county of ventura

PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY JEFF PRATT

Agency Director

Watershed Protection District Tully K. Clifford, Director Transportation Department David L. Fleisch, Director

Engineering Services Department Herbert L. Schwind, Director

Water & Sanitation Department

David J. Sasek, Director

Central Services Department Janice E. Turner, Director

April 14, 2015

To Well Permit Applicants:

SUBJECT: ORDINANCE NO. 4468 SECTION 4826.1 WATER WELL AND WATER WELL PERMIT PROHIBITIONS - PROHIBITING NEW WATER WELL PERMITS AND NEW WATER WELLS WITHIN THE AREA OF APPLICABILITY AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 4828 SECTION 2 AND ESTABILISHING CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR WAIVERS

On December 16, 2014 the Ventura County Board of Supervisors approved and adopted Ordinance 4468. The Ordinance includes certain prohibitions on water wells as described below.

Beginning February 1, 2015, the prohibitions were scaled back to include only groundwater basins designated as high or medium priority by the State of California within the four major watersheds. The map of prohibition areas starting February 1, 2015 is attached as Exhibit 1.

The prohibitions will not be removed within these high and medium priority basins until Groundwater Sustainability Agencies are formed, and have adopted and submitted to the California Department of Water Resources a groundwater sustainability plan or alternative plan pursuant to Water Code Sections 10727 and 10733.6. This process will take time, but needs to be completed at the soonest by January 31, 2020 for basins designated as "subject to critical conditions of overdraft" and the latest for medium and high priority basins by January 31, 2022.

Some property owners may find that the prohibitions create circumstances where a waiver of the prohibitions may be approved. If you need to request a waiver from the well permit prohibitions, we suggest you do the following: Submit a letter, along with the completed well permit application to the Director of Public Works, Jeff Pratt, requesting a waiver. Your letter should include the text from Section 4826.3 Waivers of the Water Well and Permit Prohibitions that applies to your situation. So the Director can more quickly respond to your waiver request, we ask you clearly describe your circumstances relating to Parts A and B of that section.





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Sincerely,

Rick Viergutz C.E.G.

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Groundwater Manager

Attachment: Exhibit 1

Cc: Jeff Pratt

