

LOCAL GROUNDWATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Westlands Water District's permanent distribution system was built between 1965 and 1979 which consists of a closed, buried pipeline network designed to convey irrigation water to 160- or 320-acre land units from the San Luis Canal (SLC), the Coalinga Canal (CC), and a 7.4-mile unlined canal from the Mendota Pool. The area served by the completed system serves approximately 88 percent of the irrigable land in the District, including all land lying east of the SLC. Water is distributed through 1,034 miles of buried pipe, varying in diameter from 10 to 96 inches. Gravity and pumps feed 38 lateral pipelines from the east bank of the SLC, while water is pumped into 27 laterals on the west bank. Six partially completed laterals are served from the CC. Farmers control individual deliveries at each of the more than 3,200 metered outlet valves. Westlands Water District's Operation and Maintenance Division has efficiently operated and maintained the District's piping and meters since its launch including the installation of new meters when required as well as performing all repairs needed.

Device Installation and Repair

All devices will be installed according to the manufacturer's specifications and done by the District's experienced operators. Repairs will also be done by District operators and in accordance with each specific manufacturer. Since the existing meters were installed at the expense of the property owner, the meters encountered will be of various brands. Certified welders will be used when necessary, either employed by the District or contracted by the District. Once the meter is fully functional it will be merged into the District's current maintenance and replacement schedule.

Meter Maintenance

All District meters are placed on a preventative maintenance schedule, where each meter is calibrated and tested every three-to-four years. A Westlands Water District "Meter Maintenance and Accuracy Report" is provided in Appendix B. Accurate metering allows the District and its farmers to carefully manage and account for all water delivered. Once the District takes over the maintenance and operation of the groundwater meters within the District, they too will be put on a three-to-four year preventative maintenance schedule.

These meters will be merged into an aggressive program for installation, upgrading and repair.

Meter Reading

The District will incorporate the reading of groundwater meters into the existing program. Meters are read bi-monthly by Westlands technicians and are entered directly on the District's reporting program via laptop. All data is supplied to its users through the District's Operations Report which is located at westlandswater.org.

The qualified and knowledgeable staff of Westlands Water District will ensure that the outcome of the Well Metering Project is successful. The District's 50 years of experience in water management will benefit all aspects of the project and the inclusion of the groundwater meters in the existing efficient monitoring programs.

