

Well Said

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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 drilling industry and 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@wrdd.state.or.us.

News from the Water Resources Department's Well Construction Program

WELL LOG INFORMATION

At the recently held Oregon Ground Water Association fall convention, I was given the opportunity to talk with association members about a variety of topics. One of the main topics of discussion was well logs and the proper way to fill them out. Mainly, what the Department is required to look for and what will prompt the Department to return a log to the driller requesting additional information. I thought this would be a good opportunity to share some of that discussion with those who were not in attendance at the convention. I know that some of these items may be apparent to people who work with well logs everyday. However, we have to remember that these logs are relied upon by numerous other members of the public and private sector. Some of the areas where there are consistent problems are :

A) Bore Hole Construction - Make sure that this section accurately describes the boring. A common mistake is to state that the 6 inch borehole starts at zero feet when in reality it starts at some depth below the sealed interval. Please remember to accurately indicate how much seal material was used and the applicable unit of measure in sacks or pounds. In addition, make sure that the appropriate sealing method is checked.

B) Well Test - If anything other than an air test is used to estimate yield, then the drawdown must be stated on the log. Please remember to log the temperature of the water and any zones that contained water not suitable for the intended use of the well. This information is valuable to both the Department and to other parties.

C) Well Location - For the most part,

people are doing a pretty good job about logging the well location. One area that needs improvement is tax lot information and the street address of the well. If there has not been a tax lot number assigned, then indicate so. Stating that it is not applicable is not acceptable. If there is no address at the well site when the well is drilled, then be as descriptive as possible in the space allowed.

D) Water Bearing Zones - It cannot be stressed enough that all water bearing formations and the respective static water level need to be shown on the well log. This includes water bearing formations that have been sealed off during construction.

E) Depth of Completed Well - Please be sure to indicate on the log what it is. If the depth of the completed well and the depth drilled are not the same, please explain why. In addition, the depth of the casing is not always an indication of the depth drilled.

F) Constructor Certification - In situations where a licensed, but not bonded, well driller is responsible for the construction of a well, it is a requirement that the signature of that driller as well as the signature of the bonded constructor appears on the well log. Both individuals are required to certify that to the best of their knowledge the well log is correct.

**WELL CONSTRUCTION
RULES UPDATE**

The Department is still working with the Rules Advisory Committee to develop a draft set of proposed well construction rules. The Department's intent is to have a draft set of the rules available for public review next spring. If you have any questions about the rule update please

contact Mike McCord at (503) 378-8455, ext. 283.

Please circulate this information with others in your organization

RESUBMITTAL OF LOGS

If, by chance, the aforementioned advice about proper submittal of well logs is not followed and a well log is sent back to you for additional information, please keep the following information in mind. Only original well logs or a copy of the original log may be resubmitted to the Department. In many cases, a well log that is stamped "DRAFT" is pulled out of GRID on line and the changes are made to that version of the log. The problem that is created by doing this is that the new version of the log will then be scanned in with the "DRAFT" stamp. Even though the log has been fixed, it still appears as a draft in GRID. Also remember that when logs are returned to the Department after they have been corrected, the log must be mailed in. Faxed copies of corrected or amended well logs will not be accepted.

WELL I. D. LABELS

It has come to the Department's attention that some well constructors, in times of shortage, have "loaned" Well I. D. labels to other constructors. While the Department appreciates the camaraderie, this is not a practice that is condoned. Each label is assigned to a specific bonded driller at the time it is issued. The label is as specific to the well as the drillers signature. Please make sure that you keep an ample supply of labels on hand so that you do not find yourself in the position of having to go back later and install the label. And please, when a well that already has a label on it is abandoned, make sure the label is destroyed and never put on another well. Rumor has it

that they fit down the well nicely before the grout is placed.

TESTING HEADING EAST?

In the last issue of "Well Said" we asked for responses from people who were interested in having the Department give the licensing exam in Eastern Oregon. The tentative plan was to hold one exam session per year in Pendleton. To date, there has only been one response in favor of having the exam outside of Salem. If there is no more interest in this, then the Department will continue testing as it has in the past. Any questions regarding license examinations should be directed to Tracy Eichenlaub at extension 218.

STAFF CHANGES

Tracy Eichenlaub has returned to the enforcement section after a fun filled summer as the Assistant Watermaster in the Salem office. Tracy is back at her job as the Licensing and Compliance Officer. She can be reached at extension 218. Laurie Norton has returned to her duties in the well log section after doing a fine job of filling in for Tracy. Laurie can be reached at extension 304. Well I. D. tags can be obtained by calling extension 260. Janet Halladey or Megan Bowen will assist you.

SPECIAL STANDARDS

With the passage of Oregon Revised Statute 536.075, the Department is required to notify affected parties when correspondence from the state is a final order. The approval or denial of a special standard happens to be a final order. Since this is the case, all special standards shall have language on the first page indicating that it is a final order. In the past, the Department has added the necessary language to requests that were made on outdated special standard forms. In an effort to speed things up and be

consistent, a new form has been created that meets the requirements of the law. A copy of this form is attached to this newsletter. Please discard any obsolete forms you may have and use the new form from this point forward. Please remember to make copies of the new form to keep on hand. An additional note concerning special standards, if a verbal approval for a special standard is granted, a written request must be submitted within three working days of the approval date or prior to the completion of the work on the associated well. Failure to submit a written request may void any prior verbal approval.

WATERMASTER FAX NUMBERS

Below is a current list of the district offices and the fax numbers.

Dist.	Fax Number
01 Tillamook	503 842-2722
02 Springfield	541 746-1861
03 The Dalles 298-2459	541
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	503 846-4887
19 Coquille	541 396-6233
20 Oregon City	503 657-2188

21 Condon 541 384-2167 .

Indicates Regional Office

NOTE: There is currently no Watermaster in District 12. Please send/fax start cards to the Bend office until further notice.

Please circulate this information with others in your organization