

Notice of Application and Hearing for Permit to Produce Groundwater from the Brush Country Groundwater Conservation District in Jim Wells County

On October 12, 2022, Mr. Chance Schneider whose address is 938 SW 9th Street Premont, Texas 78375 (the “Applicant” or “Schneider Brothers” Partnership), filed an application with the Brush Country Groundwater Conservation District (the “District” or “BCGCD”) seeking an operating permit for one non-exempt irrigation water well located on 360 acres 1.5 miles West of Highway 281 near the City of Premont, Jim Wells County, Texas. The coordinates and description of the well are: District Well ID #0032-249-2022 located at 27.29744 latitude and -98.15644 longitude, having 16” diameter casing and well depth of approximately 725 ft. The proposed use is irrigation with a maximum volume 293,265,900 gallons (900-acre ft) per annum. The Applicant seeks authority to produce water for irrigation use within boundaries of the District. The proposed well is to be completed in the Gulf Coast aquifer. Production from the well will be managed in a manner designed to minimize any interference with any neighboring wells completed in the same aquifer. The BCGCD issued a drilling permit for this well on October 25, 2022.

The District Rules mandate publishing of public notice and opportunity for a public hearing before considering approval of this type of permit application. The Board of Directors of the District may grant a contested case hearing on the permit application if a written hearing request is filed within 20 days after the publication date of this notice. To request a contested case hearing, you must submit the following in writing: (1) your name (or for a group or association, a representative), mailing address, daytime telephone number, and fax number, if any; (2) applicant’s name; (3) the statement “[I/we] request a contested case hearing;” (4) a specific description of how you would be affected by the application in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the proposed activity; and, (6) for a party desiring for the hearing to be conducted by the State Office of Administrative Hearings the request must include the statement: “[I/we] request that the State Office of Administrative Hearings conduct the hearing.” Note that a party requesting that the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) conduct the hearing shall pay all costs associated with the contract for a SOAH hearing and will be required to deposit with the District an amount determined by the District to pay the SOAH contract amount.

You may also file written comments within 20 days after the publication date of this notice without requesting a contested case hearing.

Comments or requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted in writing and mailed to Brush Country Groundwater Conservation District 732 W. Rice Street Falfurrias Texas 78355, or emailed to lpena@brushcountrygcd.com.

The application is available for review at the District Office, located at 732 West Rice Street Falfurrias, Texas 78355 or on the District’s website at www.brushcountrygcd.com

A hearing to consider contested case hearing requests, if any, and to act on the Schneider Brother’s Partnership operating permit application for 293,265,900 gallons (900-acre ft) per annum is set for 9:30 a.m. November 29th, 2022 at the Board of Directors meeting to be held at the BCGCD District Office, located at 732 West Rice, Falfurrias, Texas 78355.