

Community Information

Public Notice

In Denair, the best groundwater quality occurs within a vertical interval that extends from 200 to 500 feet beneath the ground surface. The quality of groundwater that lies at shallower depths may be compromised by recharge from agricultural irrigation water. Overpumping of deeper groundwater can result in lower water quality by drawing deep saline groundwater upward. Denair Community Services District's (DCSD) plight is having our best groundwater isolated between these problem zones. To address this issue, we began an active aquifer characterization program in 2001 with the drilling of a test well, subsurface interpretations of favorable aquifer sequences, and by creating formal guidelines for constructing DCSD-required monitoring wells and supply wells. Until recently, inadequate funding limited the program to the activities of residential developers and other proponents. Two new monitoring wells and two new supply wells were constructed in the 2002 to 2003 period under these District guidelines.

In 2002, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) invited agencies to submit proposals for groundwater management project grants from the Local Groundwater Assistance Fund, which was established by the Local Groundwater Management Assistance act of 2000 (AB303). In October 2002, the DCSD applied for an AB303 grant to construct two additional cluster monitoring wells and develop a hydrogeologic model that addresses groundwater movement and quality underlying DCSD. The \$200,000 grant application was reviewed during the first half of 2003. Denair's application was rated first in the state of California. DCSD received the award letter for the grant on July 9, 2003. A kickoff meeting to initiate the funding is scheduled for January 2004.

Information from the two monitoring wells, and other existing wells, will be used to support advancement of a hydrogeological model of the producing groundwater system and to monitor the quality of groundwater produced from the alluvial aquifer sequences underlying DCSD. This monitoring information will allow DCSD to produce from select wells and water-bearing sequences to meet peak demands without affecting groundwater quality during peak pumping periods. Understanding what controls groundwater movement together with monitoring and selective pumping are the best means to protect our groundwater quality and to assure optimum supplies during dry years.