

**From:** [Bennett, Jim](#)  
**To:** [Slovick, Mark](#); [Koutoufidis, Nicholas](#)  
**Cc:** [Smith, Ashley](#); [Brown, Bronwyn](#)  
**Subject:** RE: JVR Solar: Groundwater Availability  
**Date:** Monday, August 16, 2021 2:03:49 PM

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Hi Mark,

See responses below in blue. Please let me know if have any questions or need additional info.

Thanks,

Jim Bennett, P.G., C.H.G.  
Water Resources Manager

## County of San Diego

Planning & Development Services, Sustainability Planning Division  
5510 Overland Avenue, Third Floor, San Diego, CA 92123  
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**From:** Slovic, Mark <Mark.Slovick@sdcounty.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 11:52 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jim <Jim.Bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov>; Koutoufidis, Nicholas <Nicholas.Koutoufidis@sdcounty.ca.gov>  
**Cc:** Smith, Ashley <Ashley.Smith2@sdcounty.ca.gov>; Brown, Bronwyn <Bronwyn.Brown@sdcounty.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: JVR Solar: Groundwater Availability

Hi Jim and Nick, can you please help with the questions below? I have a briefing at 4pm, so if you can send me the info before that I'd appreciate it. Thx.

Thanks,

Mark Slovic, Deputy Director  
County of San Diego | Planning & Development Services  
T. [619.517.8067](tel:619.517.8067)

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**From:** Kazmer, Gregory <[Gregory.Kazmer@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Gregory.Kazmer@sdcounty.ca.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 11:45 AM  
**To:** Slovic, Mark <[Mark.Slovick@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Mark.Slovick@sdcounty.ca.gov)>  
**Cc:** Barnett, Scott <[Scott.Barnett@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Scott.Barnett@sdcounty.ca.gov)>; Sleeper, Maggie <[Maggie.Sleeper@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Maggie.Sleeper@sdcounty.ca.gov)>; Shute, Madeline <[Madeline.Shute@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Madeline.Shute@sdcounty.ca.gov)>; Aghassi, Sarah <[Sarah.Aghassi@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Sarah.Aghassi@sdcounty.ca.gov)>; Flannery, Kathleen <[Kathleen.Flannery@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Kathleen.Flannery@sdcounty.ca.gov)>

**Subject:** JVR Solar: Groundwater Availability

Hi Mark,

Perhaps we could discuss this at the walkaround later today but the Supervisor is asking about the water resources availability in the community in terms of future development (aside from JVR Solar).

1. Are all of the households on well service out there?

Yes, the entire community of Jacumba is groundwater dependent and nearly all homes are connected to the Jacumba Community Services District. The Jacumba Valley Solar project would have its own private wells east of the community.

2. What are the latest numbers in terms of aquifer supplies and is there a point of comparison (Borrego?)

Borrego Springs Subbasin is considered critically overdrafted where four times the amount that naturally is replenished is being pumped. The groundwater wells for Jacumba Community Services District were recently measured between 10 and 38 feet below ground surface and have not shown signs of overdraft like Borrego.

**Groundwater Demand:** For this project, it proposes to use 142 acre-feet of water for construction as a one-time use from private onsite wells, and then 11 acre-feet/year for ongoing uses. Historically these wells were pumped at an estimated 741 acre-feet/year from 2002 and 2013 for a spinach farm. The amount of proposed use is a fraction of historical pumping.

**Cumulative Evaluation:** The basin where the project will obtain its water is estimated to have just over 9,000 acre-feet of groundwater in storage. Cumulative impacts to the basin from this project and other reasonably foreseeable projects were evaluated and found to be less than significant in accordance with County guidelines.

**Direct Impacts Evaluation:** For well interference, the threshold for determining significance for wells in an alluvial aquifer is five feet of drawdown at the nearest offsite well after 5 years of pumping. Impacts are anticipated to be less than a tenth of a foot after 5 years which is a less than significant impact.

**Groundwater Monitoring and Mitigation Plan:** A groundwater monitoring and mitigation plan requires ongoing production and water level monitoring and sets threshold water levels to ensure protection of nearby well infrastructure.

Thanks!

**Greg Kazmer, Senior Land Use Director**

District 2, Supervisor Joel Anderson

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