

# **Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District**

## **Meter Standards**

### **Amended 5/9/19**

The following Meter Standards apply to metering methods installed on permitted and exempt wells that require production reporting located in the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District. All wells, new or existing, producing more than 35 gallons per minute are required to use one of the following three metering methods:

- (1) flow meters;
- (2) copies of TCEQ required reports of volumes for municipalities; or
- (3) remote monitoring control systems that are equipped to record volumes of water.

As stipulated by District rules, one or more permitted wells may be metered using a central meter at the sprinkler, drip irrigation system or central collection point so long as all water produced is measured by one of the approved metering methods.

Determination by District staff spot checks that a flow meter or remote monitoring control system is not within +/- 10 percent of flow measured using District instrumentation shall be determined to be out of compliance with these Meter Standards and shall be repaired or replaced as expeditiously as practical. All owners or operators of permitted and exempt wells that require reporting shall notify the District within five working days that an acceptable metering method has been installed on a new well or well system.

#### **For Traditional Flow Meters:**

Acceptable flow meters must have a manufacturer's certification that the flow meter is accurate within +/- 5 percent of actual flow during benchtop calibration. Each flow meter shall be installed, operated, maintained, and repaired in accordance with the flow meter manufacturer's specifications. District staff will conduct a site inspection within five working days of a new installation to ensure that the flow meter has been installed in accordance with the flow meter manufacturer's installation specifications, to affix a unique flow meter identification label created by the District, and to record initial flow meter reading. Well owners or operators shall notify the District within three days upon determination that the flow meter is no longer operating in accordance with the flow meter manufacturer's specification. The well owners or operators shall be responsible for maintenance and proper operation of their meters. Any necessary repairs and/or replacement shall be performed as expeditiously as possible, recognizing that interruption of production during certain periods of operations may have significant negative consequences. Once meter repairs or replacement has been completed, the well owner or operator shall notify the District office so that District staff may conduct a spot check to ensure that the flow meter is installed according to manufacturer specifications and within +/- 10 percent of flow measured using District instrumentation, and to affix a unique flow meter identification label. Well owners shall provide access to meters during normal business hours for meter reading by District Staff.

The District will provide periodic training on proper installation, maintenance and operation of meters.

**For Remote Monitoring Control Systems:**

Well owners or operators are required to share login information for their remote monitoring control system with District staff members to calculate total annual production. District staff may conduct a spot check to ensure the remote monitoring control system is within the +/- 10 percent requirement.

**For Municipalities:**

Monthly copies of TCEQ required reporting including the calculations of time and methodology for determining volumes.