

Kansas Administrative Regulations

Kansas Department of Agriculture—Division of Water Resources

Article 23.—Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3

5-23-3. Minimum well spacing requirements: high plains aquifer.

(a) (1) The minimum horizontal distance between each proposed nontemporary, nondomestic well and all other senior nontemporary, nondomestic wells diverting water from the high plains aquifer shall be determined from the following schedule.

Quantity per well (acre-feet per year)	Minimum well spacing requirement
· 15 or less	660 feet
· 16 – 200	1,300 feet
· 201 – 300	1,600 feet
· 301 – 400	1,900 feet
· 401 – 500	2,100 feet
· more than 500	2,300 feet

(2) The minimum well spacing requirement shall be based on the maximum annual quantity of water. The required well spacing shall be the greater of either of the following:

(A) The minimum spacing for the total authorized and requested quantity of water for the proposed well; or

(B) the total authorized and requested annual quantity of water for the nontemporary, nondomestic well against which the spacing is being measured that is senior to the date on which the application was filed. If the quantity of water applied for includes a fraction of an acre-foot, the quantity of water shall be rounded down to the next whole number of acre-feet for the purpose of applying the table in this subsection.

(b) The location of a well or wells on an application for approval to change the point of diversion under an existing water right shall be no more than 2,640 feet from the currently authorized and completed point of diversion.

(c) A well shall be exempt from the minimum well spacing requirements of this regulation if the well meets either of the following conditions:

(1) The well is being replaced within 300 feet of the currently authorized point of diversion.

(2) The proposed replacement well location improves the spacing to all other wells for which the spacing requirement was not met on the date on which the application for a change in point of diversion was filed and continues to meet requirements for spacing to all wells for which the spacing requirement was met at the time the application for change in point of diversion was filed.

(d) No application for approval to change the point of diversion under an approved application for which the original well has not been drilled shall be approved if the location of the proposed point of diversion decreases the distance from the approved location to any other existing wells to less than the spacing requirement for new applications.

(e) Each nondomestic, nontemporary well shall be located a minimum of 660 feet from all domestic wells with a priority earlier than the date on which the change application was filed, unless all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The domestic well is owned by the applicant.

(2) The applicant signs a written request to waive the requirements for spacing to the domestic well.

(3) The applicant submits information documenting the location and depth of the domestic well and any other information necessary for the chief engineer to determine whether the domestic well is likely to be impaired.

(4) A Theis analysis or other hydraulic analysis shows that the domestic well is not likely to be impaired by the proposed well.

(f) In the case of a battery of wells, as defined in K.A.R. 5-1-1, the minimum horizontal distance shall be measured from the geographic center of the wells comprising the battery.

(g) The total annual quantity per well shall be the sum of all of the quantities authorized or requested by any water rights, permits, or applications requesting or authorizing that well as a point of diversion.

(Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a and K.S.A. 2002 Supp. 82a-1028; implementing K.S.A. 82a-706a, K.S.A. 2002 Supp. 82a-711, K.S.A. 2002 Supp. 82a-708b, and K.S.A. 82a-1028; effective May 1, 1981; amended May 1, 1985; amended Aug. 28, 1989; amended Sept. 30, 1991; amended Sept. 22, 2000; amended Feb. 27, 2004.)

***** Authenticated Kansas Administrative Regulation *****