

# Well Said

Vol. 1 No. 16  
August 2003

News from the Water Resources Department's Well Construction Program

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*Please share with others in your organization*



**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 Tracy Eichenlaub at (503) 378-8455 x283, or by e-mail: [tracy.l.eichenlaub@wrdd.state.or.us](mailto:tracy.l.eichenlaub@wrdd.state.or.us).*

**E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

As a way to reduce costs and distribute information more efficiently, the Department plans to start distributing the Well Said and other information via e-mail. Please e-mail either Tracy or Laurie with your e-mail address to be included on our e-mail list. We will still maintain a (hopefully small!) mailing list for those who do not have e-mail.

**BOND AMOUNT TO INCREASE**

The 2003 Legislature passed House Bill 2210 which increases the bonding requirement for a well constructor's bond to \$10,000 and increases the landowner's bond to \$5,000. House Bill 2210 becomes effective January 1, 2004. With the passage of HB 2210, bonded drillers are required to provide the Department a bond or letter of credit in the amount of \$10,000. Water Supply Well Constructor and Monitor Well Constructor bonds are available on our web page at [www.wrd.state.or.us](http://www.wrd.state.or.us) or contact Laurie Norton.

**START CARD FEE INCREASES**

HB 2268 was signed by the Governor on July 21, 2003, adjusting the start card fee from \$75.00 to \$125.00. HB 2268 also requires a start card fee in the amount of \$125.00 for a well deepening. Before constructing, converting or deepening a well, a

start card fee in the amount of \$125.00 must be submitted to the Water Resources Department. Start card fees hand delivered or postmarked on or after July 22, 2003, must be in the amount of \$125.00.

**OWRD IS MOVING**

The Department is moving to a new building which we will be sharing with Oregon Housing and Community Services and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. The move is (currently) scheduled for September 19, 2003. The new address will be: Oregon Water Resources Dept., 725 NE Summer Street - Suite A, Salem Oregon 97301-4172.

Telephone and fax numbers will be changing. We will keep you informed of the new phone and fax numbers.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE**

The Department is planning a road trip in October to offer a continuing education course that will satisfy the two (2) required CECs pertaining to ground water and well construction statutes and rules. The Department will present a four (4) hour course which will include regional ground water information, well construction statutes and administrative rules relating to well construction, the Department's website, and some water right information. The

schedule is as follows: Baker City, Oct. 15, 2003; Bend, Oct. 16, 2003; Roseburg, Oct. 21, 2003; and Salem, Oct. 23, 2003. More information to follow. Tracy is the contact for these events.

The Department will also be presenting a two (2) hour course at the OGWA fall convention Oct. 17, 2003, at Kah-nee-ta.

As courses are approved they will be posted on the Department's web page. (There are none at this time.)

### SPECIAL STANDARDS

Specific site conditions may require specific design, construction, setback, or abandonment procedures than required by the well construction rules. Alternative technologies or methods not addressed in the well construction rules may also exist which could be effectively utilized. In these instances, Special Standards may be requested by the bonded driller. The request to deviate from the well construction standards must be requested and approved **PRIOR** to completion of the well. The request shall also describe the **reason(s) that conformance with the current rules and regulations for water supply wells or monitoring wells cannot be met and how the alternative technology or method proposed will be equally as protective to the ground water resource.**

Special Standards forms are available on the Department's web page at <<[http://www.wrd.state.or.us/publication/pdfs/special\\_standards.pdf](http://www.wrd.state.or.us/publication/pdfs/special_standards.pdf)

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### EXAM DATES

The last well constructor license examination for 2003 is October 13. Exam dates for 2004 are: January 12, April 12, July 12, and October 11. Please submit your application for the well constructor's exam and exam fee in advance. If you have questions contact Laurie.

### EXAM STUDY PACKETS ON OWRD WEB SITE

The study packets for the well constructor license exams are available on the Department's web site. Be sure to download the study packet, the pertinent set of rules, statutes and the Table, Figures & Appendices for those rules. Study packets are available from the Department for a fee of \$30 per packet.

### DON'T BE AN ACCIDENT STATISTIC!

How do high voltage contacts with well drilling rigs occur? Usually a part of the rig or the pipe is raised up into the line, or a cable snaps and flies up into the line. This means that the rig was set up directly under the line. It's easy for the operator to concentrate on the job in front of him/her and forget about an overhead line temporarily. Here are some tips: Whenever possible don't set up right under a power line. Think through the entire job and ask "What if...". If your job is anywhere near a line, consult with the power company. Don't stand

on the ground and operate the machine. You can make the best path for the electricity to go to the ground, making injuries worse. Remember: at no time shall objects be within ten (10) feet of high voltage lines. Drill rigs should have a warning sign on them, legible at 12 feet. The warning should read "Unlawful to operate this equipment within ten feet of high voltage lines."

If you would like additional information regarding this topic please contact either Oregon OSHA at 800-922-2689 or Oregon PUC at 800-522-2404.

### REGION OFFICE FAX AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS ☎

Northwest	ph (503) 378-8455
	fax (503) 378-6203
Southwest	ph (541) 471-2886
	fax (541) 471-2876
South Central	ph (541) 388-6669
	fax (541) 388-5101
North Central	ph (541) 278-5456
	fax (541) 278-0287
East	ph (541) 523-8224
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### Enforcement Staff Directory

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