

**State Water Resources Control Board**  
Division of Drinking Water

June 2, 2017

System No.: 5510008

Mr. Pete Kampa, General Manager  
Lake Don Pedro Community Services District  
9751 Merced Falls Road  
La Grange, CA 95329

Dear Mr. Kampa,

**RE: Approval to Operate Medina Well, Well No. 2 and Well No. 5 – Lake Don Pedro Community Services District – Tuolumne County**

The purpose of this letter is to provide approval to operate three new hardrock wells as part of the Lake Don Pedro Community Services District (LDPCSD) public water supply system. The LDPCSD drilled four new hardrock wells in 2015 and 2016 (Wells 2, 3, 4 and 5) and developed an existing well (the Medina Well) as part of a drought emergency project designed to increase groundwater source capacity and reduce reliance on the surface water source. On November 22, 2016, the Division conducted a site visit of each of the wells to verify that the wells were constructed as designed, observe above-ground construction features and identify any sanitary hazards that might need to be addressed prior to the wells being placed into active service.

The Division observed the following deficiencies at the time of the inspection:

**Ranchito Well No. 2 (Well No. 2):**

- At the time of the inspection, the discharge-to-waste line was not constructed with a proper air gap to prevent cross contamination in the event of back siphonage. Specifically, the discharge-to-waste line was below the high water mark in the culvert that the line drained to. The District was asked to create an adequate air gap by either raising the end of the discharge-to-waste line to eliminate a possible cross connection.

**Medina Well:**

- At the time of the inspection, there was exposed plastic between the cement seal and the casing. Therefore, the cement seal did not extend to the casing to prevent water from sliding down into the casing. The District was required to trim the plastic and provide a silicon seal to ensure that water was not entering the casing through this small gap.

- At the time of the inspection, the well was enclosed in a chain-link enclosure. However, the enclosure was not locked to prevent unauthorized entry to the well site. The District was asked to ensure that the enclosure was properly locked at all times.

**Medina Well No. 2 (Well No. 5):**

- At the time of the inspection, the well was enclosed in a chain-link enclosure. However, the enclosure was not locked to prevent unauthorized entry to the well site. The District was asked to ensure that the enclosure was properly locked at all times.

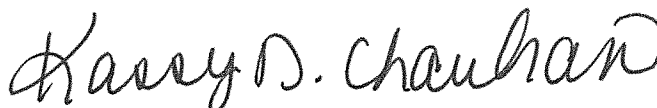
The District appropriately completed all of the necessary modifications. As such, the Division provided the District with approval to operate the wells as active sources for the public water system. The District has submitted all of the required paperwork necessary for issuance of a revised water supply permit by the Division. As such, the Division will issue a revised permit in the near future.

The District has indicated that Wells Nos. 3 and 4 will not be developed as sources for the public water system. At the time of the inspection, the District indicated that the homeowner's association was considering use of the inactive wells for irrigation purposes. If the wells are not going to be used for irrigation purposes, the District plans to destroy Wells Nos. 3 and 4 as they produce brackish water that would be very difficult to treat. Therefore, Wells Nos. 3 and 4 will not be included in the revised water supply permit issued by the Division.

The funding for the new wells and development of the existing well was made possible through United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Emergency Clean Water Grant Funds as well as emergency grant funds administered by the Department of Water Resources and the State Board's Division of Financial Assistance. The Division commends the Lake Don Pedro CSD and all of the funding partners on their efforts to ensure that the customers served by the public water system had a reliable source of supply throughout the time when the area was experiencing extreme drought conditions.

If you require any further information, please contact me at (559) 447-3316.

Sincerely,



Kassy D. Chauhan, P.E.  
Senior Sanitary Engineer  
Merced District  
Central California Section  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH  
DRINKING WATER FIELD OPERATIONS

cc: Tuolumne County Environmental Health Department