



Public Health Department

Environmental Health

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MEMORANDUM

Attachment One

DATE: October 28, 2016

TO: Well Drillers Advisory Committee and Stakeholders

FROM: Brad Banner 

RE: Meeting Follow-Up from October 26, 2016

I would like to thank all those who attended our October 26, 2016 Well Drillers Advisory Group meeting. Again, the meeting was very well attended.

The group reviewed draft by-laws for the Water Well Advisory Group. The group addressed the following:

- Several inconsistencies in terminology were identified.
- Meeting frequency was discussed, with the conclusion that the meetings should be scheduled three or four times a year and avoid scheduling during the months May through September. Additional meetings can be scheduled if needed due to urgent issues.
- Meet time was discussed with the conclusion that meeting start times should alternate between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- The majority of the group preferred meetings to be held in Oroville rather than alternating meeting locations between Oroville and Chico.
- Butte County Water and Resource Conservation and California Department of Water Resources will be moved into a membership category called "ad hoc non-voting members."

During the discussion, the impact of the State Groundwater Management Act was brought up. Paul answered questions about SGMA and agreed to make a presentation on the issue at the next meeting.

David Moench shared with the group his Reservoir Check Valve System. One of the devices was examined by the group and there was broad support for allowing the device to be used for small diameter wells in lieu of extending well casings above the elevation of the 100-year floodplain. The device will be discussed again at the next meeting.

Preferred Pumps shared a variety of packers that can be used to seal off different aquifers. Luis pointed out that a variety of factors need to be considered when drilling through contaminated



aquifers. For example, geological conditions outside of the well casing could also allow the well to be a conduit for contamination between aquifers.

Draft edits to the Well Construction Manual were discussed for the following sections of the Manual:

- **Purpose and development of manual:** There was minimal discussion of this item.
- Recommended (instead of mandated) use of concrete slabs: Debbie Spangler pointed out that while concrete slabs do not provide the same degree of aquifer protection as the protection provided by annular seals, they serve as a secondary or supplemental level of protection; Ron stated that slabs help provide the casing with structural support; most of the group, however, favored elimination of the mandate
- **Continuous pour of concrete slab with concrete seal:** This item was expanded to allow for identified circumstances where a continuous pour concrete seal and well slab should be required; no circumstances were identified and there was minimal discussion of this item.
- **Use of bentonite as annular seal in vegetative and arid areas:** These two items were split apart as a formatting change; there was no discussion of these items.
- **Screened well vents:** Only a change in terminology was proposed; there was no discussion of this item.
- **Well installation in areas subject to flooding:** Criteria was proposed for consideration of alternatives to an extended casing within the 100-year floodplain; there was discussion of the Moench check valve, but minimal discussion of the criteria suggested for deciding whether to approve a proposed device. (Note: The criteria needs to be further discussed at the next meeting.)

At about this point in the meeting, it was approaching 5:00 p.m. and it was clear that the items discussed for the Manual will need to be reviewed again by the Water Well Advisory Group after it is established at the next meeting. Some frustration was expressed that many of the issues discussed at this meeting have been discussed repeatedly over the years without resolution. Brad expressed optimism that the issues would be resolved once the Water Well Advisory Group is formed.

The next meeting has been scheduled as follows:

Water Well Advisory Group
Thursday, November 17, 2016
Tahoe Room, 202 Mira Loma Drive, Oroville
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.



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Well Drillers Advisory Group Sign-In Sheet

Date: October 26, 2016 Location: Tahoe Rm, 202 Mira Loma Dr., Oroville

Name	Company	Email
RON Stilwell	North State Drilling	wellquy33@gmail.com
Ron Peterson	Baroid IDP	ron.peterson@halliburton.com
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John Riley III	Precision pump & well drilling	precisionpump@comcast.net
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