



DOUGLAS A. DUCEY
Governor

THOMAS BUSCHATZKE
Director

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT of WATER RESOURCES
1110 West Washington Street, Suite 310
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
602.771.8500
azwater.gov

SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENT

This Substantive Policy Statement is advisory only. A substantive policy statement does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal procedures of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules made in accordance with the Arizona Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this Substantive Policy Statement does impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may petition the agency under the Arizona Revised Statutes § 41-1033 for a review of the statement.

GUIDELINES FOR REDISTRIBUTION OF GROUNDWATER PUMPING IN HYDROLOGIC STUDIES FOR ASSURED AND ADEQUATE WATER SUPPLY APPLICATIONS

All Assured or Adequate Water Supply (AAWS) applicants seeking to demonstrate physical availability of groundwater through the submission of a hydrologic model pursuant to A.A.C. R12-15-716(B) must follow the criteria below regarding redistribution of groundwater pumping in the model. For purposes of this Substantive Policy Statement, “redistribution of groundwater pumping” means the transferring of a volume of simulated groundwater pumping from one existing or proposed well location to another existing or proposed well location during the 100-year projection period in a manner that is different from the most recent AAWS model run approved by the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR).¹

Redistribution of groundwater pumping from an existing well to another well is not permissible in the historic time period. The historic time period is determined by ADWR and is the period of time in the hydrologic model run prior to the projection period.

Redistribution of groundwater pumping from or between any existing or proposed wells during the “100-year projection” time period is permitted only with written agreement from all affected well owners² that the redistribution of groundwater pumping is acceptable and consistent with the long-term water production requirements of all affected well owners.

¹ The most recent ADWR approved AAWS model run may be obtained by contacting the Manager for the AAWS Program.

² In the case of a simulated well, the “well owner” refers to the entity intended to own and operate the well after it is constructed.

Any redistribution of groundwater pumping in an AAWS model run must be consistent with the limitations on service area extensions set forth in A.R.S. § 45-493. Additionally, for redistribution of groundwater pumping to new proposed well locations, AAWS Applicants must provide evidence that the new well will be located on land accessible to the proposed well owner.

AAWS applicants proposing to redistribute groundwater pumping must provide to ADWR a description of such redistribution with the hydrologic model submission, a description of why such redistribution is reasonable and appropriate, and written agreement from all affected well owners that the redistribution of groundwater pumping is acceptable and consistent with the long-term water production requirements of all affected well owners. All requests to redistribute simulated groundwater pumping are subject to review and approval by ADWR on a case-by-case basis to ensure that the proposed redistribution is reasonable and appropriate. ADWR may consult with the municipal provider or other well owner when reviewing the request.

Pursuant to A.A.C. R12-15-716(K), in the case of multiple, conflicting, pending AAWS applications, ADWR gives priority to applications based on the date that each application was determined to be complete and correct. AAWS applicants proposing groundwater redistribution should be aware that other pending AAWS applicants may also be proposing groundwater redistribution. Once an AAWS application containing a model run redistributing groundwater pumping has been found to be complete and correct, all pending AAWS applications that have not yet been found to be complete and correct will be required to incorporate such new groundwater redistribution assumptions.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Substantive Policy Statement shall become effective immediately. The Director may modify or revoke this Substantive Policy Statement at any time.

Date this 28th day of October, 2019



Thomas Buschatzke
Director
Arizona Department of Water Resources