

## Kathy McCormack

The attached file includes feedback from the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) regarding the "Protect Groundwater Conditions" heading on the new APO BMPs webpage. The current webpage content is on page 1, and the proposed content is on page 2 in Track Changes. The current first sentence is not exactly accurate, a bit confusing, and not needed. The current second sentence, minus the word "nearby" is all that is needed to start this section.

"...abandoned or deteriorated water well..." is the appropriate wording in the second bullet.

GCDs are an important local resource for groundwater matters. The link for the TCEQ GCD webpage is provided.

The TGPC appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on this new webpage which should be helpful to the citizens and businesses in the state.

*TCEQ webpage:*

## **Aggregate Production Operations (APOs): General Best Management Practices (BMPs)**

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assistance/industry/aggregate-production/best-management-practices>

*Current heading content:*

### **Protect Groundwater Conditions**

Groundwater includes water from aquifers that is transmitted to the surface. Certain APO activities may risk interacting with or contaminating nearby groundwater. To minimize this risk, operators should:

- Check information on the [Texas Water Development Board \(TWDB\) webpage](#) and [TCEQ's resources on water wells](#) to determine if registered public or private drinking water supply wells are nearby. See TWDB's information about [subsidence](#) for more information about how land and its underground features can change.
- Perform a visual check for possible unregistered or abandoned wells in the immediate vicinity of the APO. If an unregistered or abandoned well is discovered, operators should refer to TCEQ's regulatory guidance [Landowner's Guide to Plugging Abandoned Water Wells](#) (RG-347) for more information about next steps.
- Contact your local [TCEQ Regional Office](#) TCEQ Regional Office to see what requirements or guidance regarding nearby aquifers may apply to your operation. If your APO is in the Edwards Aquifer regulated area, please contact [EAPP@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:EAPP@tceq.texas.gov) to discuss any plan requirements.

*Proposed heading content:*

## **Protect Groundwater Conditions**

~~Groundwater includes water from aquifers that is transmitted to the surface.~~ Certain APO activities may risk interacting with or contaminating nearby groundwater. To minimize this risk, operators should:

- Check information on the [Texas Water Development Board \(TWDB\) webpage](#) and [TCEQ's resources on water wells](#) to determine if registered public or private drinking water supply wells are nearby. See TWDB's information about [subsidence](#) for more information about how land and its underground features can change.
- Perform a visual check for possible abandoned or deteriorated water wells in the immediate vicinity of the APO. If an abandoned or deteriorated water well is discovered, operators should refer to TCEQ's regulatory guidance [Landowner's Guide to Plugging Abandoned Water Wells](#) (RG-347) for more information about next steps.
- Contact your local [TCEQ Regional Office](#) TCEQ Regional Office to see what requirements or guidance regarding nearby aquifers may apply to your operation. If your APO is in the Edwards Aquifer regulated area, please contact [EAPP@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:EAPP@tceq.texas.gov) to discuss any plan requirements.
- Contact your local **Groundwater Conservation District** (GCD) to see what requirements may apply to your operation.

**Link to** <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/groundwater/groundwater-planning-assessment/districts.html>