

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 1807

By: Newton of the House

3 and

4 Jech of the Senate

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7 [water and water rights - metering of wells - permit
8 holders - use of water - Oklahoma Water Resources
9 Board - allocation - conservation - excessive use -
10 effective date]
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13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 82 O.S. 2021, Section 1020.19, is
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Section 1020.19. ~~Upon request of a majority of the landowners~~
17 ~~residing within a basin or subbasin, the Board is authorized to~~
18 ~~require that water wells be metered and that such meters as the~~
19 ~~Board shall approve be utilized by the applicant and placed under~~
20 ~~seal, subject to reading by the agents of the Board at any time.~~
21 ~~The Board may also require that the applicant report the reading of~~
22 ~~such meters at reasonable intervals~~

23 A. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall require all permit
24 holders authorized to take and use groundwater to implement a system

1 of measuring groundwater usage from all wells associated with the
2 permit. The Board shall determine which measurement systems may be
3 utilized, which shall include, but not be limited to, pump and
4 irrigation monitoring telemetry devices capable of reporting usage.
5 Such measuring systems shall be in proper operating conditions at
6 all times when groundwater is being produced. Data from the
7 measuring system shall be utilized for the annual groundwater use
8 report.

9 B. To encourage groundwater conservation, beginning January 1,
10 2026, the Board shall provide a five-year flex allocation of
11 groundwater usage based off the previously determined allocated
12 annual use of the basin or subbasin. A five-year flex allocation
13 shall not require a new permit for existing permit holders. A five-
14 year flex allocation shall be available for:

15 1. Existing permit holders for groundwater use permits in
16 basins or subbasins, based upon the maximum annual yield
17 determination at the time of the original application;

18 2. New applicants for groundwater use permits in basins or
19 subbasins based upon the current maximum annual yield determination;
20 and

21 3. New and existing applicants and temporary permit holders for
22 groundwater use permits in basins or subbasins where the maximum
23 annual yield has yet to be determined.
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