

August 11, 2017

Dear Customer;

South Tahoe Public Utility District (the District) invites you to participate in a good neighbor effort to better understand South Tahoe groundwater and how to best care for our shared resource. You are receiving this letter because public records show you own or manage a well or multiple wells.

We invite you to participate in the Well Owners Survey. You can go directly to the online survey using this web URL: <http://bit.ly/tahoewells>. For the purpose of completing the survey, your unique Survey ID is _____. If you have any questions about the survey, contact Ryan Lee, Customer Service at (530) 543-6217.

Why is the District doing a well owners survey?

The District is making a good neighbor effort to manage our shared South Tahoe groundwater resource. In response to drought and groundwater resource concerns, the state of California passed legislation that establishes a new structure for managing groundwater. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires locally formed Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) be responsible for developing and implementing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan. By stepping up to serve as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the South Tahoe Basin, the District is helping to ensure that locals have the primary say, and responsibility for, managing South Tahoe groundwater, instead of the state.

What does the survey involve?

The survey asks about your well, water usage, and any concerns you may have regarding your well. The survey closes with an invitation to receive information about maintaining your well. There is an option to include a photo of your well in the survey. The photo is optional and can help the District know whether the wellhead is in good condition or whether the well may need some attention. The survey should take 5 to 10 minutes to complete.

Is the South Tahoe Public Utility District trying to get well owners to connect to District services instead of keeping private wells?

No, the District is not trying to get well owners to replace private wells with District water service. The purpose of this survey is to invite well owners to help manage our shared South Tahoe groundwater resource. There are approximately 600 private wells in South Tahoe in addition to the District's groundwater wells. Well owners and the District have the shared responsibility of taking care of our groundwater resource. The District can help answer questions you may have about your well, such as water quality, supply, or concerns about contamination. Well owners have insights into the groundwater resource that will help the District.

How do I participate in the Well Owners Survey?

The URL at the top of this letter can be typed into your web browser to take the survey online. Alternatively, a paper copy of the Well Owners Survey is available upon request by calling the District. Finally, the District has a team of surveyors who may contact you about the District's invitation to actively participate in South Tahoe groundwater management and ask the survey questions.

The purpose of the survey is to open a conversation about groundwater management. As fellow well owners, we all have a part to play in groundwater management.

Thank you for your time and attention to our shared groundwater resource.

Sincerely,



Ivo Bergsohn, PG, CHG
Hydrogeologist



Richard Solbrig, PE
General Manager

Quick-Reference Information

Access the Well Owners Survey at: <http://bit.ly/tahoewells>

Your Survey ID is: _____

Call Ryan Lee, Customer Service at: (530) 543-6217

For more information about State of California groundwater protection initiatives see:

<http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/gsa.cfm>