8.8 AUGMENTATION AND RECHARGE REQUIREMENTS

8-801 Storage and Recovery Siting Criteria

During the fifth management period, for the purposes of A.R.S. § 45-834.01(A)(2) recovery of stored water at a location is consistent with the management plan and achievement of the management goal for the active management area:

A. If recovery will occur within an area determined by the Director to be experiencing shallow depth to water conditions regardless of where the water was stored. For purposes of this section, shallow depth to water is defined as 50 feet or less below land surface. An analysis, using a method approved by the Director, delineating areas of shallow water levels will be developed and published to ADWR’s website by January 1, 2024 and will be updated on a regular schedule thereafter, until subsequent recovery requirements become effective or until the legislature determines otherwise.; or

B. If recovery will occur within the area of impact of the stored water, regardless of whether the recovery well permit applicant was the storer of the water; or

C. If recovery will occur outside of the area of impact of the stored water, all of the following three criteria are met:

1. The water storage that resulted in the right to recover water:

   a. Is contributing to groundwater supplies that are accessible to current groundwater users or that have been committed to establish a Designation, Certificate, or Analysis of Assured Water Supply pursuant to A.R.S. § 45-576 or rules adopted thereunder so long as the areas in which water is stored are not experiencing shallow depth to water conditions. Water stored in areas experiencing shallow depth to water conditions and stored pursuant to permits issued before January 1, 2025 is not subject to this subsection; or

   b. Is a component of a remedial action project under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) or Title 49, Arizona Revised Statutes, except projects for which groundwater is withdrawn to provide an alternative water supply pursuant to A.R.S. § 49-282.03, and the Director has determined that the remedial action will contribute to the objectives of this chapter or the achievement of the management goal for the active management area; or

   c. Is otherwise determined by the Director to have contributed to the objectives of this chapter or the achievement of the management goal for the active management area.

2. Either:

   a. At the time of the application, the maximum projected depth to water at the location of the recovery well after 100 years does not exceed the general
100-year depth-to-static water level for the active management area specified by A.A.C. R12-15-716 after considering: (1) the maximum proposed withdrawals from the recovery well; (2) withdrawals for current, committed, and projected demands associated with determinations made under A.R.S. § 45-576 that are reliant on the water which the recovery well will withdraw; and (3) withdrawals for other current or projected demands that are reliant on the water which the recovery well will withdraw; or

b. The recovery will be undertaken within the applicant’s service area and the applicant is a municipal provider designated as having an assured water supply.

3. The recovery well is:

   a. Located in an area experiencing an average annual rate of decline that is less than 4.0 feet per year; or

   b. A component of a remedial action project under CERCLA or Title 49, Arizona Revised Statutes, except projects for which groundwater is withdrawn to provide an alternative water supply pursuant to A.R.S. § 49-282.03, and the Director has determined that the remedial action will contribute to the objectives of this chapter or the achievement of the management goal for the active management area; or

   c. Likely to contribute to the water management objectives of the geographic area in which the well is located, as determined by the Director.