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Assembly California Legislature



MONIQUE LIMÓN
ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

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November 8, 2017

Department of Conservation
801 K Street, MS 24-02
Sacramento, CA 95814
ATTN: Aquifer Exemption
E-mail: comments@conservation.ca.gov

Re: Application to Expand the Aquifer Exemption Designation for the Basal Sespe Zone of the Sespe Formation in the Sespe Oil Field

To Whom It May Concern:

As the California State Assemblymember who represents the City of Fillmore, I am writing this letter to ask you to use caution and due care when reviewing the application to expand the aquifer exemption designation for the Basal Sespe Zone of the Sespe Formation in the Sespe Oil Field. I have heard many concerns about the expansion, and many more about waste water injection wells. The City of Fillmore has expressed their opposition, as have a number of my constituents.

Fillmore's only source of potable water is the groundwater in the Fillmore Aquifer, which sits about a mile away from the injection well zone. I am aware that the position of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) is that the injection wells will have no connection or impact on Fillmore's drinking water. If anything happens to the Fillmore Aquifer the effects would be incredibly damaging, both to the City and its residents. There is little room for a mistake or accident. I want the State of California to be absolutely certain that there is no circumstance where this decision may impact Fillmore's only water supply.

I understand that any applicant who wishes to drill a new well or convert an existing well would still need to apply for and receive a permit from DOGGR, which is conditioned on compliance with local laws, regulations and ordinances. It is integral that we consider the risks at all stages of the process. I want to urge DOGGR to use extreme caution in making this decision because the potential risks to the residents of Fillmore, nearby agricultural operations, and the surrounding environment.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Monique Limón".

Monique Limón
Assemblymember, 37th District