



SAFE AND AFFORDABLE FUNDING FOR EQUITY AND RESILIENCE

# Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience Advisory Group

### December 11, 2025 Meeting Materials Packet

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#### **Topic #1 – Domestic Wells Discussion**

#### **Discussion Questions**

- 1) What are the most effective ways to reach and engage with domestic well users, especially in linguistically and culturally diverse communities?
- 2) How can SAFER better align with existing domestic well programs to avoid duplication and maximize impact?
  - a. What cost-sharing and co-funding models are appropriate for counties, Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, management zones?
- 3) How can the SAFER Program support counties in building capacity to manage domestic well issues?

#### **Topic #2 – SAFER Program Goals: Quarterly Updates on Metrics**

1) SAFER Program Goals – See PowerPoint - Slides 14-25

#### 2) Final Funding Expenditure Plan and Domestic Wells Funding Updates

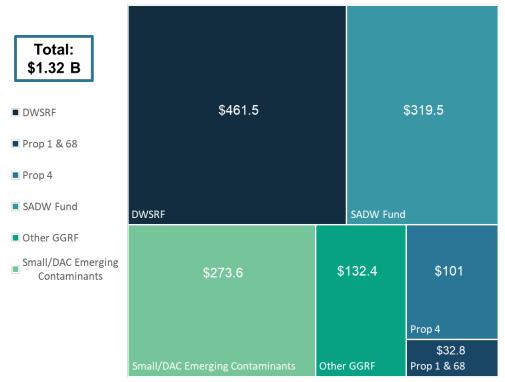
The Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund (SADW Fund) was established through Senate Bill 200 (SB200) in July 2019. The SADW Fund provides up to \$130 million per year to develop and implement solutions for water systems and domestic wells that are not sustainable or have violations of drinking water standards. Types of projects include, but are not limited to, consolidation with a larger system, provision of interim replacement water, planning assistance, reducing operations and maintenance costs, and funding for administrators. Funding is generally prioritized for small, disadvantaged communities or low-income households.

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Fund Expenditure Plan (FEP) for the SADW Fund will guide staff to administer the broader Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Drinking Water Program. Expenditures from the SADW Fund will complement other funding sources as part of the broader Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Drinking Water Program (Program), which includes General Fund appropriations, general obligation bond funds, and funding available through annual Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) capitalization grants.

#### **SAFER Program Available Funding**

The majority of anticipated funding available for the SAFER Program in FY 2025-26 will be from the SADW Fund, and DWSRF principal forgiveness, with new funding from the 2024 GGRF Infrastructure appropriation and Proposition 4 (Prop 4). The anticipated available funds for drinking water projects for FY 2025-26 is included in Figure 1, which totals \$1.32 billion.

Figure 1. FY 2025-26 SAFER Program Anticipated Funding Availability for Projects (SADW Fund plus complementary funding, in millions)



#### **Fiscal Year 2025-26 Funding Priorities**

Consistent with the SAFER Program goals above, the FY 2025-26 priorities for the SADW Fund are presented in Figure 2 below. The expenditures from the SADW Fund for FY 2025-26 will continue to focus on solutions for small DACs and low-income households.

Figure 2. FY 2025-26 SAFER Funding Priorities



Address community and school water systems that were failing in 2019.



Expedite planning through use of technical assistance for failing systems and communities served by failing domestic wells.



Accelerate technically and financially feasible long-term solutions, like consolidations, for failing systems and communities served by failing domestic wells.



Continue existing programs to support communities served by domestic wells and state small water systems where other assistance is not available.



Ensure assistance is distributed consistent with the goals and direction provided in the State Water Board's Racial Equity Resolution and associated Racial Equity Action Plan.

#### **FEP Comments and Revisions**

The Draft FY 2025-26 Fund Expenditure Plan (FEP) was released for public comment on June 30, 2025, and discussed at the Advisory Group meeting on July 17, 2025. A Board Workshop was held on July 15, 2025, where staff discussed the Draft FEP and received preliminary comments. Public comments were due on July 31, 2025. Expenditures from the Fund utilizing the FY 2025-26 appropriation on or after July 1, 2025, must be consistent with the FY 2025-26 FEP. The FY 2025-26 FEP was adopted by the State Water Board on November 4, 2025.

A total of nine written comment letters were received (two of which were combined comments with the DWSRF Intended Use Plan [IUP]). The following items are key changes made after the close of the public comment period on July 31, 2025, which also considers comments received at the Board Workshop on July 15, 2025, and the SAFER Advisory Group Meeting on July 17, 2025.

- General Updates to Tables and Figures adjustments were made to several tables, figures and associated text to extend reporting range through June 30, 2025. A table and figure were also added, per suggestion from Department of Finance (DOF) for clarity.
- Reference to the Establishment of the Office of Sustainable Water Solutions (Section I) this reference was added back into the document.

- **Updates to Funding Committed, Funding Anticipated** figures, tables, and associated text was updated to account for new information as of June 30, 2025. Additionally, a revision was made to the way Prop. 4 funding is referenced, per comments received from DOF.
- SAFER Program Strategy for Domestic Wells/State Small Water Systems (DW/SSWS) – updated strategy and associated text to incorporate education and outreach as a component.
- FY 2025-26 SADW Fund Target Allocations (Executive Summary and Section V) updated SADW Fund amount available to \$319.5 M for projects, increased target for technical assistance (TA) due to additional pending amendments (from \$101.8M to \$119M for Failing PWSs, and from \$14.4M to \$21.9M for DW/SSWSs), added \$150,000 for a media relations contract, and decreased target for construction for Failing PWSs (from \$78.1M to \$46.25M). Text in Draft FEP related to available TA provider capacity was revised.
- Funding Eligibilities related to Interim Assistance (Sections VI.B and VII.B) tables and associated text related to durations of the provision of interim assistance updated to clarify that while there is an expectation of service provision for up to two years, that amendments/extensions may be considered, especially in cases where a consolidation is actively being worked towards. Other clarifications made around residents of small PWSs serving DACs being eligible to receive interim assistance, as well as noting coordination between State Water Board funding partners and local mitigation programs in cases where services will be transitioned.
- Technical Assistance Program (Section VI.B, VII.B, and Appendix J) minor clarifications made to text related to the TA program and eligibilities.
- Metrics and Methodology (Appendix C) some minor clarifications made as to what certain measures are capturing.

#### 3) Drinking Water Legislation 2025

#### AB 532 (Ransom, D) Water rate assistance program.

#### 2-year bill can be acted upon January 2026.

This bill would clarify the authority of public urban retail water suppliers (URWS) to provide water rate assistance to low-income customers with an annual household income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level through voluntary contributions from other ratepayers, or any other legal means. This bill would also require the State Water Board to collect specified information from URWSs—as defined in the Water Code—regarding voluntary contributions and water rate assistance. The State Water Board would be required to conduct a voluntary survey requesting information about whether the supplier provides water rate assistance to its customers by July 1, 2026 pursuant to section 116952(a)(1). The remainder of information would be required to be collected beginning January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, in a technical report.

## AB 638 (Rodriguez, Celeste, D) Stormwater: uses: irrigation. 2-year bill can be acted upon January 2026.

This bill would require the State Water Board to establish recommendations for stormwater capture and reuse for irrigation of urban public lands on or before December 1, 2026. The recommendations must include how captured stormwater for irrigation can be used to offset potable water demand in a way that poses minimal to no public health risks and provides best management practices to reduce potential health risks through criteria for pathogens and pathogen indicators, total suspended solids, toxics, and structural and nonstructural means. The State Water Board would be required to solicit and receive written public comment and approve the final recommendations following a public hearing.

# AB 794 (Gabriel, D) California Safe Drinking Water Act: emergency regulations.

#### 2-year bill can be acted upon January 2026.

This bill would require the State Water Board, by December 31, 2026, to adopt emergency regulations and initiate a primary drinking water standard for PFAS, pursuant to the federal regulation. This bill further clarifies that the State Water Board's authority to adopt an emergency regulation includes a federal regulation that is in effect when the State Water Board adopts the emergency regulation and authority to adopt requirements of a federal regulation that was in effect on January 19, 2025, regardless of whether the requirements were repealed or amended to be less stringent.

# AB 990 (Hadwick, R) Public water systems: emergency notification plan. 2-year bill can be acted upon January 2026.

This bill would authorize and encourage a public water system to provide notification to water users in their preferred language, if resources are available. The State Water Board would be required to adopt regulations pursuant to this section.

#### AB 1096 (Connolly, D) Water: school sites: lead testing.

Signed by the Governor on 10/3/2025 (Chapter 290, Statutes of 2025). This bill would require community water systems (CWS), when conducting

outreach to elementary schools and childcare facilities under the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI), to collect specific information and offer facilities that decline lead sampling an opportunity to indicate their reasons by selecting from a provided list. The State Water Board would be authorized to expand that list with additional reasons through the adoption of a policy handbook. CWSs would also be required to submit the collected information to the State Water Board. By June 30, 2028, the State Water Board must make the submitted data publicly accessible in a searchable format on its website. Additionally, by December 31, 2028, CWSs would need to include in their annual consumer confidence reports a written statement about the availability of this lead testing information and provide a direct link to the State Water Board's website.

### SB 31 (McNerney, D) Water quality: recycled water. Water quality: recycled water

Signed by the Governor on 10/13/2025 (Chapter 736, Statutes of 2025).

This bill would redefine recycled water and statewide criteria for its acceptable use. This bill would remove notification requirements for certain unauthorized discharges of recycled water from storm events. This bill would add outdoor irrigation of common areas to the list of areas where nonpotable water must be used if it is available and would authorize incidental amounts of disinfected tertiary recycled water in eating areas at parks and other open spaces. This bill further states that outdoor landscape irrigation of common areas that does not enter the boundaries of a residence is not to be considered part of the same premises as an individual residence and shall not be considered a dual plumbed system. This bill further amends the locations and conditions under which recycled water for sanitary and landscape purposes shall be permitted in and around specified locations, including food handling or processing facilities. This bill would require the State Water Board to update Title 22 and perform rulemaking.

SB 72 (Caballero, D) The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets. Signed by the Governor on 10/1/2025 (Chapter 210, Statutes of 2025).

#### Signing Message.

This bill would overhaul the existing laws requiring the Department of Water Resources, in coordination with the State Water Resources Control Board and other agencies, to update the California Water Plan. Changes would include an expanded advisory committee, additional areas of discussion on environmental needs and the water needs of disadvantaged communities, and the development of water supply planning targets, including a 2040 planning target of 9 million acre-feet of additional water.

# SB 454 (McNerney, D) State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program.

#### Vetoed by the Governor on 10/1/2025. Veto Message.

This bill would create the PFAS Mitigation Fund and authorize the State Water Board to use the fund to provide assistance to water suppliers and sewer system providers to cover or reduce the costs associated with treating Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in drinking water, recycled water, stormwater, and wastewater. This bill would further require the State Water Board to adopt guidelines related to expending these funds and to conduct public hearings related to them. This bill's provisions would be contingent upon appropriation by the Legislature.

## **SB** 466 (Caballero, D) Drinking water: hexavalent chromium: civil liability: exemption.

#### Signed by the Governor on 10/3/2025 (Chapter 320, Statutes of 2025).

This bill would prohibit a public water system (PWS) from being determined, held, considered, or otherwise deemed in violation of the primary drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium (chromium-6), provided the PWS meets the total chromium maximum containment level (MCL) enforceable standard for drinking water in California, while implementing a State Water Board approved compliance plan or while State Water Board action on the proposed and submitted compliance plan is pending approval. The limited protections in this bill would not interfere with the authority of the State Water Board to enforce any applicable law regarding chromium-6, including a chromium-6 compliance plan.

# SB 489 (Arreguín, D) Local agency formation commissions: written policies and procedures: Permit Streamlining Act: housing development projects. Signed by the Governor on 10/10/2025 (Chapter 518, Statutes of 2025).

This bill would require a public agency, for each type of approval issued in connection with a housing development project, to publish online the list of information required from an applicant for a development project, including the criteria that the public agency will apply in order to determine the completeness of the development application and the name of the type of approval.

#### **Topic #3 – Central Coast Drinking Water Tour**

#### 1) Central Coast Water Board Drinking Water Programs

#### **Central Coast Drinking Water Well Testing Program**

The Central Coast Drinking Water Well Testing Program (<a href="www.centralcoastwelltesting.org">www.centralcoastwelltesting.org</a>) provides free well testing to domestic well users and small water systems in the Central Coast Region. The goal of the program is to provide information to well users to ensure safe drinking water and assess groundwater quality. The Well Testing Program is both voluntary and free to anyone in the region who receives their drinking water from a private domestic well or small water system with fourteen or fewer residential connections. While all qualified participants are welcome to participate, resources are prioritized to conduct outreach and testing to support underrepresented communities.

# Central Coast Water Board – Irrigated Lands Program Initiatives to Address Domestic Well Impacts

The Central Coast Water Board's Irrigated Lands Program is advancing several initiatives to address agricultural impacts on drinking water quality for communities that rely on groundwater.

#### i. Domestic Well Monitoring:

All dischargers enrolled under the Central Coast Water Board's Agricultural Order 4.0 are required to annually sample on-farm domestic and dual-purpose (domestic/irrigation) wells for nitrate. Some dischargers are also required to test for 1,2,3-TCP. This monitoring informs well users about their water quality and supports regional groundwater impact assessments.

#### ii. Alternative Water Supply Program:

To support communities impacted by nitrate contamination from agricultural sources, the Water Board is developing the <u>Alternative Water Supply Program</u> (AWSP). This program will provide interim and long-term drinking water solutions residents relying on groundwater that exceeds the maximum contaminant level for nitrate. Regulatory requirements for the AWSP are anticipated to be adopted in summer 2027.

#### 2) San Lucas Community Water District

The community of San Lucas has experienced historical water quality issues including nitrate, iron, and manganese contaminants violating California drinking water standards, and the existing treatment system is no longer adequate to mitigate these issues.

In June 2025, the San Lucas Community Water District (SLCWD) board voted to select a preferred solution for long-term sustainable water quality in their community. This preferred solution includes a managerial consolidation with the California Water Service Company (Cal Water) King City, acquiring land for construction of a new well, and phased installation of wellhead treatment systems.

The SAFER program provided technical assistance to empower the San Lucas County Water District as this community weighed potential options to resolve their water quality concerns. This included technical studies to inform the San Lucas Community Water District board's choice, coordination between San Lucas Community Water District and project partners at local, regional, and federal levels, and community outreach and engagement to address questions and concerns from the public.

The SAFER program will continue to support the San Lucas County Water District as it takes its next steps to implement its preferred solution. This includes providing technical assistance in the legal process between San Lucas Community Water District and the designated responsible party, the voluntary consolidation process between San Lucas Community Water District and Cal Water King City, and outreach and engagement to keep the community informed.

#### 3) Gabilan Water Company / Middlefield Road

Project to consolidate 162 customer connections in Gabilan Water and 33 connections between the Lagunita, Tryhorn, Livingston, Morris, and Martin with the Cal Water system. Cal Water also partnered with the Rural Community Assistance Corps, which worked on behalf of the communities through the SAFER program and are leading the technical assistance for this project. Other stakeholders include Monterey County Environmental Health, MKN Engineering, Division of Drinking Water, Division of Financial Assistance, and Department of Water Resources. This project's origins go back to 2008 when the Environmental Justice Coalition for Water took the lead as Technical Assistance provider. In 2023 Cal Water was awarded a \$4.2 million grant for the main line extension consolidation. Additional grant funding is still needed to construct the private home laterals to connect the grant funded main line extension.

#### 4) Country Meadows Consolidates with Salinas Main System

Country Meadows Mutual Water System has 107 connections and 2 aging wells. As part of Cal Water's Infrastructure Improvement Plan, an inter-tie was constructed between Cal Water's Salinas Main System (approximately 26,000 service connections) with the addition of a booster station on Harrison Road. This inter-tie will now provide reliability for the community of Country Meadows and back up the existing infrastructure during times of power outages, fires, and unplanned interruptions. Cal Water also expanded its service area along

Harrison Road, where residents can now become Cal Water customers. While not a SAFER funded project, it provides an opportunity to uplift domestic wells.

#### 5) Prundale Regional Consolidation Project

The Prunedale area, known as the "Prunedale Triangle" or "Granite Ridge", is serviced by a network of several small failing community and school systems including Moro Rd Water System #9, Oak Heights W&R Co, Echo Valley School, Thimio MWC, Colonial Oak WC Inc, and Prunedale MWC.

The target study area encompasses 37 water systems, totaling approximately 562 connections servicing a population of approximately 2,253 people. Predominantly dependent on groundwater sources, these systems are facing escalating challenges with nitrate and arsenic contamination, with levels exceeding the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). Most systems lack the capacity to mitigate these contaminants effectively.

Additionally, the region faces a high-risk designation on aquifer risk maps, compounding concerns over sustainable water sources. The systems have varying conditions of infrastructure, including the number and condition of wells, storage facilities, and treatment systems employed.

Despite prior considerations for regionalization in a 2008 Proposition 218 Report, no successful consolidation attempts have materialized due to the absence of a suitable larger system in proximity with the capacity to consolidate these smaller water systems.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has initiated a new Feasibility Study under the Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Drinking Water Technical Assistance (TA) Program to investigate viable alternatives for delivering clean and safe drinking water to an area known as the Prunedale Triangle in Monterey County. The Monterey County Department of Environmental Health submitted an Assistance Request (AR7104) for the area. On December 7, 2023, the Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) of the State Water Resources Control Board selected Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group (Provost & Pritchard) as the Technical Assistance provider.

Most recently, in early November, Provost & Pritchard held a series of community meetings to update the community members on the draft Study, answer questions, and receive feedback on the community's concerns.

#### 5a) Echo Valley School

Echo Valley School Water System has had Trihalomethane (TTHM) and Arsenic Maximum Contaminant Levels violations but is almost back in compliance for

both. Due to Disinfection Byproducts (DBP) concerns, the school reduced chlorine dose, which resulted in arsenic treatment failure. Technical Assistance is helping fine-tune treatment for long-term compliance. On July 24, 2023, the Echo Valley School submitted a request for Technical Assistance (TA) to the Department of Financial Assistance (DFA) of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). In August 2023, Provost and Pritchard Consulting Group (P&P) was selected as the TA provider. The purpose of this Feasibility Study (FS) was to discuss the existing Echo Valley School Water System (EVSWS), evaluate the problems of the system, analyze alternatives, and discuss next steps. On Apr 1, 2025, workplan amendment (AR7025) was executed to include pilot study and full planning assistance to pursue Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) funding to upgrade their existing treatment system. The selected alternative proposes to improve the existing onsite treatment system to further reduce existing contaminants and reduce the need for backwashing the system.

To achieve consistent arsenic removal and reduced Disinfection Byproducts formation, conceptual treatment plant improvements would need to include a variety of steps, including a pilot test, replacement of certain components, and installation of new components.

#### 6) Springfield Road, Moss Landing

Springfield: Many households in the Springfield area currently rely on private wells that have high levels of nitrate and 1,2,3-trichloropropane (123-TCP), which are above what's considered safe for drinking. Some private wells nearby have shown contamination levels up to five times higher than the allowable limit. To address this issue, the Springfield Consolidation Project began construction in May 2025 and is expected to be finished by November 2026. Once completed, the project will connect 158 households to a new drinking water supply well and an expanded water system that will provide a safe and reliable water solution for this community. The new system will be managed by the Pajaro Sunny Mesa Community Services District (CSD).

#### 7) McGinnis Road (Johnson, McGinnis, Live Oak - JML)

Many households in the Johnson, McGinnis, Live Oak area receive water from private wells contaminated with nitrate and 1,2,3-trichloropropane (123-TCP), and chromium-6 at levels above what's considered safe for drinking. The Johnson, McGinnis, Live Oak area relies on aging and, in some cases, poorly-maintained septic systems. Gente Organizada Trabajando por el Agua (GOTA), or People United Working for Water, was formed in January 2021 by concerned community members after learning about contamination in their wells. Since then, Community Water Center and the Johnson, McGinnis, Live Oak community have been working together to support community solutions for approximately 230 households. Communicty Water Center contracted MNS Engineers to conduct a feasibility study looking at long-term drinking water alternatives for the

community. MNS's findings are detailed in the Long-Term Drinking Water Solutions for the Johnson, McGinnis, and Live Oak Roads Area Report completed in March 2024. The recommended solution is consolidation with the Cal Water Las Lomas public water system. Community Water Center also contracted MNS to conduct a feasibility study looking at long-term wastewater solutions for the Johnson, McGinnis, Live Oak area. This is anticipated to be finalized in 2025.

# Central Coast Drinking Water Well Testing Program

FREE domestic well sampling for central coast households.

The Central Coast Drinking Water Well Testing Program (Program) provides testing of domestic drinking water wells and small water systems on the central coast. The Program is **free and voluntary** for eligible participants.

This Program is **intended to assess** water quality and help inform residents, who don't get their drinking water from a public water system, about the safety of their drinking water.

Most private domestic wells and small water systems are unregulated. Therefore, it is **strongly recommended** that well water is tested at least **annually** to ensure it is safe for drinking and other domestic uses.

If you or your landlord receive bills and annual consumer confidence reports (i.e., water quality reports) from a water provider, you get your water from a public water system. If you don't get bills and annual consumer confidence reports from a water provider, you're on a private or shared well.

Available information indicates that groundwater in areas of the central coast may contain unsafe levels of nitrate, arsenic, or other contaminants.

Those who participate in the Program will receive results for contaminants commonly found in domestic drinking water wells, including contaminants with known health impacts when drinking water standards are exceeded. Additionally, participants will receive information on how to interpret the results, what to do if the well is contaminated, and how to protect the well from contamination. Program data is managed in the GeoTracker online database accessible at www.geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov.

The Program is implemented by the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program – Groundwater Assessment and Protection (CCAMP-GAP) in coordination with local agencies and is available in Santa Clara (south of Morgan Hill), Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and small portions of San Mateo, Kern, and Ventura counties.



DRINKING WATER
WELL TESTING

for the Central Coast

What the program offers:

- Free well sampling is being offered to persons who get their drinking water from a domestic well.
- Test results and information on how to interpret the results.
- Tips on what to do if your well is contaminated and how to protect your well from contamination.
- Information on free replacement drinking water programs.

The testing is focused on common groundwater contaminants known to pose health effects.

#### Contaminants\*:

- Have no color or odor
- Boiling the water does not make it safe to drink
- Can cause serious health effects, especially in pregnant women and children
- Can cause certain types of cancer and birth defects
- \* Contaminants include: arsenic, nitrate, 1,2,3-TCP, hexavalent chromium, perchlorate, total dissolved solids, and more.



For more information or to schedule your free testing: Scan the QR Code, using your smartphone

Visit: centralcoastwelltesting.org

Call: 844.613.5152

# Central Coast Drinking Water Well Testing Program

**Monterey County** 

**November 2018 – July 2025** 

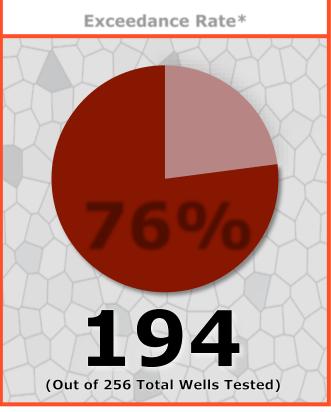
# Number of Primary MCL Drinking Water Exceedances by Analyte

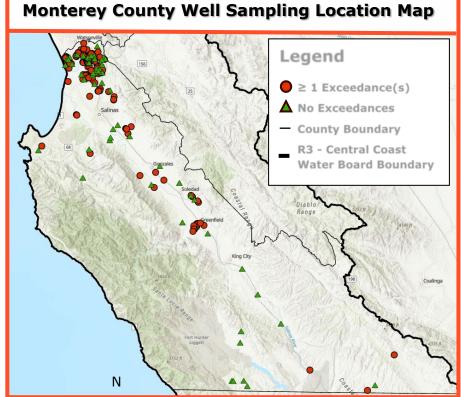
**39** 1,2,3 - TCP > 0.005 μg/L

11
Arsenic
> 10 μg/L

62 Chromium VI > 10 µg/L 135
Nitrate as N
> 10 mg/L

5 Perchlorate > 6 μg/L

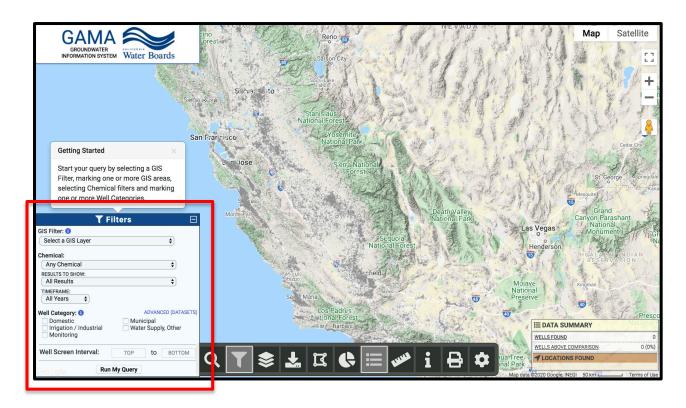




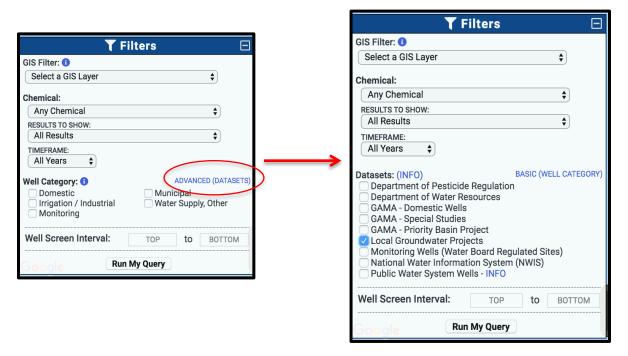
\*Percentage and number of wells with at least one exceedance of a primary Maximum Contaminate Level (MCL) for drinking water.

#### **Viewing Data through GAMA GIS**

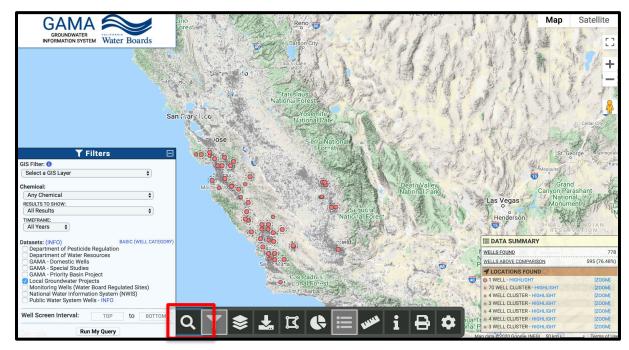
- Point your browser to <u>https://gamagroundwater.waterboards.ca.gov/gama/gamamap/public/Def</u> ault.asp
- 2. Within the "Filters" window CLICK, "Advanced (Datasets)" to view additional datasets.



3. Within the "Advanced Datasets" SELECT "Local Groundwater Projects".



4. Red dots will appear on the map, marking the well points.

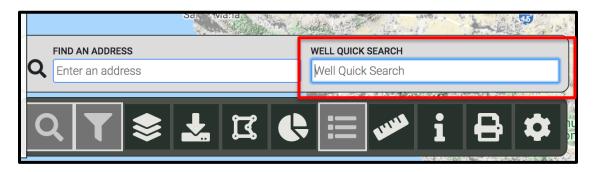


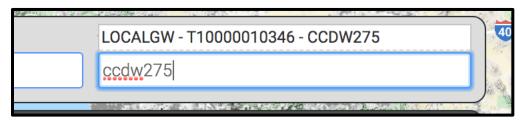
\*\*\*If you want to view data continue to Step 5.

If you want to download data skip to Step 10. \*\*\*\*

- 5. CLICK on the magnifying glass to bring up the "Find an Address" and "Well Quick Search" search fields. See example above.
- 6. **To search by address**, type address into the "Find an Address" search field, click on the address in the list that appears and the map will automatically zoom to the desired location.

**To search by well point**, type well point name (most start with CCDW<sup>1</sup>) into the "Well Quick Search" field, click on the well point in the list that appears and the map will automatically zoom to the well point. See example on the next page.

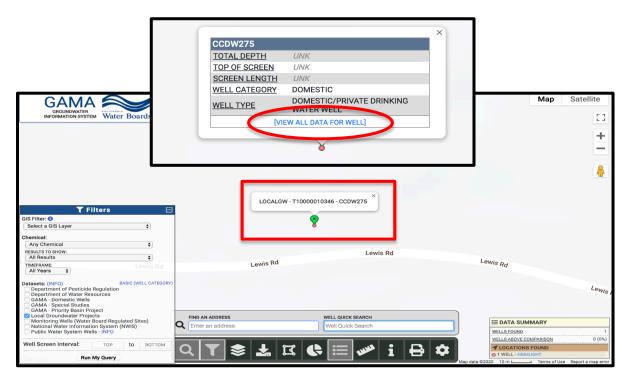




Questions? Contact Julia Dyer (805) 542-4624 Julia.Dyer@waterboards.ca.gov

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Well data from samples collected through the San Luis Obispo County pilot project conducted August 2017 through June 2018 will start with SLO.

7. Left-click on the well point (red dot) and a flag will appear.



- 8. Click on "[VIEW ALL DATA FOR WELL]" and a new tab will open displaying the data associated with the well point.
- 9. Scroll right to find the columns "PARLABEL" AND "PARVAL". These columns are the Parameter Label (PARLABEL) and the Parameter Value (PARVAL) for the well. See table below a for key to abbreviations.

Key to "PARLABEL" abbreviations

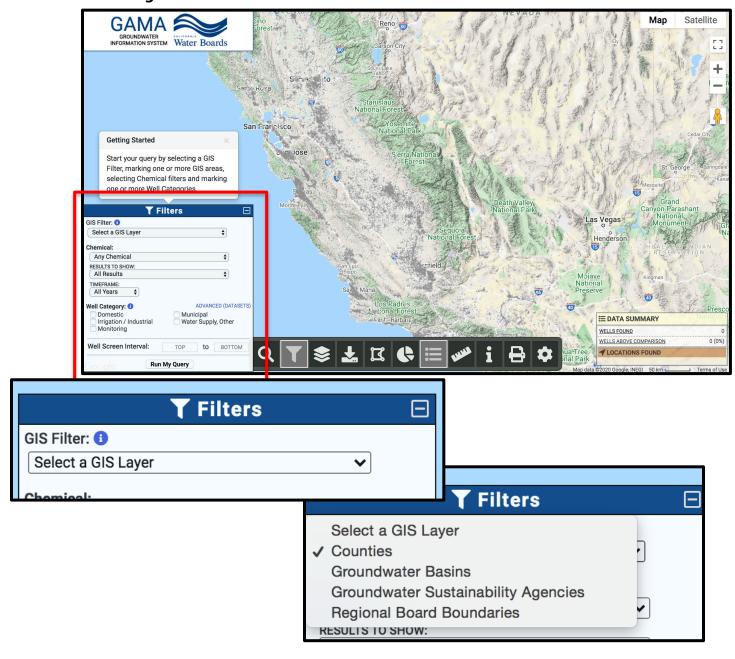
Abbreviation	Parameter
Alk	Alkalinity (Total)
As	Arsenic
Ca	Calcium
Cl	Chloride
CO3	Carbonate as CO3
CR6	Chromium, Hexavalent
HCO3	Bicarbonate as HCO3
K	Potassium
Mg	Magnesium

Abbreviation	Parameter
Na	Sodium
NO3N	Nitrate as N
ОН	Hydroxide
PCATE	Perchlorate
рН	pН
SC	Specific Conductance
SO4	Sulfate
TCPR123	1,2,3-Trichloropropane
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids

#### **Downloading Data through GAMA GIS**

If you haven't done so already, complete Steps 1-4 and then continue to Step 10.

10. Begin by narrowing the dataset by a geographic area. Within the "Filters" window choose one of four options from the GIS Filter drop down menu: Counties, Groundwater Basins, Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, or Regional Waterboard Boundaries.



#### The four GIS layers:

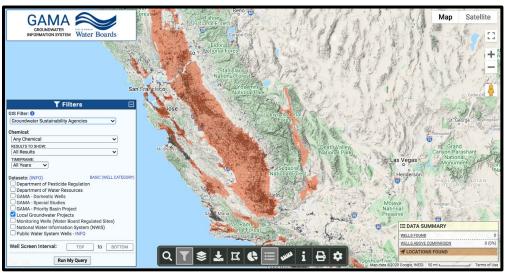
a) Counties Layer: Filter data by county.



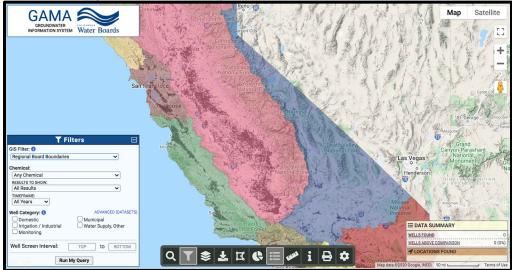
b) Groundwater Basins Layer: Filter data by groundwater basin.



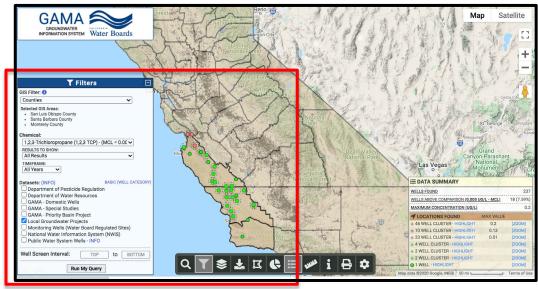
c) Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) Layer: The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) established a new structure for managing California's groundwater resources at the local level by local agencies. SGMA required Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to form in the State's <a href="https://disable.com/high-and-medium-priority-basins">high- and medium-priority-basins</a> and subbasins by June 30, 2017. Click <a href="https://here-to-learn-more-about-SGMA">here-to-learn-more-about-SGMA</a> and GSAs.



d) Regional Board Boundaries Layer: Filter data by one of California's nine regional waterboards. The <u>Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board</u> – Region 3 is green when using this filter. Click <u>here</u> to learn more about California's Regional Water Quality Control Boards.

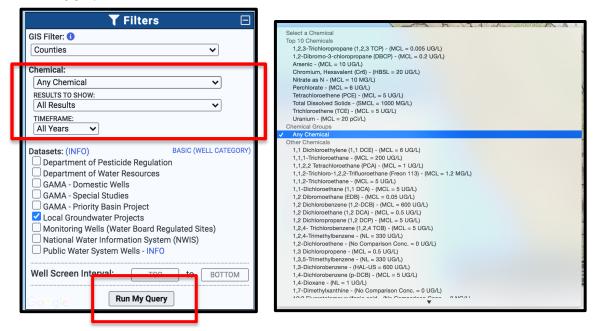


11. Select the areas on the map from within the chosen GIS Filter by clicking directly on the map. Once selected the area(s) will appear in the filter box as a bullet list. Green and red dots will appear in the areas that were selected. The dots indicate well sampling locations.

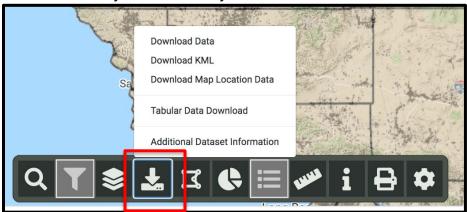


- 12.
- 13. Within the Filters window further narrow the dataset by choosing a chemical (i.e. analyte) from the dropdown menu under "**Chemical**". GAMA GIS only allows for the download of datasets based on one analyte at a time. The eighteen (18) analytes available through the Central Coast Domestic Drinking Water Well Testing Program are listed in the table under Step 9.
- 14. Optional: Further restrict the dataset by choosing a comparison value from the dropdown menu under "Results to Show". This filter provides options to restrict the dataset to either results above comparison concentration, results above a specific value, or user specified comparison value.
- 15. Optional: Filter dataset by timeframe, the timeframe dropdown menu provides options for the past one, three or ten years with a default of all years.

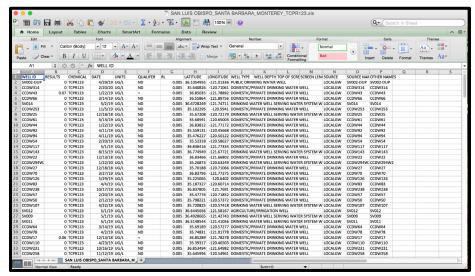
16. Click on the "**Run my Query**" button at the bottom of the "Filters" window.



17. At the bottom, click on the download button and select "**Download Data**" in the menu. A zip file containing an Excel spreadsheet with the dataset will automatically download to your device.



18. A zip file containing an Excel spreadsheet with the dataset will automatically download to your device. The default name of the zip file and Excel spreadsheet will reflect the geographic area and analyte of the filtered dataset.



Updated October 2020



# **Fact Sheet**

# New Requirements for Owners of Domestic Wells that Service Rental Properties; Assembly Bill 2454 (Lee, 2024)

These FAQs are advisory and do not bind the State Water Resources Control Board in any future decision.

#### Summary

Effective January 1, 2025, Assembly Bill (AB) 2454 creates new requirements for an owner of a domestic well (landlord) that serves a rental property. If the rental property is located within the boundaries of a State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) or a Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) funded well testing program, the landlord must participate in the testing program. Within 10 days of receiving test results, landlords must give the results to residents and provide information on how to interpret the results. If test results demonstrate an exceedance of primary drinking water standards and the testing program provides replacement drinking water, the landlord must provide safe drinking water to the resident.

To find programs: www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking water/certlic/drinkingwater/private-domestic-well-testing.html

#### For Landlords: How to Comply

- 1. Use the link above to determine whether your property uses a domestic well **and** is located within the boundaries of an applicable testing program.
- 2. Contact your local testing program for assistance. Schedule water quality testing as required by your testing program. Any questions about the program must be directed to the program administrator.
- Share test results with residents. Results must be provided within 10 days of receiving the results. You must also provide information on how to interpret the results.
- 4. If test results show that water exceeds any primary drinking water standard and the applicable testing program offers replacement water, you must provide replacement drinking water to your resident(s).
- 5. You cannot impose any charge, or increase any fee, rent, or other charge imposed, on any resident solely as a result of AB 2454's requirements.

#### For Residents: What to Do if You Have Concerns

1. Ask your landlord if your rental uses a domestic well.





#### **Fact Sheet**



- 2. Use the link above to determine whether your rental is located within the boundaries of an applicable testing program.
- 3. Contact your landlord or property manager along with your local testing program for assistance.
- 4. Ask to receive test results. Your landlord must provide test results within 10 days along with information on how to interpret the results.
- 5. Your landlord cannot impose any charge, or increase any fee, rent or other charge imposed, solely as a result of AB 2454's requirements.

#### 1. Does AB 2454 apply to all domestic well owners?

No. AB 2454 only applies to a domestic well owner if the domestic well serves a rental property **and** the domestic well is located within the service boundaries of an applicable testing program.

#### 2. What testing programs are applicable to AB 2454?

Testing programs that are available under AB 2454 were established by, or receive funding from, the State Water Board or a Regional Water Board. These testing programs offer testing or assistance free of charge to the owner of a domestic well and test for one or more primary or secondary water contaminants.

#### 3. How do I identify if a property uses a domestic well?

Properties that use a domestic well are not connected to a local water district or agency and access water by tapping groundwater. If you do not pay a water bill, the property is likely served by a domestic well.

#### 4. What are the requirements for providing replacement water?

If the test results show that the domestic well water exceeds any primary drinking water standard <u>and</u> if the testing program offers replacement water to eligible landlords or residents, the landlord must provide safe drinking water under that program to the resident.

## 5. What if I suspect that a domestic well owner is not in compliance with AB 2454?

Please submit a complaint: <u>SAFER@waterboards.ca.gov</u>, (916) 445-5615 (last updated November 2025)



# **Fact Sheet**

# New Domestic Well Testing Requirements in Consolidation or Extended Service Areas; Assembly Bill 664 (Lee, 2023)

These FAQs are advisory and do not bind the State Water Resources Control Board in any future decision.

#### **Summary**

Effective January 1, 2024, Assembly Bill (AB) 664 requires domestic well owners who do not consent to consolidation or extension of service to ensure tenants at their rental property have access to an adequate supply of safe drinking water. AB 664 does this by requiring domestic well owners to annually test their domestic wells. Domestic well owners must share test results with tenants and the local health officer or other relevant health agency, like a county. If the water fails to comply with certain drinking water standards, then the domestic well owner is required to supply replacement water to the tenants.

#### **Background**

California Health and Safety Code section 116682 authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to order consolidation with a receiving system in the following situations:

- When a public water system or state small water system, serving a disadvantaged community, consistently fails to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water or is an at-risk water system; or
- When a disadvantaged community substantially relies on domestic wells, and those wells consistently fail to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water or are at-risk domestic wells.

The State Water Board may also order the extension of service to an area within a disadvantaged community that does not have access to an adequate supply of safe drinking water so long as the extension of service is an interim solution in preparation for consolidation.

Domestic well owners are not required by law to consent to the consolidation or extension of service; however, those who do not consent to the consolidation or extension of service will have an ongoing obligation to comply with new domestic well testing requirements enacted by AB 664.







#### 1. Does AB 664 apply to all domestic well owners?

No. AB 664 only applies to a domestic well owner if:

- The domestic well serves a rental property;
- The domestic well is located within a consolidation or extended service area; and
- The domestic well owner does not provide written consent to the consolidation or extension of service.

#### 2. What does AB 664 require?

AB 664 requires domestic well owners who do not provide written consent to the consolidation or extension of service to do **all** of the following:

- Annually test their domestic well for all contaminants for which the State Water Board has adopted primary and secondary drinking water standards
- Provide test results to all tenants in English and the primary language spoken by the tenants within 10 days of receiving annual test results
- Provide test results to the local health officer or other relevant health agency
- If the test results show domestic well water fails to meet primary and secondary state water standards, the domestic well owner must provide uninterrupted replacement water service to their tenants, which may include wellhead treatment

The domestic well owner is financially responsible for the costs of fulfilling these requirements. The owner is prohibited from charging, or increasing any fee, rent, or other charge imposed, on any tenant as a result of these requirements.

#### 3. Does AB 664 apply to voluntary consolidations?

Yes. AB 664 applies to both mandatory and voluntary consolidations. (Health & Saf. Code, § 116682, subd. (j)(3)(E).)

#### 4. Who enforces AB 664?

The State Water Board can enforce against a domestic well owner for failure to comply with the requirements of AB 664. Citations with monetary penalties can be issued to domestic well owners who violate AB 664.

#### 5. What if I suspect that a domestic well owner is not complying with AB 664?

Please submit a complaint: SAFER@waterboards.ca.gov, (916) 445-5615