

## Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:** CA Dept. of Water Resources  
1416 9th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Lead Agency:** California Department of Water Resources

**Project Title:** Kings Subbasin Groundwater Monitoring Well Installation Project

**Project Location City & County:** Fresno County

**Project Location – Specific:** The Project will occur in Fresno County, with one monitoring well, located 300 feet north of West Whitesbridge Avenue (Hwy 180) and 2 miles west of Sonoma Avenue.

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** In 2014, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was signed into law requiring local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to manage groundwater in their service area that necessitates the development of an adequate network of appropriately spaced groundwater monitoring wells. With secured funding, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has established the Technical Support Services (TSS) program to help GSAs meet their SGMA requirements by providing services to install groundwater monitoring wells, conduct downhole video logging, and training on methods to accurately monitor groundwater levels.

The Kings Subbasin Well Installation project consists of installing a nested groundwater monitoring well. The site will be marked by Underground Service Alert, then hand tools will be used to excavate a minimum depth of 5 feet. A driller will use a truck-mounted drill rig to drill a pilot hole while using a mud cleaner to filter out solids and return drilling mud to the drill bit. The pilot hole desired depth below ground surface is 500 feet. Based on logging results, the driller will expand the borehole to the selected depth to a diameter large enough to accommodate nested well casings (approximately 14 inches). Within the borehole PVC casings, sand, and a bentonite seal will be constructed. For a final sanitary seal, neat cement will be pumped from the support truck to fill the annular space between the casings and the borehole wall to a depth required by the local well permitting process. A raised steel well protective cover and concrete pad, approximately four feet by four feet in area and four inches tall with four approximately 3-foot high metal crash posts, will be installed at ground level to protect the well from potential damage.

Well development will occur a minimum of 72 hours after completion of the sanitary seal. Well development is done to remove any fine-grained materials from the well. After completion of each monitoring well, battery powered pressure transducers and data loggers will be installed to measure continuous groundwater levels.

