

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO ALL PERSON INTERESTED IN GROUNDWATER PRODUCTION WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District (Conservation District) has completed its 2013 Engineering Investigation of the Bunker Hill Basin. This report is required in connection with the Board of Directors' consideration of a groundwater charge on groundwater production within the Conservation District's boundaries. Article 1, Section 75560 of the California Water Code, requires that a water conservation district that proposes to levy or continue a groundwater extraction fee "...shall annually cause to be made an engineering investigation and report upon groundwater conditions of the District." A copy of the Conservation District's 2013 report is available for review online at the District's website at http://www.sbvwd.dst.ca.us/reports-data/documents/2012_2013EngineeringInvestigationReport.pdf or at the District's office at 1630 West Redlands Blvd., Suite A, Redlands, CA. You are being provided a copy of this notice because you are the owner or operator of a groundwater producing well in the District's jurisdictional boundaries. District staff is recommending to the District's Board of Directors to continue the current groundwater rate of \$3.14 per acre-foot for groundwater production for direct agricultural production \$11.28 per acre-foot for groundwater production for non-agricultural purposes. These rates will pertain to agricultural and non-agricultural groundwater production from July 1, 2013- through June 30, 2014. California Water Code 75594 dictates that the rate for non-agricultural groundwater production must be between three and five times the rate for agricultural use. The groundwater charge is not imposed on a property basis, but rather is a per acre-foot charge, which relates directly to the amount of groundwater produced from wells overlying the groundwater basin within the Conservation District's boundaries. Consequently, the ultimate amount of groundwater charge to be paid by you cannot be precisely identified now, because it will depend directly upon the amount of groundwater you produce in the basin from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. If your production for 2013-14 were the same as calendar year 2012 your total charges would be the same as you paid this year. The total revenue estimated to be collected from both agricultural and non-agricultural production for the 2013-2014 water year is \$693,941 based on 2012-2013 water production. The groundwater charge is to be collected on a semi-annual basis, based on production statements you submit for your groundwater production. The District uses the proceeds of the groundwater charge to fund ongoing groundwater replenishment of the basin, including direct water recharge, facility operations repairs and maintenance, and related costs. A public meeting and public hearing on the proposed groundwater charge will be held in the Conservation District's Board Room at 1630 West Redlands Blvd., Suite A, Redlands, CA 92373. The date and time for the public meeting will be April 10, 2013, at 1:30 pm. The date and time of the public hearing will be held on April 24, 2013, at 1:30 pm. You are invited to attend the public meeting and public hearing, and may submit evidence concerning groundwater conditions, water supplies of the Conservation District, or any matter relating to the proposed groundwater charge. In addition, any party wishing to protest the groundwater charge, may mail a protest to the Conservation District's office, and/or present such protest at the public meeting or public hearing. Further inquiries regarding the report or the groundwater charge, or requests for further information, may be directed to Daniel B. Cozad at 1630 West Redlands Blvd., Suite A, Redlands, CA 92373, or by telephone at (909) 793-2503.