SANTA ROSA PLAIN • PETALUMA VALLEY • SONOMA VALLEY
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCIES

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

THE PETALUMA VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY, THE SONOMA VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY AND THE SANTA ROSA PLAIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

FEE ANALYSIS AND RATE SETTING SERVICES

Response to Questions

1. **Can you provide the sample agreement so that submission requirement 7. can be met?**
   Yes. You can find the agreement now uploaded here.

2. **Has any particular group(s) expressed specific concerns for how the fee is currently determined?**
   No particular groups have expressed specific concerns for how the fee is currently determined, although some individuals have raised concerns during past fee studies. Expressed concerns have largely focused on whether a Proposition 26 style "regulatory" fee is an appropriate fee structure.

3. **Given the County of Sonoma is ending contributions to Petaluma and Sonoma County GSAs, is one of the goals to consider fee options that would keep the fee "level" or much closer, among the three GSAs?**
   Through the fee study process there is a desire to revisit agency budgets and fee structures to try and set equitable fees that do not place a disproportionate burden on groundwater users within the Petaluma Valley and Sonoma Valley GSA boundaries, while also providing sufficient funding to meet SGMA requirements. All three agencies are currently working on Implementation Plans for 2027 through 2032 to guide funding needs, and are aware that fees will likely be different across the three basins for future fiscal years based on groundwater conditions.

4. **Do the GSAs conduct regular public engagement (written communications, in-person, etc.)?**
   Yes, the three Sonoma County GSAs conduct regular public engagement through quarterly newsletters; community programs such as Level Up!, Flow Smart, and Well Aware; public meetings such as community meetings about relevant groundwater topics, Board meetings, and Advisory Committee meetings; social media; and by answering inquiries from constituents via email and phone calls.