct a water use and well monitoring program for purposes of data collection for a Groundwater Sustainability Plan under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Wat. Code, § 10700 *et seq.*, and related statutes.)

Note: it is the District's policy to aggregate well data in any reports that it produces, and to avoid disclosure of information specific to any well or landowner, except as required by law (e.g., requests under the California Public Records Act or similar laws.) Changes to this policy will require action by the District's Board of Directors.

Owner Name

Owner Signature

Owner Phone Number

Contact Name (if other than Owner)

Contact Phone Number

Owner Mailing Address: _____
