

DH Long Farming
PO Box 173
Zamora, CA
95698
dhlongzam@gmail.com

August 25, 2025

Re: Urgency Moratorium on Agricultural Groundwater Wells in Yolo County Focus Areas

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

As farmers and landowners in Zamora, CA, we urge you to support an interim pause on new well drilling in the Yolo County Focus Areas. This is greatly needed to allow time to gather more information on understanding the hydrology of these areas and what the land can support in terms of irrigated farming. Our livelihoods and food security depend on this need.

We have watched with alarm as our water table in Zamora keeps dropping, our land keeps subsiding, and our house well went dry twice, requiring adding more columns to access groundwater. Every time a new ag well goes in within two miles of our farm, the water table drops 20-feet and does not recover.

Those of us that live in the country know our groundwater. When we turn on wells, we count the seconds it takes for water to get to the surface. In the springtime it's fast (seconds), but by the end of summer, one can count 15 to 20 seconds before the water arrives to the surface. In the past our groundwater has recovered on our farm in Zamora, but with all the development of non-historically irrigated lands going into irrigated production, with multiple new wells, it's not happening.

We've had a wet 3-years; drought will eventually follow. What would be best is to match the hydrological findings with long-time grower experience for verification of information gathered. This will take time.

We respectfully ask you to please give our communities more time to assess our groundwater levels to ensure sustainable use. Please grant a moratorium on new well drilling for 45 days, with a potential extension up to 22 months. Our livelihoods are in your hands.

Thank you,

Rachael and David Long