

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB1341
Version:	FULLPCS1
Request Number:	10882
Author:	Rep. Newton
Date:	4/9/2024
Impact:	Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

The proposed committee substitute for SB 1341 modifies processes related to groundwater metering. The measure:

Requires all groundwater permit holders to equip all water wells with a flow meter or an alternative measuring system that has verifiable records;

Requires the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to establish a phase-in schedule for requiring all permit holders to have a meter within 8 years. The schedule must be submitted to the legislature for rulemaking by February 1, 2025;

Requires the OWRB to implement policies for reviewing groundwater reports in a timely manner, modernizing data collection systems, and investigating claims of waste;

Authorizes the OWRB to impose fines and penalties for overuse and to perform audits and spot checks on permit holders;

Specifies when a groundwater permit holder must submit their usage reports and requires them to include data from a water meter. Willful failure to report usage will result in penalties or fines;

Allows a five-year allocation of the maximum annual yield to be approved for a regular permit;

Clarifies that any permit holder using less water than their permit allows will not have their allowance reduced;

Creates a new process for filing complaints about groundwater waste; and requires the OWRB to promulgate rules for auditing groundwater use reports, modernizing its data collection, investigating claims of waste, and imposing fines for over use.

Prepared By: Emily Byrne

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

© 2024 Oklahoma House of Representatives, see Copyright Notice at www.okhouse.gov