

PAC TASKS  
AUGUST 1, 2019

The Board is considering an allocation plan intended to bring the basin into sustainability by 2040. Having heard Stetson's overview of Model Run 6, the Board would like PAC input on the following factors being considered by the Board.

Background Information:

1. Model Run 6 is a refinement of Model Run 4 or the "Buyout" scenario which consisted of 2 years of current pumping plus 6 years of rampdown by equal increments for unprotected or non-M&I allocations.
2. In Model Run 6, the total water available to non-M&I pumpers is 63,836 AF ("Ag/Industrial Pool") which is the total non-M&I pumping allowed in Model Run 4 during the initial 2 years plus 6 years of rampdown.
3. In Model Run 6, if a producer did not pump groundwater continuously during the 5-year calculation period (2010-2014), then that producer will be excluded from the Ag/Industrial pool. Transfers are allowed among M&I producers and non-M&I pumpers that are eligible for the Ag/Industrial Pool.
4. Model Run 6 assumes each producer would be allocated a percentage of the Ag/Industrial Pool for future use or transfer. The decision when to pump or transfer said allocation will be at the discretion of the pumper.

In light of the above, the Authority Board requests PAC input on the following:

- A. How much water should be allocated to the Ag/Industrial Pool? Is 63,836 AF the right volume? In essence, how much "mining" of the basin should the IWVGA allow by non-M&I pumpers? Recall that the more water "mined" from the basin results in additional potential impacts to domestic shallow wells that will need to be addressed. Should a portion of the Ag/Industrial Pool be "ear marked" for dust mitigation?
- B. How should the Ag/Industrial Pool be allocated to eligible pumpers? On the basis of each producer's lowest water use during the 2010 through 2014 calculation period or by the percentage of acreage farmed by each producer during the calculation period? Using acreage is an equitable way of correlating water among overlying users. Allocations based on pumping during the calculation period are based on the concept of self-help during a prescriptive period. Other thoughts on factors the Authority Board should consider?
- C. What method do you think the IWVGA should use to reach out to small well owners to notify them of the upcoming mandatory well registration? Postcard, letter, billboards?