



**WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**  
Florn Core • Water Resources Manager

April 22, 2009

James Beck  
Kern County Water Agency  
PO Box 58  
Bakersfield, CA 93302-0058

RE: KERN COUNTY WATER AGENCY APRIL 10, 2009 LETTER IN RESPONSE TO  
OPPOSITION TO THE OPERATION OF PROPOSITION 13 KERN RIVER  
RESTORATION (PARKWAY) WELLS

Dear Mr. Beck:

Your prompt response and cessation of pumping of the Proposition 13 Kern River Restoration Wells (Parkway Wells) is acknowledged. We appreciate your actions and hope to gain additional understanding on future intended pumping, if any, of the Parkway Wells.

Our April 8, 2009 letter did not specify Improvement District #4 (ID#4) as the pumper and was inquiring of any pumping operation that involved the use of the Parkway Wells. After field verification that Parkway Wells were operating, our letter was driven by the lack of adequate explanation by Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) staff in a meeting and in a previous telephone conversation.

Through our telephone conversation and your April 10, 2009 letter, the story became somewhat understandable, however, we ask further explanations and details on the program. What type of water was used in this program, for instance: State Water Project Table "A", surpluses or other; Kern River entitlements, high flow or other; Friant-Kern entitlements, surplus, temporary contract or other? Where "in the vicinity of the Wells" was the water spread? When was the water "previously recharged"? Where is the pumped water ultimately delivered either direct, exchange, substitution or otherwise?

Your April 10, 2009 letter makes several conclusions with which the City does not agree at this time. You state "The program has resulted in no adverse water level or water quality impacts to the area, and ....". This conclusion cannot be made until monitoring results have been analyzed, but as we said in our letter and has been publicly stated by the City and other pumpers in ID#4, we are experiencing dramatic declines in water levels in our wells. Another conclusion remark was made concerning your explanations leading to the City's different perception about the purpose of the pumping operation "and, therefore, does not warrant further consideration regarding potential termination of pumping". Until such time that the KCWA demonstrates and proves that no adverse water quality and groundwater level impacts exist, the City will maintain its stance on Parkway Wells use.

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The City has consistently expressed and reminded the KCWA and ID#4 of the type of uses and conditions in which the Parkway Wells were funded and constructed. There is no management plan for the Parkway Wells use, as the KCWA and City has with other projects in the area. We only want to protect the valuable, high quality water we have to deliver to our customers and residents.

Sincerely,



Florn Core  
Manager

cc: Alan Tandy, City Manager  
Virginia Gennaro, City Attorney  
David Couch, Chair, Water Board  
Colin Pearce, Duane Morris