

District Flow Testing Procedure

The purpose of this document is to provide the District staff and water well contractors with guidance as to how the District will test the flow rates of new wells following the adoption of permanent rules. It is understood that spacing requirements will take effect upon adoption of permanent rules and that the new wells will be spaced from existing wells using a formula based upon the maximum flow rate of the new well. Furthermore, the District recognizes the difficulty in selecting a pump that will pump exactly what is desired by the well owner or contractor. This document explains the process the District will go through to determine the flow rate of a well and the acceptable margin for error allowed for pump selection.

Upon completion (pump installed) of the well, the well owner representative shall provide the District with at least 3 dates (Monday-Friday) and times (between 8 am and 4 pm) within the 60 days following completion to meet for the purposes of conducting the flow test. If given advance notice, the District will strive to meet the well driller or pump installer at the site during the final stages of the well development.

Process

- Check for the presence of flow restricting devices and ensure pump is running at 100% speed if equipped with VFD.
 - If VFD speed is not readily available, it is up to the well owner representative to demonstrate/prove the VFD is set to 100% speed.
- The well owner representative is responsible for having the well configured ahead of time so that the District staff can test the well by either of 2 methods described below:
 1. At the well head before the well is tied into the system that it will ultimately serve; or
 2. Through a bypass installed immediately downstream of the meter, but located within 50 feet downstream of the well head.
 - A “bypass” for these purposes means an installation downstream of the meter that is of equal size to the discharge pipe so that there is unobstructed flow for purposes of measuring the maximum flow capacity from a well.
- After District staff arrives on site and has flow metering equipment in place to record a reading, the well owner representative may run the pump for up to 15 minutes continuously prior to taking final flow reading.
 - The well owner representative can run the well ahead of the site visit in order to further stabilize water levels if desired, but District staff should not wait longer than 15 minutes for flow and water levels in well to stabilize once District staff has the metering equipment in place to record a flow reading.
- At the point where the flow has stabilized or the 15 minutes of run-time has concluded, whichever occurs first, the District staff will document the maximum flow rate.
 - The maximum flow rate will be allowed up to a 10% or up to 25 gpm margin for error, whichever is less.
 - Example 1: 17.36 gpm well must read < 19.1 gpm
 - Example 2: 500 gpm must read < 525gpm
- If a re-test is requested by the well owner representative, the District will re-visit the site one (1) additional time for the purposes of testing the flow.