

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Process

A well application or a well permit that has been issued is required to go through the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process when the review is no longer ministerial and requires a variance from the well ordinance. A few examples but not limited to are: not meeting well setbacks from animal/fowl enclosures, septic and leach lines, or requesting an annular seal depth less than the minimum requirement.

1. Contractor/Applicant informs Tulare County Environmental Health (TCEH) that they are going through CEQA process so that the application can be entered into the Planning and Land Management System (PALMS), assigned a Water Well Application number (WWA#) and placed in a pending status. Prior to assigning a WWA#, a letter from the applicant and contractor is needed to explain why the variance is being requested as well as the mitigation measures that will be taken. Send letters and email to: tularecountyehwells@tularecounty.ca.gov

2. Contractor/Applicant completes two (2) documents: RMA Discretionary Application and Indemnification Agreement. Any non-relevant questions can be responded to with an n/a.
<https://tularecounty.ca.gov/rma/planning-building/planning-and-land-use-applications-and-forms/indemnification-and-cost-recovery-agreement/>
<https://tularecounty.ca.gov/rma/planning-building/planning-and-land-use-applications-and-forms/major-discretionary-projects-application/>

In the Discretionary Application provide the Water Well Application number or the permit number if one has been assigned.

Any questions regarding completing the two (2) documents above, contact Danielle Folk in the Resource Management Agency (RMA) at 559-624-7029.

3. Contractor/Applicant submits the documents as well as a copy of the well application to the Resource Management Agency (RMA). Options to deliver documents and filing fees are:

In person: RMA is located at 5961 S. Mooney Blvd, Visalia, CA 93277; Phone: 559-624-7000
Via email: Zone-Information@co.tulare.ca.us

Payment options:

Write check and mail: "Tulare County RMA" and mail to 5961 S. Mooney Blvd, Visalia, CA 93277. Be sure to note: "Attention Nick Murphy and/or Danielle Folk"

In person: Debit/Credit Card. Note: All card transactions have an additional 3.5% service fee.

Total Cost - \$358.00:

CEQA NOD/NOE Posting Fee - \$58.00

Research Request - \$300.00

4. Contractor/Applicant shall notify TCEH when the application has been submitted to RMA by providing the receipt of payment to tularecountyehwells@tularecounty.ca.gov