

Park Ranch Holdings - Agricultural Well

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

Mapping resources indicate the nearest well in the vicinity of the proposed well site is on APN 002-060-041, a neighboring property to the north, and is more than 1,000 feet to the northeast of the proposed well site. The applicant's own domestic well on the same property as the proposed well is more than 1,800 feet distance to the proposed well site. Based on a review of the State Water Resources Control Board's Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy, a 1,000-foot separation from active production wells to contamination plumes is considered to be sufficient separation to pose a low threat to human health, safety, or the environment, and appropriate for no further action determination based on the groundwater-specific criteria specified. Under this assumption, wells separated by 1000 feet or more should have negligible effect on each other. This is further shown by modeling work done by Santa Barbara County demonstrating that a new or replacement well located more than 1,000 feet from an existing well is not likely to interfere with the production of that well. The modeling is based on hypothetical water well drawdown using conservative yet anticipated values for transmissivity, storage coefficient, and anticipated pumping yields to support field grown agriculture commodities.

In addition, because there is no direct instrumental evidence of subsidence occurring in the Antelope Valley, the potential for subsidence is considered to be low. Further, because groundwater extractions in the Antelope Valley area are distributed throughout the area rather than being concentrated in small zones, the effects of subsidence, if any, may be more area wide.