N E W S

Well Said

LETTER

Vol. 1 No. 5 July 1999 News from the Water Resources Department's Well Construction Program

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Well Said Oregon Water Resources Department

"Well Said" is a production of the Oregon Water Resources Department's Well Construction Program and is designed to inform the public about program activities and other items of interest.

Questions or suggestions concerning this newsletter can be directed to Mike McCord at (503) 378-8455 x283, or by e-mail: michael.l.mccord @wrd.state.or.us.

DEWATERING WELLS

The State of Oregon considers dewatering wells to be water wells. Only licensed and bonded water well constructors may construct, alter, or abandon dewatering wells. A start card, well log, and fee must be submitted for each dewatering well installed. This is true even if the wells are only in place for a short period of time. Typically, dewatering wells need to be constructed in a way that does not meet the minimum construction standards. If you are installing a dewatering well and need to deviate from the minimum construction standards please contact the Department for special standards prior to beginning construction. The Department will also be reaching out to the general construction contractors in the region to inform them of the requirements for dewatering wells.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULE UPDATE

The Department has reconvened the Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) and has made some progress on the Administrative Rules update. The last issue of Well Said stated that a formal draft of the rules would be available this spring, however, the Department and the RAC have not reached that point yet. Since it is summer and everyone is extemely busy it is doubtful whether the progress that needs to be made will occur over the summer. It will probably be some time this fall before a draft set of the rules is available. If you have any questions about rules update progress please contact Mike McCord at (503) 378-8455, ext. 283.

UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

There is another type of well that is very common in Oregon and is not always governed by Water Resources Department rules or statutes. The Underground Injection Control (UIC) program is administered in Oregon by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The intent of this program is to protect aquifers that are primarily used for drinking water. The type of wells that are governed by this program are Class V injection wells. In the past, nineteen drinking water suppliers have lost the use of their water due to contamination associated with these types of wells. DEQ also states that 30% of the contaminated sites on their cleanup list for ground water contamination are associated with the use of injection wells. Some common types of Class V injection wells are sumps, drywells, stormwater wells geothermal injection wells, remediation wells, and abandoned wells used for waste disposal.

UIC's need to be registered with DEQ. There is an amnesty period for registration of UIC's until December 31, 1999 for privately owned wells and December 31, 2000 for agencies and jurisdictions. After the amnesty period, well owner/operators will be subject to DEQ enforcement for unregistered wells. For more information please log on to DEQ's internet site at www.deq.state.or.us and click on the UIC icon or call Barbara Priest of DEQ at (503) 229-5945.

SPECIAL STANDARD FORM

With this newsletter you will find an updated special standard request form. Please use the new form. The primary reason for updating the form is that the words "Final Order" are now printed on the form. The reason for this is that by granting a special standard, the Department has issued a final order. In this case, it is an order in other than a contested case. Last year, the Department made a commitment to label all final orders and to provide information to the recipient about their judicial review rights. The recent passage of Senate Bill 804 will soon make this mandatory. In the future, when a special standard is returned to the person who requested it, there will be an attachment that explains the recipients judicial review rights. When you see this, don't get excited. It is only the Department trying to satisfy its obligations. Also, please remember that if you receive approval over the phone or on the job site that the written request must be submitted within three working days of the approval or prior to the work being completed. Failure to do so could void any prior approval. Any questions about special standards or the new form should be directed to Mike McCord at extension 283.

CONSUMER'S GUIDE

The Department has just received a new batch of Consumer's Guide to Well Construction, Maintenance and Abandonment. Please contact Laurie Norton at extension 304 if you need any.

STAFF CHANGES

Lisa Juul is back in the Enforcement Section after a stint in the Department's Adjudication Section. She is once again overseeing the well I. D. tag program. Please contact if you need tags or have any questions regarding well I. D. tags. Lisa can be reached at ext. 260.

1998 WELL CONSTRUCTION NUMBERS

New Construction:

Water Wells 4235 Monitor Wells 1223 Geotechnical Holes 5015

Abandonments 1030

New Water Wells by Region:
Northwest 54%
Southwest 19%
South Central 17%
North Central 5%
Eastern 5%

Well Inspections:

Total Inspections 3588 New Well Inspect. 2480 % of New Wells Ins. 45%

LICENSE RENEWALS

Many Water and Monitoring Well Licenses expired on June 30, 1999. This is a reminder that if you have not sent in your License Renewal you will need to add the \$50.00 late fee to the renewal fee to renew your license. If you have questions on your license or have changed your home or business address or phone number please contact Tracy Eichenlaub at (503) 378-8455 ext. 218.

PAPERWORK SUBMITTAL

Overall, start cards, well logs, and geotechnical hole reports are being submitted on time. However, there are enough that are not that we feel a friendly reminder is in order. Failure to submit paperwork on time

can result in more than an inconvenience. Late paperwork can result in enforcement action against the responsible person. Well logs must be submitted within thirty days of the completion of the work. With the new well logs only one copy of the well log needs to be submitted to the Department. Start cards, as the name implies, must be submitted to both the Salem office and to the District Watermaster office where the well is being drilled no later than the day the work is begun. Geotechnical hole reports must be submitted within thirty days of completing the work. Don't forget to submit maps with the monitor well logs and geotechnical hole reports. In addition to submitting paperwork on time, please make sure it is properly filled out. This will prevent the Department from having to return items to you so that they can be completed properly. Even if we know what should be on a well log, we cannot fill anything in or otherwise alter the paperwork that is submitted by a driller.

Below is a current listing of WRD Watermaster fax numbers by district:

WRD Watermaster Fax Numbers

Dist.	Fax Number
01 Tillamook	503 842-3680
02 Springfield	541 746-1861
03 The Dalles	541 298-2459
04 Canyon City	541 575-2248
05 Pendleton	541 278-0287
06 La Grande	541 963-9637
08 Baker City	541 523-7866
09 Vale	541 473-5522
10 Burns	541 573-8311
11 Bend	541 388-5101
12 Lakeview	541 947-6063
13 Medford	541 776-7189
14 Grants Pass	541 471-2876

15	Roseburg	541 440-6264
16	Salem	503 378-6203
17	Klamath Falls	541 885-3324
18	Hillsboro	503 693-4887
19	Coquille	541 396-6233
20	St. Helens	503
		397-
		7257
		1 0 00

Bold Indicates Regional Office

Please circulate this information with others in your organization.