

LEGAL NOTICE

The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District (District), in compliance with Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code, will receive public comment on the proposed amendments to the Rules of the District at a public hearing at the District Office, located at 201 West Third Street, White Deer, Texas, on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 10:30 am. The District Board at the conclusion of the public hearing will discuss comments received and consider possible adoption of the proposed rules. Written and oral comments on the proposed rules must be submitted to the District on or prior to the hearing date.

The following is a brief outline of the substantive rule changes:

Rule 1 – DEFINITIONS - The District proposes to add “Best available science” as a new Definition.

Rule 3.1 – GENERAL RULES – The District proposes to include additional definition to:

(c) – SHOW CAUSE ORDER AND COMPLAINTS - adding language authorizing administrative penalty for failure to comply.

Rule 4.1 ISSUANCE OF PERMITS – Add minimum acreage to the Multiple Well Drilling and Production Permit.

Rule 4.2 Initial Production Permit (IPP) – Remove rule 4.2 from rules completely.

Rule 4.3 – DRILLING AND PRODUCTION PERMITS - (a) Permit Exemptions – Adding (3)- the drilling of water well authorized under a permit issued by the Railroad Commission of Texas moved from Rule 6.4.

Rule 4.4 – REQUIREMENT OF DRILLER’S LOG, CASING, PUMP DATA AND METERS – (c) change meter size requirement from 4 inch to 3 inch or larger column pipe diameter.

Rule 4.5 – DURABILITY OF PERMITS AND TIME DURING WHICH PERMITTED PROJECTS SHALL BE COMPLETED – (a) Moved to (b) and other required statutory changes.

Rule 4.6 MAXIMUM PERMITTED PRODUCTION – Moved from 4.3 (g).

Rule 7 DEPOSITS – Added \$500 meter deposit.

Rule 10 HEARING AND PUBLIC MEETINGS – 10.1 Types of Hearings and Public Meetings - Clarifying changes;

10.2 Notice - (a) (3) Rule Making Hearings – added “ posting on the District’s website” ; (b) Drilling and production Application for Multiple Wells Notice – (1)(C) adding “posting on the District’s website; 10.3 Contested-case hearing requests; Public Comment; Technical Review –(a)(4) clarifying affected persons; Adding 10.3(j) Board Action: Contested Case Hearing Request; Preliminary Hearing – Statutory Changes passed by 84th Legislature Contested Case;

10.5 General Procedures – (a) adding (18) procedural rules and (19) apportion parties;

Adding 10.5.5 Hearing Conducted by the State Office of Administrative Hearings;

10.7 Conclusion of the Permit Hearing – (3) removed the wording “renewal” ; (b) Hearings Before a Hearing Examiner – adding Clarifying Amendments; (c)(2) clarifying “party” to a contested hearing.

A complete copy of the current Rules of the District and proposed rule amendments are available at the District office, 201 W. 3rd St., PO Box 637, White Deer, TX 79097, (806)883-2501 or online at www.pgcd.us