

OREGON



WATER RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT

Well Construction Rulemaking Update

Oregon Water Resources
Commission Meeting (Item F)
February 23, 2023

Presented by

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Implement recent legislation

- **House Bill 2145 (2021):** Well construction modernization
- **House Bill 3030 (2019)/Senate Bill 688 (2019):** Temporary licenses for spouses of members of armed forces
- **House Bill 4061 (2022):** Extending timeline for agency to issue a notice of violation

Penalty alignment across Divisions

- Major and minor penalties for well drillers and other than well drillers

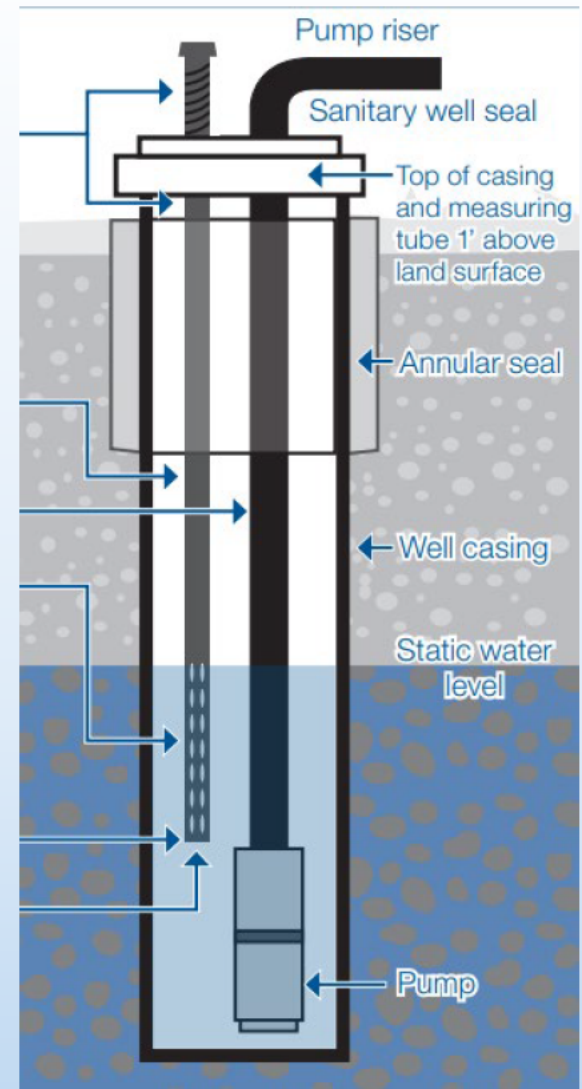
Division 260 – Other Than Well Drillers	Divisions 225 & 240 (Current) – Well Drillers	Divisions 225 & 240 (Proposed) – Well Drillers
Minor - \$50	Minor - \$25	Minor - \$50
Major - \$200	Major - \$50	Major - \$200

Restore deleted rule

- Dedicated measuring tube requirements (OAR 690-215-0200)

Other “Housekeeping”

- Spelling, grammar, clarity
- Figure updates, improved resolution



HB 2145 (2021) Background

Oregon Legislature passed HB 2145 (2021) to

- Modernize well construction program
- Protect Oregon's groundwater
- Provide well construction industry with timely assurance work is consistent with State requirements

Effective dates ranging from January 1, 2022, to July 1, 2024

Implement HB 2145

- Add licensing requirements for drillers
- Require exempt use map to be submitted by driller
- Groundwater use recording fee paid by driller



Implement HB 2145 (2021)

- Increase start card notification and info/data requirements
- Increase well report info/data requirements
- Include timeline for OWRD to review 100% of well reports for compliance, notify drillers of any deficiencies



HB 3030 (2019)/SB 688 (2019) Implementation

Implement HB 3030 (2019)

- Authorizes OWRD to issue a two-year temporary well driller license if person meets statutory requirements
- Temporary authorization is not renewable.

Implement SB 688 (2019)

- Directs OWRD to report to interim committee related to veterans on implementation of HB 3030 (2019)

Implement HB 4061 (2022)

Extend the time period for issuing a Notice of Violation (NOV) after becoming aware of a violation from five calendar days to ten business days.





Rulemaking Progress & Next Steps

Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) formation

- 20 members (well drillers, consultants, vocational educators/ trainers, local government, tribes, environmental NGOs)

RAC Meetings

- 3 hybrid meetings held to date (Dec. 13, Jan. 11, Feb. 15)
- 1 hybrid meeting remaining (Mar. 15)

Groundwater Advisory Committee

- Provided update (Feb. 21)

- Convene final RAC meeting – March 15
- Publish Notice of Public Hearing; Start 30-day Comment Period – April 3
- Present to GWAC – mid-April
- Convene Public Hearing (hybrid, Salem) – April 27
- Present proposed rules to WRC – June 15/16
- Rule effective date – July 1, 2023
- Communication & Outreach



Questions?

