

CENTRAL DELTA-MENDOTA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 - 03

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE UPDATED CENTRAL DELTA-MENDOTA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY NUMBER TWO WELL METERING AND REPORTING

A. **WHEREAS**, effective August 28, 2019, certain entities whose boundaries overlie a portion of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin number 5-22.07 of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin identified in the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) Bulletin 118, formed a joint powers authority known as the Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency (the “CDMGSA”), which replaced a prior multi-agency groundwater sustainability agency. In 2026, two additional agencies joined the CDMGSA. The current 12 members of the CDMGSA are: Eagle Field Water District, Fresno Slough Water District, Mercy Springs Water District, Oro Loma Water District, Pacheco Water District, Panoche Water District, San Luis Water District, Santa Nella County Water District, Tranquillity Irrigation District, Widren Water District, the County of Fresno, and the County of Merced (each a “Member Agency”); and

B. **WHEREAS**, the CDMGSA is a groundwater sustainability agency (“GSA”) formed pursuant to the Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Agreement, as amended, and the Joint Exercise of Powers Act for the purpose of implementing the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) within the Central Delta-Mendota Region of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin (“Subbasin”); and

C. **WHEREAS**, in March 2023, DWR determined the Subbasin’s prior Groundwater Sustainability Plans (“GSPs”) to be inadequate, and the GSAs subsequently developed and adopted a single Delta-Mendota Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“D-M Subbasin GSP”), which was finalized in November 2024 and supersedes and replaces the prior GSPs; and

D. **WHEREAS**, the GSAs entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) to coordinate Subbasin-wide implementation and, effective December 1, 2025, formed the Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSAs Joint Powers Authority (“DM Authority”) to provide administrative, financial, and technical coordination for implementation of SGMA within the Subbasin; and

E. **WHEREAS**, the D-M Subbasin GSP includes management actions and programs, including a Domestic Well Mitigation Program and regional Pumping Reduction Plans (“PRPs”), including a Central PRP, which require accurate and reliable measurement and reporting of groundwater extractions; and

F. **WHEREAS**, accurate groundwater extraction data is necessary to evaluate basin conditions, prevent undesirable results such as chronic lowering of groundwater levels, and implement management actions, including pumping reductions and mitigation measures; and

G. **WHEREAS**, on January 25, 2021, the CDMGSA adopted Administrative Policy Number One – Well Census and Registration to establish a comprehensive inventory of

groundwater wells within its jurisdiction. On March 26, 2026, the CDMGSA adopted revisions to Policy Number One; and

H. **WHEREAS**, the CDMGSA now seeks to update and adopt Administrative Policy Number Two – Well Metering and Reporting (“Policy”) to establish requirements for measurement and reporting of groundwater extractions consistent with SGMA and the D-M Subbasin GSP; and

I. **WHEREAS**, the CDMGSA has authority under California Water Code, including but not limited to sections 10725, 10725.2, 10725.6, 10725.8, 10726.2, 10726.4, 10726.5, 10730.6, and 10732, and its Joint Powers Agreement, to require measurement and reporting of groundwater extractions, regulate groundwater use, impose fees and penalties, and take all necessary and proper actions to implement SGMA and the D-M Subbasin GSP; and

J. **WHEREAS**, adoption of the Policy will provide public notice, ensure transparency, and establish a consistent framework for metering, reporting, and enforcement necessary to achieve sustainable groundwater management.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency finds as follows:

1. The facts stated in the Recitals above are true and correct and the Board of Directors so finds, orders, and determines.
2. The Board of Directors hereby adopts the updated Administrative Policy Number Two – Well Metering and Reporting (“Policy”), a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit “1”** and incorporated herein by this reference. The Policy supersedes any prior well metering and reporting policies, including those associated with the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions GSP.
3. The Policy applies to groundwater extraction wells within the CDMGSA boundary, as specified therein, and establishes requirements for measurement, reporting, and verification of groundwater extractions necessary to implement SGMA and the D-M Subbasin GSP, including the Central PRP and the Subbasin Domestic Well Mitigation Program.
4. The CDMGSA staff, consultants, and legal counsel are authorized and directed to implement and administer the Policy in accordance with SGMA, including developing forms, procedures, schedules, and technical requirements for metering and reporting, consistent with applicable law.
5. The CDMGSA may take all actions authorized by law to enforce the Policy, including but not limited to administrative enforcement, imposition of fees and penalties, and legal action, to ensure compliance with the Policy, consistent with SGMA and the D-M Subbasin GSP.
6. If any provision of this Resolution or the Policy is held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution or Policy, which shall remain in full force and effect.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency this 26th day of March, 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: Aragona, Barcellos, McCoy, Montgomery, Ramirez, Silva, Western
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Miles, Salvador, Silveira, Sloan, Wade

Aaron Barcellos, Chairman

Attest:



Taylor Blakslee, Secretary

Date: 26 March 2026

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency this 26th day of March, 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: Aragona, Barcellos, McCoy, Montgomery, Ramirez, Silva, Western
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Miles, Salvador, Silveira, Sloan, Wade



Aaron Barcellos, Chairman

Attest:



Taylor Blakslee, Secretary

Date: 26 March 2026

CERTIFICATION OF SECRETARY

I, Taylor Blakslee, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the CENTRAL DELTA-MENDOTA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY, held on the 26th day of March, 2026.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed this Certificate on this 26th day of March, 2026.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Taylor Blakslee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Taylor" and last name "Blakslee" clearly distinguishable.

Taylor Blakslee, Secretary
Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater
Sustainability Agency

EXHIBIT “1”

Well Metering and Reporting Policy

CENTRAL DELTA-MENDOTA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY



Eagle Field WD ♦ Fresno County ♦ Fresno Slough WD ♦ Merced County ♦ Mercy Springs WD ♦ Oro Loma WD ♦ Pacheco WD
♦ Panoche WD ♦ San Luis WD ♦ Santa Nella County WD ♦ Tranquillity I.D. ♦ Wdren WD

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

NUMBER TWO

WELL METERING AND REPORTING

Adopted: January 23, 2023

Revised: March 26, 2026

POLICY STATEMENT

In order for the Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“CDMGSA”) to effectively administer and implement the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“D-M Subbasin GSP”) within its area, it is necessary for the CDMGSA to monitor and understand groundwater conditions and usage, including groundwater extractions, within its boundaries.

To gain this better understanding, the CDMGSA Board of Directors (“Board”) adopted CDMGSA’s Administrative Policy Number One – Well Census and Registration (“Well Registration Policy”) to obtain specific information from all users of groundwater wells and require that all wells be registered in accordance with timelines established by the CDMGSA.

The purpose of this Well Metering and Reporting Policy (“Well Metering Policy”) is to build upon the Well Registration Policy by establishing a requirement for the measurement of groundwater extractions from all wells located within the CDMGSA boundary, with certain exceptions. Therefore, the CDMGSA requires meters, reporting, or other reasonable methods of determining groundwater extraction, as necessary to implement the D-M Subbasin GSP. Any new wells constructed after the effective date of this Well Metering Policy shall be registered with the CDMGSA within 30 days of the completion of drilling activities and have a CDMGSA-approved meter installed prior to use of the well.

This Well Metering Policy further supports implementation of the D-M Subbasin GSP, including the Domestic Well Mitigation Program and the regional Pumping Reduction Plan (“PRP”), specifically the Central PRP, which rely on accurate groundwater extraction data to identify impacts, evaluate conditions, and ensure compliance with sustainability objectives.

To provide constructive notice to the public and to ensure adoption and enforcement of this Well Metering Policy is within the authorities provided by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (“SGMA”), and any amendment thereto, the CDMGSA shall adopt a resolution prior to this Well Metering Policy becoming effective.

This Well Metering Policy applies to all wells used for groundwater extraction, including those that are inactive, except for *de minimus* wells, as defined below. This Well Metering Policy outlines the well metering and reporting process, timing for compliance, and actions for non-compliance.

AUTHORITY:

This Well Metering Policy is adopted pursuant to the authority granted to the CDMGSA by California Water Code, including but not limited to sections 10725, 10725.2, 10725.4, 10725.6, 10725.8, 10726.2, 10726.4, 10726.5, 10730.6, and 10732, and through the Joint Powers Agreement that formed the CDMGSA, as amended, pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act. These provisions authorize the CDMGSA to require measurement and reporting of groundwater extractions, regulate groundwater use, implement sustainability programs (including pumping reductions), impose fees and penalties, and take all actions necessary or proper to carry out SGMA and the D-M Subbasin GSP.

BACKGROUND:

In 2014, the California Legislature passed and the Governor signed into law a three-bill legislative package (AB 1739, SB 1168, and SB 1319), collectively known as SGMA. SGMA required those subbasins designated by the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) publication Bulletin 118 as being medium to high priority to form Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“GSAs”) by June 1, 2017, and then adopt and submit Groundwater Sustainability Plans (“GSPs”) to DWR by January 31, 2020.

The CDMGSA is located within the Delta-Mendota Subbasin (Basin number 5-022.07), a high priority subbasin (the “Subbasin”). The CDMGSA is one of 21¹ separate GSAs in the Subbasin that initially developed and coordinated six independent GSPs to cover the entire Subbasin. In March 2023, DWR determined the revised GSPs to be inadequate, prompting the GSAs to develop a single, unified GSP for the Subbasin. The single D-M Subbasin GSP was fully adopted by all GSAs in the Subbasin in November 2024 and supersedes and replaces the prior coordinated GSPs.

¹ All 12 members of the CDMGSA each individually elected to have the powers of a GSA. Widren Water District and Oro Loma Water District each joined the CDMGSA in January and February 2026, respectively. So, you could also state that there are 32 GSAs in the Delta-Mendota Subbasin.

Although not required by SGMA, to support Subbasin-wide coordination, the GSAs entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”), replacing the prior Coordination Agreement. Effective December 1, 2025, the GSAs formed the Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSAs Joint Powers Authority (“DM Authority”) to provide coordinated administrative, financial, and technical support for SGMA implementation. Concurrently, prior agreements with the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (“SLDMWA”), including the Activity Agreement and its amendments, were terminated.

Originally formed by 10 member agencies, effective August 28, 2019, the CDMGSA has expanded its membership and now consists of 12 member agencies. The CDMGSA participates in Subbasin-wide coordination through a single GSP and the DM Authority, but remains responsible for implementing SGMA within its jurisdiction.

As part of implementation of the D-M Subbasin GSP, the CDMGSA is committed to developing accurate information regarding groundwater extraction, water levels above and below the Corcoran clay, and evaluating the relationship between the Subbasin and the San Joaquin River. The D-M Subbasin GSP includes a Domestic Well Mitigation Program to address impacts caused by the chronic lowering of groundwater levels, as well as regional PRPs to reduce groundwater extractions in areas and periods where sustainability thresholds may be exceeded. These programs require accurate and reliable extraction data obtained through metering, reporting, or other reasonable methods.

To provide specific solutions that are not overly burdensome, the CDMGSA needs to accurately assess the condition of the aquifers and identify those areas showing impacts that may be considered Undesirable Results. In order to avoid a one-size-fits-all GSA-wide solution and to reduce dependence on assumptions in calculating groundwater balance, the CDMGSA needs to obtain accurate information. This information will be used to make area-specific determinations to resolve concerns about potential Undesirable Results, such as overdraft and subsidence, in order to achieve sustainability. Use of real-time groundwater use data will reduce or eliminate the reliance on potentially conservative estimations of groundwater use and lead to more accurate groundwater modeling.

PURPOSE & PROCEDURES:

The purpose of this Well Metering Policy is to obtain accurate and consistent well data information by requiring all wells to have a meter installed and that data from the meter be available for review and reported to CDMGSA no less than annually.

Data collected under this Well Metering Policy will be used to implement the D-M Subbasin GSP, including the Central PRP and the Domestic Well Mitigation Program, and to evaluate compliance with groundwater extraction limits or other management actions.

The CDMGSA will follow these procedures to ensure adequate information is collected for all groundwater extractions as a commitment to evaluate and develop accurate data to implement the D-M Subbasin GSP.

- 1) **Definitions** – Unless indicated otherwise, all capitalized terms herein shall have the same meaning as the definitions in the Well Registration Policy.
- 2) **Meter Requirement** – CDMGSA requires an approved meter to be installed on existing or new Production (including Inactive or Standby) Wells (collectively, “Production Wells”) within CDMGSA’s boundaries. This Well Metering Policy shall not apply to *De-Minimus* Domestic Wells (as defined in SGMA), Abandoned Wells, solely Monitoring Wells, or Cathodic Production Wells, as defined in the Well Registration Policy. The CDMGSA may prioritize metering requirements and enforcement for wells located in areas subject to a PRP or identified as contributing to Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels.
- 3) **Meter Installation** – The owner of any Production Well within the CDMGSA (“Well Owner”) shall install a CDMGSA-approved meter at Well Owner’s sole cost and expense. Meters shall be installed, operated, and maintained in accordance with CDMGSA requirements and may be supplemented by alternative measurement methods approved by the CDMGSA pursuant to Water Code section 10725.8. The meter must meet the following criteria:
 - i. Be a flowmeter consistent with in-line meters meeting AWWA² C700 series standards. Totalizers shall read in 0.00 acre-feet (“af”), in cubic feet (“cf”) or in gallons (“gal”).
 - ii. Data must be able to be readily accessible and viewable by CDMGSA-authorized agents; and
 - iii. Be calibrated according to manufacturer’s specifications at installation and calibrated no less than once every five (5) years thereafter.
- 4) **Reporting Requirements** – The Well Owner shall be required to provide the following information to the CDMGSA:
 - a. At Installation: When a meter is installed by the Well Owner, the following information shall be provided to the CDMGSA, no later than thirty (30) days after installation:
 - i. Manufacturer and model of flowmeter;
 - ii. Date flow meter installed;
 - iii. Nominal diameter of pipe, pipe material, wall thickness of pipe, and size of flow meter;
 - iv. Name and business (if applicable) of person installing and calibrating flowmeter;
 - v. Pictures of flowmeter to verify installed correctly;
 - vi. Location of well (including County, Assessor’s Parcel Number(s) [“APN”], and latitude/longitude or map of locations);

² American Water Works Association.

- vii. Type of crop, age of crop, irrigation methodology (e.g., flood, drip, sprinkler) for the irrigated acres served by the applicable Production Well; and
 - viii. A statement signed by the Well Owner granting access to the CDMGSA to the property to verify the installation, operation, and/or readings of the meter(s).
 - b. **Annual Reporting:** The Well Owner shall be required to report the quantity of groundwater extraction by month for the period beginning October 1 and ending September 30 to the CDMGSA, by no later than October 31 of each year following the applicable year ("Annual Reports"). Well Owners shall report any changes to the information described above (e.g., well abandonment, new flowmeter, different crops) in such Annual Report. Annual Reports shall be in Microsoft Excel format and e-mailed to CDMGSA at administration@cdm-gsa.com. Fillable Excel forms can be found on the CDMGSA website.
 - c. The CDMGSA may require more frequent reporting, additional data, or alternative reporting formats for wells subject to a PRP or other GSP management actions.
- 5) **CDMGSA Right to Inspect** – Under the authority granted by SGMA, including but not limited to Water Code sections 10725.2, 10725.4, and 10725.8, the CDMGSA or its agents may conduct an inspection of a well to verify data, compliance with this Policy, or applicability of this Policy to a particular well.
- 6) **Timing for Compliance** – The owner of any well used for groundwater extraction within the CDMGSA must install a CDMGSA-approved meter pursuant to section 3 above as follows:
- a. Installation of meters on existing wells shall be completed by December 31, 2023.
 - b. Meters must be installed on new wells shall be completed prior to use of the well.
 - c. Wells with existing meters that do not comply with the requirements of this Well Metering Policy shall become compliant by December 31, 2023 by replacing any existing meter with a meter that is compliant with this Well Metering Policy.
 - d. Additional deadlines may be established by the CDMGSA based on implementation needs of the D-M Subbasin GSP.
- 7) **Costs, Fees and Penalties:**
- a. The Well Owner shall be responsible for all costs for purchasing, installing, maintaining, record-keeping, and calibrating the meter on any of its groundwater wells that it installs.
 - b. The CDMGSA shall not impose any fees for field reviews, collection and recordation of data, landowner communication, and related activities.

- c. The CDMGSA may establish fees, charges, or penalties associated with metering, reporting, or non-compliance, consistent with SGMA and applicable law.
 - d. Failure to comply with metering or reporting requirements may also constitute non-compliance with the PRP and may result in enforcement actions, including penalties pursuant to Water Code section 10732 or collection remedies under section 10730.6.
- 8) **Notification** – The CDMGSA will provide notice of its adoption of this Well Metering Policy as required by law.
- 9) **GSA Issuance of Notice of Non-Compliance** – The CDMGSA will issue a notice of Non-Compliance to the Well Owner and, where appropriate, the applicable Member Agency for any non-compliant Production Well that has been out of compliance for more than one quarter. The Non-Compliance notification will serve as an official request of the local member agency to enact its powers of enforcement for non-compliance.
- 10) **Request for Additional Time; Penalty Waiver** – The Well Owner may submit a written request to CDMGSA for a single extension of time to comply with Section 3 above. A request for an extension of time must be submitted within the compliance timeframe established by the CDMGSA to avoid penalties as described in Section 6 above and a grant of an extension of time, in total, shall not exceed a period of six (6) months. The Board of Directors of the CDMGSA may grant the extension if a finding of good cause can be made. For purposes of this Well Metering Policy, good cause includes, but is not limited to, (a) a demonstrated undue financial hardship, (b) factors outside the control of the Well Owner, or (c) proof that the Well Owner was not properly notified of the requirement.
- 11) **Amendment** – This Well Metering Policy is subject to changes in the regular operation of the CDMGSA, as it may be revised from time to time by the Board.
- 12) **Policy Review** – This Well Metering Policy shall be reviewed by the CDMGSA regularly, but in no event less than once every five (5) years or as necessary to maintain consistency with the D-M Subbasin GSP, PRP, Domestic Well Mitigation Program, and applicable agreements, including the MOA.