

# **Groundwater Substitution Issue No. 11 - DRAFT Estimating Groundwater Substitution Baseline Pumping**

## **Background**

The goal of these recommendations is to ensure that other legal users of water are not harmed and to expedite the review of water transfer proposals.

## **Recommendations for 2010**

- In most cases, request sellers to submit information for non-transfer pumping years as was requested of sellers in 2009.
- Sellers should identify all wells which they control within a contiguous water supply delivery system where a transfer well is proposed to be used.
- Sellers should submit information regarding the amount of non-transfer year groundwater pumped for each well in a contiguous water supply delivery system.
- DWR and Reclamation should calculate baseline pumping based on the use of all wells in a contiguous water supply delivery system
- Sellers should meter the flow from all wells in a contiguous water supply delivery system participating in groundwater substitution transfers. (This recommendation may need to be phased in over several years.)

## **Recommendations for Long-Term Water Transfers**

- Sellers should be required to meter their groundwater use in non-transfer years, as well as transfer years. This should provide adequate documentation to confirm sellers are providing an agreed upon amount of transferable water.
  - Newly participating sellers should be allowed to use records of electrical power consumption along with well efficiency test data to estimate baseline groundwater pumping.

