

8/23/2025

Yolo County Board of Supervisors
625 Court Street, Room 204
Woodland, CA 95695

RE: Groundwater in the Focus Areas and Well Drilling Moratoriums

Dear Members of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of my farming operation I'm writing to formally oppose the proposed well-drilling moratorium as presented by county staff for the following reasons:

1. Hungry Hollow is the primary driver behind the proposed moratorium. I do not believe thousands of additional acres in Central Yolo should be pulled into Hungry Hollows dispute.
2. The proposed language adds all APN touching the boundaries of the focus areas. This unnecessarily adds thousands more acres to the moratorium that would otherwise not be included.
3. The proposed language does not address replacement wells if a moratorium were put in place.

A small corner of my family farm is currently touching the Central Yolo focus area. As proposed my entire parcel would be pulled in unnecessarily. Most years we use 100% surface water on our +2,000 acres farmed in Central Yolo and do not see the same well issues as the farms in Hungry Hollow.

I acknowledge there are challenges in Hungry Hollow and support those growers efforts to better manage their ground water supply locally within Hungry Hollow. I do not, however, support the broad overreach being presented by this moratorium.

These comments are submitted on behalf of my own farming interests and are not necessarily representative of the several boards and committees I serve on in the community.

Regards,

Lee Smith
Liberty Orchards