# WRIA 10 Metering Discussion Status

| **Question to Resolve** | **Direction from Workgroup** |
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| What is the purpose? | Enforcement of regulations/education/check our assumptions |
| Who collects the data? | Health department, State |
| How is data collected? | Self-reported or remote (less likely option). |
| Voluntary or mandatory? | Voluntary, mandatory, or voluntary leads to mandatory. |
| Extent of program: Pilot area, regional program, or statewide? | Pilot or statewide offering (depends) |
| Who pays for the program? | SFR grant, existing well fees, health department. |
| Someone to develop proposal? |  |

**Background:** Several committee members are supportive and interested in including a metering proposal in the plan. During the April 22 meeting, the workgroup discussed the benefits and drawbacks of different metering approaches. The workgroup did not come to a conclusion or recommendation on metering for the plan.

**Discussion points:**

* Purpose
  + The purpose and implementation are important details.
  + Purpose helps drive whether the metering is voluntary or mandatory.
* Data Collection
  + State (Ecology) or local health jurisdiction collects the data.
    - TPCHD does not have legal authority over individual wells after they have been approved.
  + Physical access to meters may be difficult due to meter locations and private property rights.
    - May also be limited and difficult because of limited staff and remote locations of PE wells.
  + Telemetry meters (using cellular networks) are expensive and do not always work in remote locations.
  + Self-reporting is not always reliable. May need reminders (voluntary and mandatory) or penalties (mandatory) to ensure reporting.
* Mandatory vs. Voluntary
  + Required metering would ensure that regulations are being followed.
  + Mandatory metering would be very challenging to implement and may require changes to TPCHD regulations.
  + Voluntary metering may be easier to implement but may end up with biased results.
  + Potential to start as voluntary and move towards mandatory as part of adaptive management.
* Funding
  + Develop a pilot program using SRF grant funds.
  + Use well fees to subsidize meters as an incentive for a voluntary program.