

**LOST PINES GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**Board Meeting**  
**Monday, April 4, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.**  
**Bastrop Convention & Exhibit Center**  
**1408 Chestnut Street**  
**Bastrop, Texas 78602**

**HYBRID IN-PERSON/TELEPHONIC/VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**

**IN-PERSON AND REMOTE ATTENDANCE OPTIONS**

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION ARE ATTACHED**

**The subjects to be discussed or considered, or upon which any formal actions may be taken, are as listed below. Items may or may not be taken in the same order as shown on the meeting notice.**

- 1) Call to Order – President Sheril Smith
- 2) Welcome and Introductions.
- 3) Virtual and In Person Public comments – limit 3 minutes each person.
- 4) Public hearing regarding the applications of the City of Bastrop for Operating Permits for three proposed wells to be located in Bastrop County under District Well Nos. 58-54-8-0043, 58-54-5-0047 and 58-54-5-0048 in the Simsboro Aquifer and to withdraw 1,333 acre-feet of water per year from each well, with a total production of 3,999 acre-feet of water per year combined from the three wells, to be used for municipal purposes in the City of Bastrop Service Area in Bastrop County. Applicant further requested to aggregate annual and instantaneous withdrawals from the three proposed new wells with existing District Well J, and a variance to the District's well spacing requirements under District Rule 8.2.B.
- 5) Consideration of and possible action on the City of Bastrop for Operating Permits for three proposed wells to be located in Bastrop County as described in Item 4, the request to aggregate production described under Item 4, and the request for a variance described under Item 4.
- 6) Executive Session:  
Executive session of the Board pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code section 551.071, or any closed session permitted by law, to consult with its attorney and seek advice regarding Item no. 5 above.

Adjourn.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Peggy Campion, Secretary

Note on Executive Session: The Board may recess into Executive Session to consult with its attorneys regarding any posted matter in which the Board may seek the advice of its attorneys under Government Code 551.071 or for any action on the agenda for which a closed session is permitted by law, and will reconvene in open session for any appropriate action on any matter considered in Executive Session.

Note on Public Comments: The Board will receive comments from the public on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District. However, the Board will not hear public comments related to any contested case hearing or other litigation matter that is subject to a prohibition on ex parte communications (including a contested permitting matter) between the conclusion of the public hearing for such matter and the date the Board considers a proposal for decision or renders a final decision on the matter. The Board will not take action on public comments, but may request that matters addressed during public comments be placed on a future agenda for consideration.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend the District's agenda and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, large print, or Braille are requested to contact Peggy Campion, Assistant Secretary, at 512-360-5088 at least two (2) work days prior to the agenda, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Persons who desire the assistance of an interpreter in conjunction with their oral presentation at this district agenda are requested to contact Peggy Campion, Assistant Secretary, at 512-360-5088 at least five (5) days prior to the agenda so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Note on In Person Quorum: A quorum of the Board is expected to be in person at the Board Meeting at 1408 Chestnut Street Bastrop, Texas 78602.

**{INSTRUCTIONS FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETING FOLLOW}**

## **LOST PINES GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR REMOTE ATTENDANCE VIA THE PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE WEB LINK OR TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL**

**Information on how to participate in the public meeting remotely is provided below.** The agenda for this board meeting immediately precedes these instructions for participation. You can provide written public comment in advance of the meeting to [lgcd@lostpinewater.org](mailto:lgcd@lostpinewater.org) or live during the meeting via the web link or conference call number provided below.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEETING PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE**

Audio and Video Conference Opens at 5:45 PM

The Meeting will begin at 6:00 PM

Participation via the audio and video conference will be allowed in the board meeting during public comment or any posted agenda item. If you plan to make public comment during any portion of the meeting, please do the following:

1. **Contact the District at 512-360-5088 or [lgcd@lostpinewater.org](mailto:lgcd@lostpinewater.org) to register as a speaker during public comment or on any agenda item by 5:00 pm on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.** Please indicate whether you would like to speak during public comment and/or a specific item on the agenda. Any person participating in the meeting must be recognized and identified by the presiding officer before they speak.
2. Log in to the Zoom video conference *OR* dial in to the conference call using the information below:

#### **Zoom Meeting Link:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89453685006?  
pwd=YkRUBWVNUGdZcjdeUR2L1VPbVhVUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89453685006?pwd=YkRUBWVNUGdZcjdeUR2L1VPbVhVUT09)

**Meeting ID:** 894 5368 5006

**Passcode:** 283972

#### **Telephone conference:**

**Phone number:** Dial +1 346 248 7799

**Meeting ID:** 894 5368 5006 #

**Passcode:** 283972

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IN-PERSON MEETING LOCATION: BASTROP CONVENTION & EXHIBIT CENTER

TELEPHONIC/VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING LOCATION: BASTROP CONVENTION & EXHIBIT CENTER

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Executive session of the Board pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code section 551.071, or any closed session permitted by law, to consult with its attorney and seek advice regarding Item no. 5 above.

Adjourn.

Date: March 29, 2022

Peggy Compion  
Peggy Compion, Secretary

FILED

MAR 29 2022 9:43AM

Krista Bartsch  
Bastrop County Clerk

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**FILED AND RECORDED**

MAR 29 2022



*Sharon Blasig*  
SHARON BLASIG  
COUNTY CLERK, LEE COUNTY, TEXAS

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**FILED**

MAR 29 2022 9:43 AM

Krista Bartsch  
Bastrop County Clerk

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Telephone conference:  
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Meeting ID: 894 5368 5006 #  
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MAR 29 2022 9:48 AM

Krista Bartsch  
Bastrop County Clerk

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**FILED AND RECORDED**

MAR 29 2022



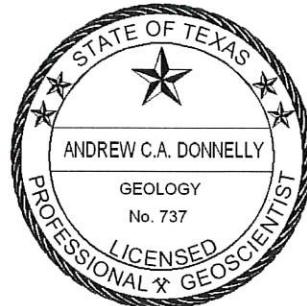
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**FILED**

MAR 29 2022 9:48 AM

Krista Bartsch  
Bastrop County Clerk



## Memorandum

**To:** Jim Totten, General Manager  
Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District

**From:** Andrew Donnelly

**Date:** January 25, 2022

**Subject:** Review of City of Bastrop Operating Permit Application Packet

*Actv*

We have reviewed the operating permit application packet submitted by the City of Bastrop (City) for three new wells on the XS Ranch. After completion of the three new wells, the well field will consist of four wells located along State Highway 95 north of the City. The locations of the proposed and existing production and test wells are shown in Figure 1.

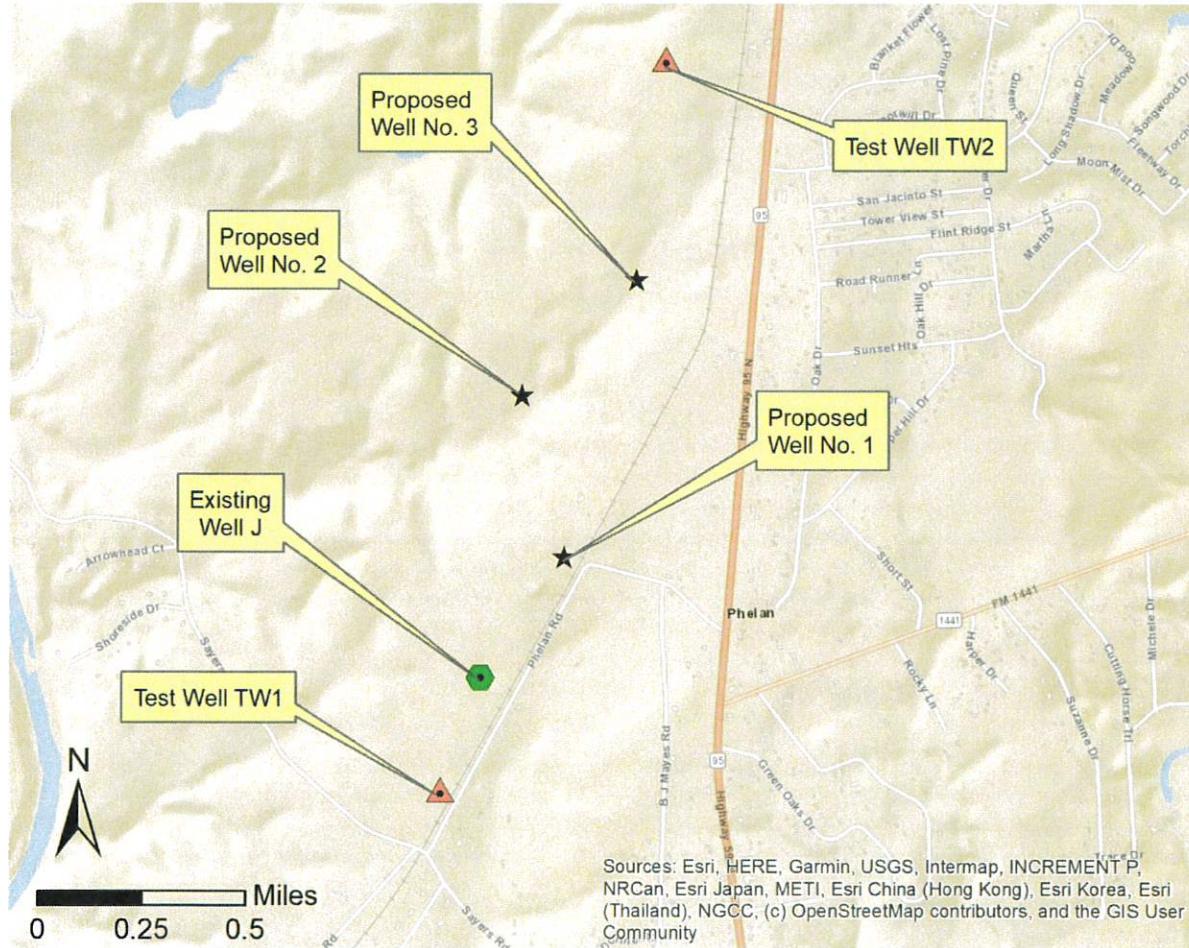


Figure 1. Location of existing and proposed City of Bastrop wells.

Three applications are included as part of this submittal, one for each of the three proposed wells that will make up the full City well field. Supporting material for each of these applications is identical, and so one review is sufficient to consider the three applications.

As shown in Figure 2, the location of the proposed well field is just to the southwest of the existing Aqua Camp Swift well field, which produces water from the Simsboro Aquifer. The closest of the proposed City wells is slightly more than one mile from the Aqua CS-5 well. The proposed City well field is also approximately 2 miles west of the LCRA well field near Lake Bastrop. In addition to these permitted wells, the proposed wells are as close as approximately 2,000 feet from an exempt well owned by Oswald Sanchez that produces from the Simsboro Aquifer (Figure 2). However, the City included a variance letter from Mr. Sanchez in their permit applications indicating that he is not opposed to the proposed City wells.

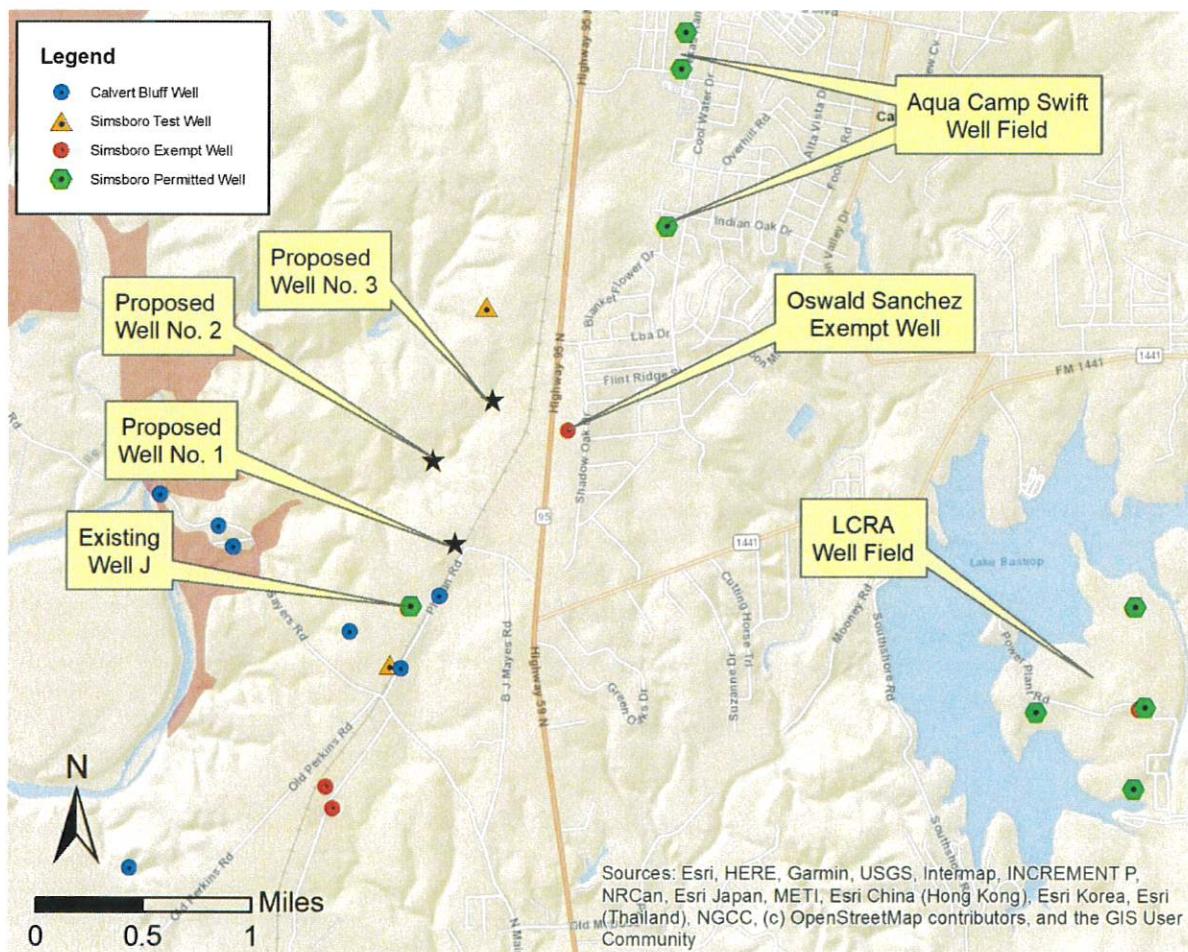


Figure 2. Location of the proposed City of Bastrop wells and nearby Simsboro wells.

The updated Central Queen City-Sparta Groundwater Availability Model (GAM) was run with the proposed pumping of 4,000 acre-feet per year (ac-ft/yr) added in the nodes where the proposed wells are located. The results of this simulation are provided in Figure 3, which illustrates that at



the end of 50 years of continuous pumping, the project-specific drawdown attributable to the three new proposed wells (i.e., drawdown caused by the pumping from the proposed wells only) is approximately 25 feet at the well field location. The model run also indicates that the Aqua Camp Swift wells may experience 15 to 20 feet of drawdown due to the pumping from the three proposed City of Bastrop wells, and that the LCRA wells may experience 10 to 15 feet of drawdown due to the proposed City pumpage.

It is important to understand that the predicted water level declines are estimates made using the GAM, which was developed to assess groundwater impacts on a regional basis and may not account for local hydrogeologic conditions. A review of the aquifer properties of the Simsboro Aquifer in the XS Ranch well field area indicates that the GAM includes aquifer transmissivities that are 50 to 100 percent higher than those estimated based on aquifer tests included with the City of Bastrop applications. Aquifer storativity values in the GAM are consistent with those calculated from the pumping tests. The higher transmissivities in the GAM will result in lower predicted drawdowns in the vicinity of the well field relative to those that may occur in reality. However, it is reasonable to assume that the pumping from the three proposed City of Bastrop wells would result in several tens of feet of drawdown in the Aqua Camp Swift well field, and slightly less in the LCRA well field area.

The simulation results are provided in anticipation that they may be useful to the District Board. This model run was done in the same manner as previous model runs for permit evaluations requested by the Board, so a direct comparison to previous runs can be made. However, it should be noted that the previous evaluation on the City of Bastrop Well J permit application was conducted using the prior version of the GAM, which produces significantly different results than the updated GAM used in this evaluation. In general, the updated GAM simulates less drawdown in the Simsboro Aquifer than the original version of the GAM.

## Required Application Items

All items required in an operating permit application are present in these applications.

## Permit Review Items 2 and 8

### ***(2) Whether the proposed use of water unreasonably affects existing groundwater and surface water resources or existing permit holders***

The proposed additional production of 4,000 ac-ft/yr by the City from the three proposed wells in Bastrop County will impact water levels in the Simsboro Aquifer. Drawdowns for the entire Lost Pines GCD estimated using the GAM are summarized in Table 1. As indicated in the table, the average drawdown estimated to occur due to the proposed well field is approximately 7 feet across the entire District. A map of project-specific drawdowns

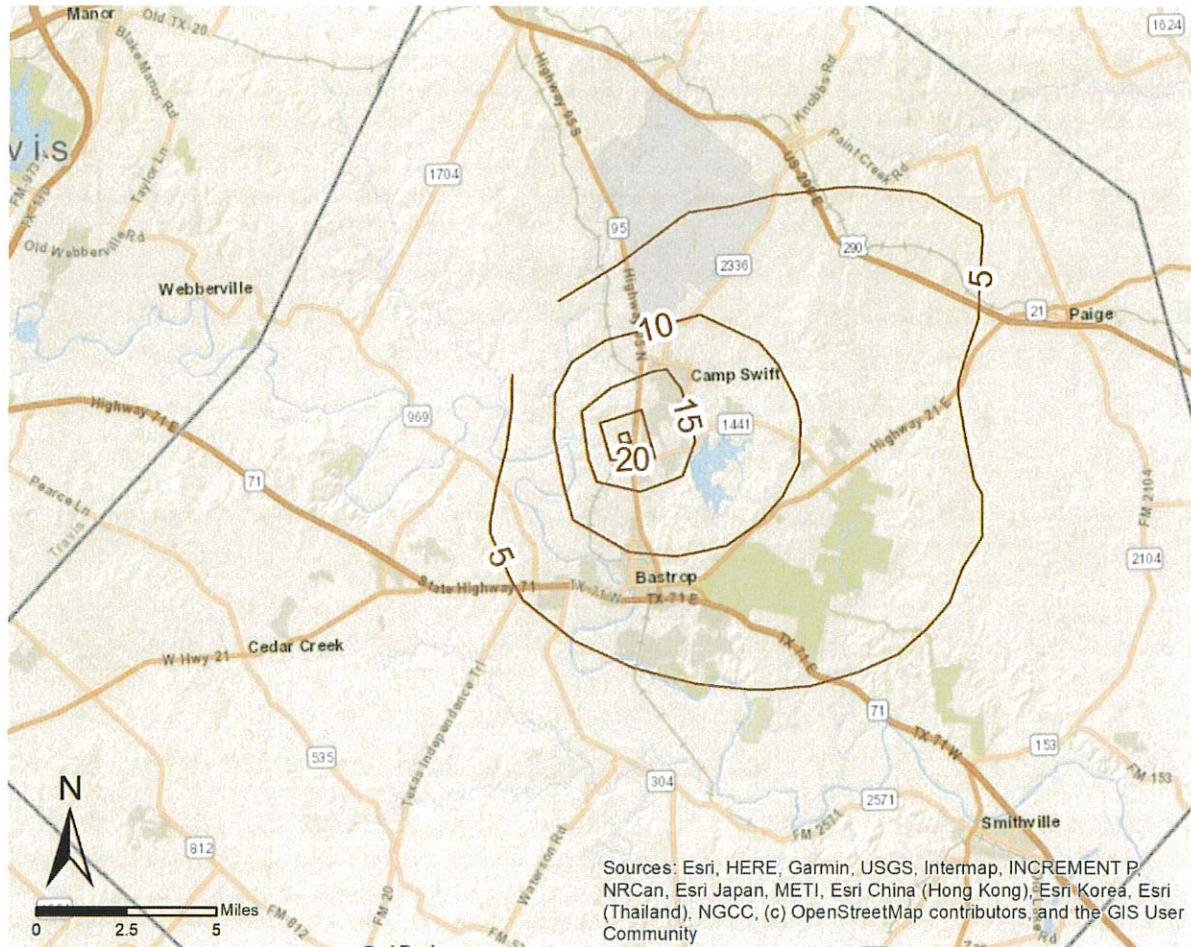


Figure 3. Fifty-year drawdown (in feet) in the Simsboro Aquifer attributable to the proposed City of Bastrop pumpage

estimated using the GAM is shown in Figure 3. This proposed project does not appear to unreasonably impact groundwater users in the District.

**Table 1. Projected Simsboro Aquifer drawdown (in feet) in the Lost Pines GCD in 2070 from pumping included in the City of Bastrop well applications**

Pumpage	Drawdown (feet)
Proposed City of Bastrop pumping only	7
Proposed City of Bastrop pumping + Existing Lost Pines GCD pumping + New permits	247

A quantitative evaluation of the direct impact of the proposed pumping on surface water resources within the District is difficult to make. However, because the proposed wells are part of the City of Bastrop's effort to shift their water supply from the wells they currently have that



produce from the Colorado River alluvium to the Simsboro Aquifer, approval of this permit would lead to smaller depletions of Colorado River flows due to groundwater pumping.

***(8) Whether granting the application is consistent with the District's duty to manage total groundwater production on a long-term basis to achieve the applicable Desired Future Condition***

This project by itself does not cause more estimated drawdown than the Desired Future Condition (DFC) for the Simsboro Aquifer. The average estimated drawdown due to production from these applications is approximately 7 feet when averaged across the entire District. However, production from the three proposed wells combined with existing sources of groundwater production, other approved permits in the District, and groundwater production outside of the District (as modeled in the final Groundwater Management Area 12 GAM run) is estimated to cause 247 feet of drawdown in the aquifer. This value is greater than the DFC for the Simsboro Aquifer in the District, which is 240 feet.

The District's duty to manage total groundwater production on a long-term basis to achieve the DFC will be based on a monitoring network that will be developed for each aquifer for which a DFC has been established. The District's intended approach is to diligently monitor the drawdown within the Simsboro Aquifer across the entire District and manage (i.e., reduce) groundwater production when and if information from the monitoring network indicates that the DFC may be exceeded. If water levels in the Simsboro Aquifer monitoring network indicate the potential for the DFC to be exceeded, then the District's approach is to cut back production for all permitted users. This approach is consistent with the requirement that the DFC be achieved.

## **Summary**

The City of Bastrop submitted applications for three proposed wells that will produce a total of 4,000 ac-ft/yr from the Simsboro Aquifer in Bastrop County. These wells will be aggregated with the City's existing Well J, for a total potential production of 6,000 ac-ft/yr from all four wells in the well field.

The Central Queen City-Sparta GAM was applied to simulate the impact of the proposed City pumping from the three new wells on Simsboro Aquifer water levels; the same assumptions as those applied in previous permit evaluations requested by the District Board were used. The simulated impact of the proposed well field is less than 20 feet on nearby permitted Simsboro Aquifer wells. Localized drawdowns may be slightly underestimated by the GAM due to differences in the aquifer properties used in the model and those estimates by on-site pumping tests. The estimated additional drawdown in the Simsboro Aquifer due to the proposed wells when averaged across the District is approximately 7 feet. Because these wells are intended to



*Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc.*

eliminate pumping from wells currently producing from the Colorado River alluvium, approval of these permits should have a positive impact on flow in the Colorado River.