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# *SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION*

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*A JOINT COMMISSION APPOINTED BY:*  
*County of Sacramento*  
*City of Sacramento*  
*City Folsom*  
*City of Elk Grove*  
*City of Galt*  
*City of Isleton*

Chair Peters  
Sacramento County Board of Supervisors  
700 H Street, Suite 1450  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SEC Recommendation to Adopt Ordinance Amending Sacramento County Code Chapter 6.28, Title 6, Relating to Well Inactivation Permit Term Change From Two Years To Five Years

Dear Chair Peters,

The Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC) held a public meeting on March 19, 2018 and received a presentation from Ryan Bailey, Environmental Management Department, Chief of Environmental Compliance, addressing proposed revisions to the existing Well Ordinance, Sacramento County Code Chapter 6.28., Title 6. The proposed revisions are intended to improve management efficiency and reduce burden on existing permittees.

EMD staff highlighted the benefits of the revised ordinance including extending the abandoned well permit term to five years. EMD staff provided examples of abandoned wells that were corrected and permitted under this program. These examples showed the wells remaining safe and hazard-free even after eight years of being corrected and permitted.

The SEC agrees with EMD staff that the proposed revisions would reduce well owner obligations while reducing EMD staff requirements and regulatory costs.

Because the abandoned well corrections will likely remain effective and functional once installed, the SEC has not identified any reasons to not consider a longer permit term. It was noted that several existing wells permitted under the existing ordinance have met all regulatory requirements for over seven years without incidence.

The SEC recommends that the Board of Supervisors adopt the revised ordinance.

Sincerely,



Richard Hunn, Chair