



SANTA FE COUNTY UTILITIES DIVISION

Water Utility Service Election

May 19, 2025

Instructions to Make Elections to Connect for Water Service

Owners of water rights from a well in the Pojoaque Basin who want to elect to connect to the Santa Fe County Water Utility (SFCU) as part of the Pojoaque Basin Regional Water System must complete the "Acceptance of Settlement Agreement and Notice of Domestic Well Election" form (revised May 19, 2025) (Revised Well Election Form") and file it with the U.S. District Court (<https://www.nmd.uscourts.gov/content/santa-fe>).

The Revised Well Election Form allows for either a full connection or a partial connection to the SFCU, as follows:

1. Full amount connection for all purposes (indoor and outdoor): To connect all uses to the County Water Utility pursuant to Sections 3.1.7.2.1 & 3.1.7.4.1 of the Aamodt Settlement Agreement and State Engineer Rule 19.25.20.109 NMAC, 9/12/2017. If this connection is selected, the owner will give up using the well and will become a customer of the SFCU for all domestic indoor and outdoor uses. The well will be plugged and the water right transferred to the SFCU.
2. Partial amount connection for indoor use only: To connect indoor use to the County Water Utility and retain well for outdoor use, pursuant to Sections 3.1.7.2.1 & 3.1.7.4.1 of the Aamodt Settlement Agreement and as allowed by State Engineer Rule 19.25.20.109 NMAC, 9/12/2017. If this connection is selected, the owner will give up using the well for indoor use and will become a customer of the SFCU for all domestic indoor uses, and 0.3 acre-feet per year will be transferred to SFCU. The well may continue to be used for outdoor watering but must be physically separated and disconnected from indoor plumbing to avoid cross contamination.

Once you have filed the Revised Well Election Form with the U.S. District Court, SFCU will review the filing to assess the process and timing for service in your area. Any decision to run distribution lines in your area will depend on the level of customer demand in the area and availability of funding and other resources to construct any needed infrastructure and provide service. Once SFCU determines that service is available, SFCU will provide notice to you and ask you to complete a Customer Service Application.

Eligibility for Aamodt Connection Fund.

- A. An owner of record of a water right from a well that is used for domestic, commercial or industrial purposes that elects pursuant to the Aamodt Settlement Agreement to connect to the SFCU for water service when that service is available shall be entitled to payment from the Aamodt Connection fund, as administered by Santa Fe County, for the expense of connecting to the SFCU.
- B. No water right owner of record electing to connect to the SFCU will be required to cease use of their well and connect to the SFCU until such expenses have been paid by the connection fund or other third party.
- C. If service is not available to an owner that elected to connect because Santa Fe County determines that the expense of connection exceeds the allowed connection expenses, the owner may pay the additional expenses so that the expenses of connection will be covered and service made available.

[See State Engineer Rule 19.25.20.111 NMAC - N, 9/12/2017]

Santa Fe County reserves the right to set a deadline after which no party making an election to connect will be eligible for funding from the Connection Fund.

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