# **Domestic Well Advisory Group**

### Charter

## **South American Subbasin**

#### Mission

The objective of the Domestic Well Advisory Group (DWAG) is to provide input to and coordinate with the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the South American Subbasin (SASb) regarding domestic wells in the subbasin.

The role of the DWAG is to provide input to and coordinate with the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the SASb with regard to domestic wells in the subbasin. The DWAG will:

- Provide a community perspective from domestic well owners throughout the SASb.
- Create support for further development of a well protection program.
- Facilitate a voluntary domestic well monitoring program.
- Assist with outreach and implementation.

Members will work together to develop a mutual understanding of and provide feedback on a variety of aspects of the GSP including, but not limited to, projects and management actions, outreach, monitoring, and more.

#### **Public Notice**

All meetings of the DWAG are open to the public. The GSAs announce DWAG meetings through its regular communication channels.

## **Advisory Group Membership**

The DWAG is structured to reflect a range of diverse perspectives among domestic well owners in the Subbasin, with the goal of representation from the jurisdictional area of each GSA. The GSA Manager Committee, as directed by the Executive Committee, solicits letters of interest/nominations from residents of the Subbasin. The GSA Manager Committee periodically reviews letters of interest/nominations and confirm that interested parties can serve as DWAG members. DWAG members are expected to follow the roles, responsibilities and agreements laid out in this Charter and the Code of Conduct. If the GSA Manager Committee finds that someone has violated this requirement, they will determine if membership remains available to the individual found in non-compliance. Appeals to the decision of the GSA Manager Committee may be elevated to the Executive Committee for final determination. The target size of the DWAG is 10 people but no minimum or maximum will be required. Members serve 1-year terms with renewal of terms allowed upon mutual agreement of the member and the GSA Manager Committee.

#### Responsibilities

**GSAs** 

The GSAs commit to the value and importance of the DWAG and will seek DWAG input when making decisions relative to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the subbasin's domestic well owners.

## **Domestic Well Advisory Group**

The role and responsibility of the DWAG is to solicit and incorporate diverse community and stakeholder interests into recommendations for the GSAs to consider in their decision-making processes for SGMA implementation in the SASb.

#### DWAG members shall:

- Demonstrate a general knowledge, interest, and involvement in the activities of priority interest related to SGMA implementation in the SASb.
- Familiarize and stay current with GSA actions, process, and issues in the SASb.
- Attend meetings prepared to engage meaningfully in discussions.
- Represent domestic well users' interests throughout the SASb.
- Work collaboratively with others and respect differing points of view.

#### Commitment

The DWAG agrees to meet twice a year, with additional meetings as determined necessary and as resources are available. As part of membership, members agree to:

- Arrive at each meeting fully prepared to discuss the issues on the agenda. Preparation
  may include reviewing meeting summaries, and draft documents distributed in advance
  of each meeting.
- Present constituent members' views on the issues being discussed and be willing to engage in respectful, constructive dialogue with other members of the group.
- Develop a problem-solving approach which considers the interests and viewpoints of all group members.
- Keep constituencies informed about the deliberations and actively seek constituents' input.

## **Process Agreements**

- All participants agree to participate in decision making, to act in good faith in all aspects
  of this effort and to communicate constituents' interests during meetings. Members will
  act in good faith and not make commitments they do not intend to follow through on
  and honor. Members are expected to act consistently with respect to prior
  commitments in meetings and in other forums where the same issues are also being
  discussed. Everyone agrees to negotiate in good faith.
- Everyone agrees to address the issues and concerns of the meeting participants. For the
  process to be successful, all the members agree to validate the issues and concerns of
  the other members and strive to reach an agreement that takes all sides of the issues
  under consideration. Disagreements will be viewed as problems to be solved, rather
  than battles to be won.

- Everyone agrees to inform and seek input from the community about the outcome of the facilitated discussions. To the extent possible, scheduling will allow for members to inform and seek input from their constituents, and others about discussions.
- Everyone agrees to share ideas, work projects, and be accountable to one another.
- Everyone agrees to attend all the meetings to the extent possible. Continuity of the conversations and building trust are critical to the success of the DWAG.
- The GSA representative charged with leading this effort will coordinate the meeting schedule and send meeting agenda in advance of the meeting.