

Notice of Public Hearing

The Board of Directors of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA) will hold a public hearing on November 30, 2023, to consider adoption of a resolution increasing the amount of fee the agency imposes on groundwater extraction from the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin. The fee increase is authorized pursuant to California Water Code § 10730 and is necessary to fund the costs of OBGMA's groundwater sustainability program (GSP), including the costs of program administration and the establishment of a prudent reserve. OBGMA currently charges two separate fees on groundwater extraction, one set at \$25/acre-foot extracted, and another at \$37/acre-foot extracted ("GSP Fee"). On November 30, 2023, the Board will hold a public hearing to consider increasing the GSP Fee from its current rate of \$37/acre-foot extracted to \$75/acre-foot extracted, effective January 1, 2024, and then from \$75/acre-foot extracted to \$100/acre-foot extracted, effective October 1, 2024. The public hearing will be held during OBGMA's regular Board meeting on November 30, 2023, at 3:00 pm, located at the Ojai City Council Chambers, 401 South Ventura Street, Ojai, California 93023. The data upon which the fee increase is based, including OBGMA's 2023-2024 fiscal year budget and multi-year financial projection of SGMA-related costs, is available to the public on OBGMA's internet website: <https://obgma.com>. The Board welcomes oral and written public comment and testimony regarding the proposed groundwater extraction fee increase.