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February 15, 2018

By: Fields

An Act relating to Oklahoma Groundwater Law; amending 82 O.S. 2011, Section 1020.1, which relates to definitions; amending definitions; defining marginal water; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 82 O.S. 2011, Section 1020.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1020.1. As used in this act:

1. "Groundwater" means fresh water and marginal water under the surface of the earth regardless of the geologic structure in which it is standing or moving outside the cut bank of any definite stream;

2. "Domestic use" means the use of water by a natural individual or by a family or household for household purposes, for farm and domestic animals up to the normal grazing capacity of the land and for the irrigation of land not exceeding a total of three (3) acres in area for the growing of gardens, orchards and lawns, and for such other purposes, specified by Board rules, for which de minimis amounts are used;

1 3. "Major groundwater basin" shall mean a distinct underground
2 body of water overlain by contiguous land and having substantially
3 the same geological and hydrological characteristics and from which
4 groundwater wells yield at least fifty (50) gallons per minute on
5 the average basinwide if from a bedrock aquifer and at least one
6 hundred fifty (150) gallons per minute on the average basinwide if
7 from an alluvium or alluvium and terrace aquifer, or as otherwise
8 designated by the Board;

9 4. "Subbasin" means a subdivision of a major or minor
10 groundwater basin overlain by contiguous land and having
11 substantially the same geological and hydrological characteristics
12 and yield capabilities;

13 5. "Board" means the Oklahoma Water Resources Board;

14 6. "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership,
15 association, corporation, business trust, federal agency, state
16 agency, the state or any political subdivision thereof,
17 municipalities, and any other legal entities;

18 7. "Fresh water" means water which has less than five thousand
19 (5,000) parts per million total dissolved solids. For the purpose
20 of this act all other water is salt water;

21 8. "Commercial drilling", "commercial plugging" and "commercial
22 installation" mean drilling or plugging and installation as a
23 business, trade or occupation for compensation; ~~and~~

1 9. "Minor groundwater basin" means a distinct underground body
2 of water overlain by contiguous land and having substantially the
3 same geological and hydrological characteristics and which is not a
4 major groundwater basin; and

5 10. "Marginal water" means water which has less than ten
6 thousand (10,000) parts per million total dissolved solids.

7 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2018.

8 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
9 February 15, 2018 - DO PASS
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