

Name: GROUND WATER COMMISSION
CRS: 37-90-104
Expiration:
No Members: 12
Term: 4 Yr
Department: Natural Resources
Senate
Confirmation:
Senate Codes:
Contact: Dick Wolfe

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Compensation: \$50 and expenses

Description:

The Ground Water Commission consists of twelve members, nine appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The commission includes six members who are resident agriculturists of designated ground water basins, with no more than two resident agriculturists from the same ground water basin to be members of the commission at the same time; one member who shall be a resident agriculturist and who shall be appointed from water division 3; and two residents of the state who shall represent municipal or industrial water users of the state, one of whom shall be appointed from the area west of the continental divide.

In addition to the appointed members, the Executive Director of the Department of Natural Resources shall be a voting member, and the State Engineer, and the Director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board shall be nonvoting members of the commission.

Six voting members shall constitute a quorum at any regularly or specially called meeting of the commission, and a majority vote of those present shall rule. The commission shall establish and maintain a schedule of at least four general meetings each year. The chairman, at his discretion, or two members may call special meetings of the commission to dispose of accumulated business.

The ground water commission is empowered to:

- (a) supervise and control the exercise and administration of all rights acquired to the use of designated ground water;
- (b) establish a reasonable ground water pumping level in an area having a common designated ground water supply;
- (c) issue permits for the construction of replacement wells;
- (d) in the exercise of any of the powers or duties conferred by this section, to confer and consult with the board of directors of the ground water management district board in the affected area, if any such board exists, before promulgating any orders or regulations which would affect the district in general;
- (e) order the total or partial discontinuance of any diversion within a ground water basin to the extent the water being diverted is not necessary for application to a beneficial use;
- (f) in any area where a ground water management district has not been formed, to prescribe satisfactory and economical measuring methods for the measurement of water levels in and the amount of water withdrawn from wells and to require reports to be made at the end of each pumping season showing the date and water level at the beginning of the pumping season, the date and water level at the end of the pumping season, and showing any period of more than thirty days' cessation of pumping during such pumping season;
- (g) upon application therefor by any permit holder, to authorize a change in acreage served, volume of appropriation, place, time, or type of use of and by any water right, or of any well location, either conditional or final, granted under the authority of the commission but only upon such terms and