

## Hingtgen, Robert J

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**From:** Don Bloom <donbloom42@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 09, 2015 4:00 PM  
**To:** 'Donna Tisdale'; Hingtgen, Robert J  
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**Subject:** Emailing: CA Groundwater Law Signed 9.14.2014  
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CA Groundwater Law Signed 9.14.2014

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San Diego Union  
9/15/14

## BROWN SIGNS FIRST CALIF. GROUNDWATER RULES

ASSOCIATED PRESS

### SACRAMENTO

California will no longer be the last Western state with a pump-as-you-please approach to groundwater.

Gov. Jerry Brown signed legislation on Tuesday overhauling the state's management of its groundwater supply, bringing it in line with other states that have long regulated their wells.

Groundwater makes up nearly 60 percent of California's water use during dry years. But it is not monitored and managed the same way as water from reservoirs and rivers.

Supporters of the legislation say the worst drought in a generation inspired them to rethink the state's hands-off approach to tapping wells, which has led to sinking land and billions of dollars in dam-

age to aquifers, roads and canals.

The package signed into law requires some local governments and water districts to begin managing their wells, and it authorizes state agencies to intervene if necessary. It also allows for metering and fines to monitor and enforce restrictions.

The opposition was driven by agricultural interests that are increasingly dependent

on pumping from wells as reservoirs dry up and government water allocations plunge in the drought. They say the legislation was rushed and punishes well-managed agencies while infringing on property rights.

Brown said in a signing message he would push for legislation next year to streamline resolutions in disputes over groundwater rights.