

## Why are La Cienega, Cerrillos and Galisteo concerned about Eldorado's applications for new wells?

The image shows the location of the current Eldorado well field and the direction of groundwater flows (east to west) in the Tesuque aquifer system. The Eldorado well field (comprising 15 wells) draws down the aquifer in its surrounding area, and particularly in the down-flow direction towards the communities of La Cienega, Cerrillos and Galisteo. The addition of new wells in the Eldorado field would increase the aquifer drawdown, and so increase the risk of water impairment in these communities. As a result, the water associations of Cerrillos, La Cienega, and Galisteo have all protested Eldorado's water diversion applications. These protests are being led by the Santa Fe Basin Water Association (SFBWA). The purpose of the SFBWA is to protect the rights and interests of existing water users in Santa Fe County and surrounding areas.

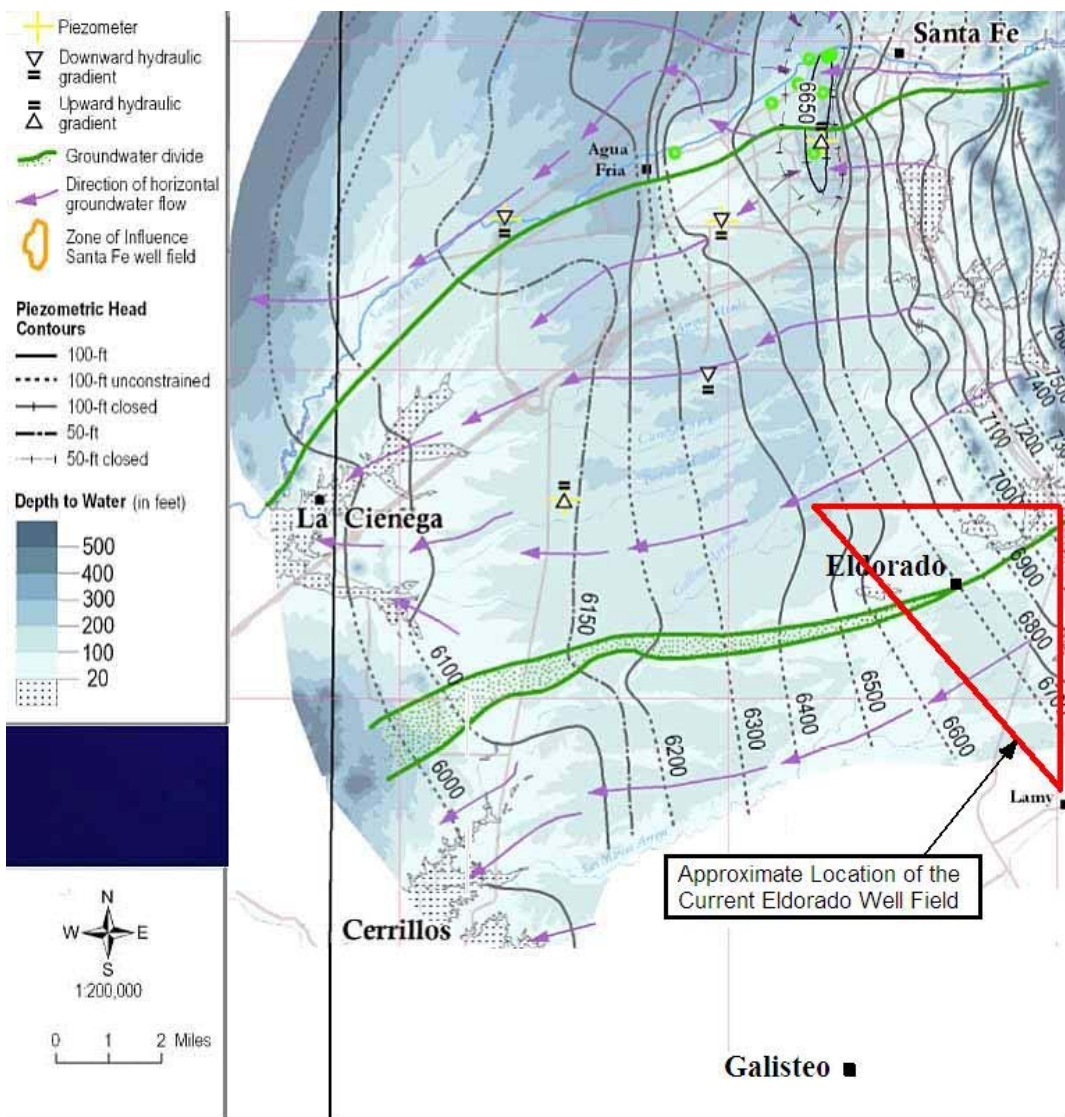


Image adapted from: *Groundwater flow conditions in the Tesuque aquifer system*, GWP presentation, Peggy Johnson, Oct. 12, 2007, Santa Fe, NM, bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources.