IMPLEMENTATION OF WELL INSPECTION AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS:
ADVANCE NOTICE OF WELL CONSTRUCTION AND
KEY PHASES OF WELL CONSTRUCTION AND PUMP INSTALLATION

Background
The well inspection program was instituted for the protection of public health and groundwater resources of the State of Colorado through enforcement of minimum well construction and pump installation standards. The program was created under Senate Bill 03-045.

This policy derives from the recommendations of an audit by the Office of the State Auditor, found in the report, Water Well Inspection Program, Performance Audit, May 2019. This policy addresses Recommendations 1D, 2A, and 2B of that report.

Objective
This policy addresses a need for licensed or private drillers and pump installers to provide advance notification to the Board of Examiners (BOE)/Division of Water Resources (DWR) prior to starting well construction, initial pump installation, or installation of a cistern connected to a water well supply system for all new constructed wells.

This advanced notification will include:
- Identification of the aquifer type in which the well will be completed
- The date well construction/pump installation will commence
- At minimum, an office contact and any on-site contact name(s) and phone number(s)
- The estimated time/date range of the full well construction/pump installation project

The policy will allow well inspectors to know when well construction begins and the opportunity to coordinate with the driller or pump installer on estimated dates and times to be on-site during key phases of well construction to ensure proper construction techniques are followed per Colorado statute and the BOE Construction Rules.

If the Well Inspector and Driller or Pump Installer have communicated about a date or time of a key phase for a high risk well, the Inspector will document the anticipated date and/or time in the inspection spreadsheet. The Driller or Pump Installer must provide adequate prior notice to the Well Inspector if the date or time of the key phase changes. The Well Inspector and Driller
or Pump Installer will coordinate the adequate timing of changes to the schedule based on the location of the well and Well Inspector.

The ultimate objective of the policy is to safeguard public health and protect the groundwater resources of Colorado.

Policy
Pursuant to Construction Rule 6.2.2.1 (2 CCR 402-2), licensed or private drillers and pump installers must comply with the conditions of approval of the well permit including providing advanced notification (at least one calendar day) to DWR prior to each of the following events: well construction, the initial installation of the pump, and initial installation of a cistern connected to the water well supply system.

The advance notification is expanded to include:

- Identification of the aquifer type in which the well will be completed;
- The date well construction/pump installation will commence;
- Name(s) and phone number(s) of an office contact and at least one on-site contact;
- The estimated time/date range of the full well construction/pump installation project.

If the aquifer type (I, II, III, or KLF) has not been identified on the permit, the driller must indicate the anticipated aquifer type in the notification. If the anticipated aquifer type changes during drilling activities, the driller must update their notification with the anticipated aquifer type.

Any change in the anticipated start date of construction/installation must be re-noticed (at least one calendar day prior to revised anticipated date). Information regarding the notification process and a link to the electronic notification form can be found on the following webpage: http://water.state.co.us/groundwater/BOE/Pages/VariancesWaivers.aspx

Approval
This policy may only be modified or revoked in writing by the Board of Examiners of Water Well Construction and Pump Installation Contractors.

Approved _______________________

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Keith Branstetter, Chairperson
Board of Examiners of Water Well Construction and Pump Installation Contractors