

## KERN COUNTY SUBBASIN PROBATIONARY HEARING UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA)

**WHEN:** Thursday, February 20, 2025, at 9:00 AM

**WHERE:** Coastal Hearing Room, Joe Serna Jr. CalEPA Headquarters Building, 1001 I Street,  
Second Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814

**REMOTE ACCESS:** Watch the hearing in English, Spanish, or Punjabi at  
<http://video.calepa.ca.gov/>

### **WHAT IS HAPPENING?**

The California State Water Resources Control Board is holding a **public probationary hearing** to determine whether the **Kern County Subbasin** should be designated as a **probationary basin** under the **Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)**.

### **WHY THIS MATTERS TO YOU**

A probationary designation could impact groundwater pumping regulations and future groundwater management decisions affecting farmers, landowners, and water users in the Kern County Subbasin.

### **AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS**

1. **Public Comments** – Hear from elected officials & tribal representatives.
2. **State Water Board Staff Presentation** – Explanation of the probationary status & potential consequences.
3. **Kern County Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Panel** – Local agencies discuss groundwater management efforts.
4. **Additional Expert Panels** – Industry and community perspectives.
5. **General Public Comments** – Stakeholders can voice concerns & feedback.
6. **Board Discussion & Potential Vote** – Decision on the probationary designation.

### **HOW TO PARTICIPATE**

Prepare your public comment to express how this decision affects your water use.

1. Submit Written Comments: Email [SGMA-Kern@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:SGMA-Kern@waterboards.ca.gov) by February 13, 2025, at 12:00 noon. Use the subject line: **Comments – Kern County Subbasin**.
2. Speak at the Hearing (In-Person or Virtual): Register in advance at <http://bit.ly/speaker-card-form> starting February 12, 2025, at 8:00 AM.
3. Contact your local **Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)** for more details.

**For More Information:** Visit [waterboards.ca.gov](http://waterboards.ca.gov) or contact your local GSA.

If you need help joining the meeting or registering to speak at the hearing, reach out to **Laljeet Sangha** at [lsangha@ucanr.edu](mailto:lsangha@ucanr.edu) or call **661-868-6200**. (Extension 86221).

University of California Cooperative Extension Kern County office is located at 1031 S Mt Vernon Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93307

Laljeet Sangha is a Community Water Systems Advisor serving Kern, Kings, and Tulare Counties with the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UCANR). His program focuses on the critical intersection of community and agricultural water systems, addressing challenges related to water supply, quality, and sustainability. Laljeet provides technical assistance and guidance on key water management policies, including the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP). Additionally, he engages in research, outreach, and capacity-building efforts to help stakeholders navigate evolving water regulations and adopt best management practices.

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