

## Eric Osterling

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**From:** Tom Kelm <tom.kelm@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 8, 2022 9:28 AM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** Metering of wells ground water pumping limits

I feel this is just another burdensome regulation put on the farmers which will add cost and administration time with related costs.

We are already dealing with air, pesticide and fertilizer regulations on top of decreasing yield, decreasing income and rising costs. Eventually small farmers will go by the wayside as their costs of limited inputs along with regulatory compliance costs continue rise, while yield and income goes down.

Limiting farmers on groundwater pumping will not solve the problem of overdraft. Cities continue to grow building more and more subdivisions which will increase demands on groundwater. The real issue is with environmental groups and politicians placing blame on farmers that grow food for these people. Politicians need to use good common sense and not give in to these environmental extremists. More water storage is needed all up and down the valleys water sheds. Along with capturing water from rain events north of the San Joaquin delta and not letting this water flow out to sea. Compromises can be reached with environmental concerns while providing practical solutions to storing and capturing water. Limiting pumping without dealing with the real issues will still cause over draft as farmers pay higher costs for scarce water.

A long term solution could be achieved if the previous steps are taken but all we get is a hard line no along with blame for the overdraft problem.

Another possible solution is piping water into the Sacramento valley then into our system from the Columbia river. Every minute millions of gallons of water flow out to the sea while we dry up and slowly wither out of business.

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