



Vitis & Ovis  
FARM

CAPAY, YOLO COUNTY

August 24, 2025

To the Honorable Board of Supervisors of Yolo County,

We are farmers in Capay Valley. We see Yolo County's actions on groundwater as critical to our livelihood. We have engaged with the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and follow the growing understanding of what is needed now and, in the future, to manage groundwater for all in the Yolo Subbasin. We applaud the decision of the Yolo Sustainable Groundwater Agency to define Hungry Hollow as part of a Focus Area where additional information is necessary before new wells are permitted.

This letter is written in support of the proposed 45-day moratorium on well permits in the Focus area, and on the formation of an Advisory Committee to help the county address the creation of a Well Permitting Ordinance.

The future of agriculture in Yolo County will be shaped by your vote. Decisions around water are always hard and contentious, but inevitably we share water and need work together to manage it fairly and with an eye to the long term. We know shockingly little about the precious resource of groundwater, and should manage to increase our knowledge, moving to an appreciation of groundwater as a common resource, not individually accessed without consideration of the impact on the viability of our valued farming communities.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Gemmill-Herren', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Barbara Gemmill-Herren  
Vitis and Ovis Farm