

Pumping Test of Testing Well TW-E at Owens Lake **Revised Testing Plan**

As part of the Owens Lake Groundwater Development Program, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is planning to conduct a six-month pumping test of testing well TW-E, at Owens Lake (TW-E).

The revised Testing Plan includes the following sections:

- Description of the Testing Well TW-E.
- Review of previous pumping tests at Owens Lake, which also highlights the need for the proposed pumping test at TW-E.
- Description of the proposed pumping test, including the duration and the average pumping rate.
- An extensive monitoring plan that includes collecting field measurements from 140 monitoring wells, 26 flow measuring flumes, two barometric pressure measuring stations, and one testing well. The monitoring plan also includes details on data collection frequency and data reporting intervals.
- Inclusion of a trigger mechanism to ensure protection of groundwater-dependent resources during the test. If the trigger parameter in any of the trigger locations falls below the preset trigger levels, pumping will stop and recovery data will be collected and analyzed. Conservative triggers are included to protect groundwater-dependent vegetation around the lake, as well as non-LADWP water wells.
- An evaluation of the discharge of the pumped groundwater during the test in existing ponds and comparison of water quality in the ponds with the pumped groundwater.
- Addition of a spinner logging at TW-E during the pumping test. This component of the test will allow LADWP to measure the percentage of the pumped water that is drawn from each part of the aquifer, which in turn will allow a much improved evaluation of characteristics for each of the aquifers beneath the lakebed.
- Finally, the revised Testing Plan includes a more detailed description of the analysis to be conducted using the data collected during the pumping test.

The pumping test of well TW-E is an instrumental step in the development of a sustainable groundwater production program that protects sensitive resources at Owens Lake. LADWP invites all interested stakeholders to review the revised Testing Plan.

Please submit your written comments to Dr. Saeed M. Jorat by email at saeed.jorat@ladwp.com by June 29, 2020. LADWP staff will then be available to discuss your comments and suggestions and incorporate the necessary information into the Testing Plan before the final Testing Plan is released. The final Testing Plan will be used as the basis for the preparation of an appropriate environmental documentation for the test.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Jorat at (213) 367-1119.