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WATER WELL DRILLING AND PUMP INSTALLATION CONTRACTORS

Re: Enrolled Act No. 58, Water Well Drillers and Pump Installers Licensure

Dear Water Well Drilling and/or Pump Installation Contractor:

This letter is to inform you that the Fifty-ninth Legislature of the State of Wyoming recently passed legislation requiring all water well drilling contractors and pump installation contractors to be licensed beginning July 1, 2008.

LICENSE REQUIRED BY JULY 1, 2008

As provided by the Enrolled Act, *"It shall be unlawful for any person to construct, alter or rehabilitate a water well or install pumping equipment in a water well without a license as provided by this act unless the activity is exempted from the licensing requirements of this act"* (W.S. 33-42-103(f)).

The initial license shall be for a period not to exceed three (3) years and shall expire on the third December 31st after receiving the initial license. Each subsequent license shall be valid for three (3) calendar years and shall expire on December 31st of the third year.

Any water well drilling or pump installation contractor not licensed by July 1, 2009 will be required to take and pass Board-approved examinations.

WHO DOES LICENSING AFFECT?

All water well drilling contractors and water well pump installation contractors must be licensed except those:

- Drilling an oil or gas well or installing a pump in an oil or gas well, where the oil and gas well is permitted pursuant to W.S. 30-5-115;
- Installing a pump in a well on land owned by or leased to him or on which he is employed on a regular basis;
- Drilling a monitor well that does not require a permit from the State Engineer;
- Drilling a well on land owned by him; or
- Operating drilling equipment or conducting other drilling or boring operations which do not require a permit from the State Engineer to appropriate ground water (e.g., uranium test holes).

HOW DO I BECOME LICENSED?

There are four ways in which you can become licensed;

1. Wyoming's **Voluntary Certification Program**,
2. the **Grandfather Clause**,
3. through **Reciprocity** with other states, or
4. **Licensing by examination**.

1. WYOMING'S VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Resident Contractors

The Act provides that "Any Wyoming water well drilling contractor or water well pump installation contractor certified pursuant to W.S. 33-42-101 through 33-42-111 by June 30, 2009, shall be exempt from oral or written examination requirements pursuant to W.S. 33-42-108 and 33-42-110".

If you are certified under Wyoming's voluntary certification program, you have already met the requirements for certification, and paid your application fee and the examination fee (for the Wyoming Specific Exam). To become licensed, you must:

- Be a Wyoming contractor; and
- Submit the \$200 license fee (made payable to the *Water Well Board*). Please note, the license is valid during three calendar years and expires on December 31st of the third year.

Your Wyoming certification will then be replaced with a Wyoming license.

Non-Resident Contractors

If you are not a Wyoming contractor, but are certified under Wyoming's voluntary certification program, you are at least 18 years old, have provided evidence of coverage under a general liability insurance policy in an amount of not less than \$300,000.00, provided proof of legal presence in the United States, paid your application fee and examination fee (for the Wyoming Specific Exam), and met the examination requirements of Wyoming's mandatory licensing program (i.e., two exams (a General Exam and Specialized Category Exam), administered by the National Ground Water Association or other entity approved by the Board and the Wyoming Specific Exam). To become licensed, you must:

- Submit the \$200 license fee (made payable to the *Water Well Board*). Please note, the license is valid during three calendar years and expires on December 31st of the third year.

Your Wyoming certification will then be replaced with a Wyoming license.

Please note that if you wish to be licensed as both a water well drilling contractor and a water well pump installation contractor, they are two separate and distinct licenses. Therefore you must submit two sets of affidavit forms, two application fees, and two license fees.

2. GRANDFATHER CLAUSE

The Act includes a "grandfather clause" (**W.S. 33-42-112. Exemptions**) which states, "Upon submitting satisfactory evidence to the board, any person who has been actively engaged as a

