



State Engineer's Office


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MATTHEW H. MEAD
GOVERNOR

PATRICK T. TYRRELL
STATE ENGINEER

MEMORANDUM

To: Lynn Ritter, Administrator, State Board of Examining Water Well Drilling Contractors and Water Well Pump Installation Contractors (Licensing Board)
Wyoming Licensed Water Well Drilling Contractors and Licensed Water Well Pump Installation Contractors

From: Patrick T. Tyrrell, State Engineer 

Date: September 9, 2016

Re: Requiring necessary reports from licensed water well drilling contractors.

To ensure the State Engineer's Office (SEO) has the necessary information regarding the construction of underground water wells, the State Engineer supports the efforts of the Licensing Board to require licensed water well drilling contractors to timely submit a completed U.W. 6 form. As you may know, Wyoming Statute §§ 41-3-935(a) requires the submission of this form, with or without pump information, within 30 days of completion. Statute defines completion of a water well as "...when it is possible to install a pump and pump water. In the case of an artesian well, completion is the time when the drill rig is moved off of the drilling site."

Because drilling and pump installation contractors have special knowledge of the construction of each well (depth, completion or screened interval, driller's log, pump data, etc.) it is critical the contractor submit this information in a timely manner.

Wyoming Statute § 41-3-909(a)(ii) authorizes and empowers the State Engineer, on advice and consent of the Board of Control, to require such reports from well drillers as may be necessary or desirable. Pursuant to this statute, on November 18, 2015, the State Engineer requested and received the advice and consent of the Board of Control to require water well drilling contractors to deliver to the State Engineer's Office a completed U.W. 6 form. The State Engineer finds that requiring water well drilling contractors to submit this completed form to be both necessary and desirable in order to collect and maintain accurate information regarding the construction of underground water wells.

Historically, compliance with the law requiring completion information within 30 days has been mixed. In recent years, largely through the effort of the Licensing Board, responses have markedly improved, and I wish to thank the contractors, and the Board, for their efforts. The SEO has issued over 205,000

water well permits in our history, and accurate and timely well construction information is critical to our managing of the groundwater resource, and its use, into the future.

Should you have any questions regarding this reporting requirement, please contact either of the following individuals:

Lynn Ritter, Licensing Board Administrator, (307) 857-4169.

Lisa Lindemann, Ground Water Division Administrator, (307) 777-5063.