



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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Governor

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Commissioner

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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2024

Approved by the Board on February 15, 2024

Board Members Participating Via Telephone/Microsoft Teams: Art Becker (Chairman), Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Joe Yost, Gordon Craig, Dave Lyman, Eric Hoffmann, and Richard Dalton

Board Members Absent: Steve Domber

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Jill Denyes, NJ Division of Law

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Kathleen Burkhard, Mark Miller, Steve Reya, Mark Ortega, Jeremy Wick, Steve Vargo, and Jillian Walker

Other NJDEP Staff Present: Don Hirsch, Northern Water Compliance and Enforcement; Alexandra Carone, Geological Mapping and Coastal Geology Section

Members of the Public: Brian McGuire, MB Drilling; Todd Tannehill, CETCO; Michael Kleespies, CETCO

1. Call to Order and Introductions-

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Board's website. A. Becker thanked everyone for attending.

2. Review and Certification of the December 21, 2023, Meeting Minutes-

A. Becker asked if anyone had any comments on the draft meeting minutes from December 21, 2023. G. Poppe noted a spelling correction needed to the word "Bureau" on page one of the minutes.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from December 21, 2023, after the noted correction is made, was made by G. Poppe, seconded by J. Yost, and approved unanimously.

3. Review and Certification of Well Driller and Pump Installer License Applications-

A. Becker said that there were five license applications submitted to the Department for review, but only three were administratively complete. He added that the three approved applications consisted of two pump installers and one journeyman well driller. A. Becker asked if the Board had any comments on the license applicants who were deemed acceptable by the Department. No discussion was needed on the applicants, who are listed below:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
Pump Installer	Robert Coulson	D'Agostino Well & Water Services
Journeyman	Ryan C. Olinger	J. Olinger Drilling LLC
Pump Installer	Jeffrey M. Pereira	Atlantic Pumping Supply

A motion to approve the three license applicants for licensure was made by G. Craig. This motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

4. Review of Continuing Education Course: Maryland Delaware Water Well Association (MDWWA) 2024 Convention-

S. Reya read the list of courses being offered at the upcoming 2024 MDWWA Convention. The Board began reviewing the full list and voted on the courses.

R. Dalton recommended not approving the Legislative Update course. He suggested not approving this course because it only focuses on Maryland laws. The Board members agreed that this course should not be approved as it would not be relevant to New Jersey licensees.

A motion to deny the Legislative Update course was made by R. Dalton, seconded by G. Craig, and approved unanimously.

The Board asked about the missing courses listed on the course syllabus provided by MDWWA. M. Ortega said that MDWWA emailed him the one missing course the day before the meeting, and it has not been evaluated yet. He told the Board that the final course will be presented to them during the February meeting. The other course listed on the syllabus as missing was the course named, "Mud Testing How Important is it?". M. Ortega explained that this application was originally received in November, but he was waiting for the other courses to be submitted before presenting the application to the Board.

R. Dalton added that at least two courses should be awarded a safety continuing education point (CEP). He said that Safety & New Hires: Injuries That Can Impact a Company's Legacy and Drilling Rig Safety and Routine Maintenance should both be awarded safety CEPs. Other Board members noted that the 2024 DOT Update should also receive safety CEPs.

A motion to approve 2024 DOT Update, Safety & New Hires: Injuries That Can Impact a Company's Legacy and Drilling Rig Safety and Routine Maintenance for one safety CEP each was made by R. Dalton. This motion was seconded by J. Yost and approved unanimously.

The Board members agreed that the remaining courses were relevant and should receive technical CEPs. The full list of approved courses can be found in the table below.

A motion to approve the remaining six courses for one technical CEP each was made by J. Yost, seconded by G. Craig, and approved unanimously.

The following courses were approved with the passing of this motion:

Course Name	CEPs
PFA – Concerns and Implications on Ground and Drinking Water Quality	1 Technical
Geothermal in Schools: Great for the Country, the Students and for the Drilling Industry	1 Technical
Safety & New Hires: Injuries That Can Impact a Company's Legacy	1 Safety
Dealing with Emerging and Uncommon Contaminants	1 Technical
Total Alkalinity in Water Treatment	1 Technical
Geophysical Tools and Applications for Coastal Plain and Piedmont Region Water Supply & Environmental Investigations	1 Technical
Drilling Rig Safety and Routine Maintenance	1 Safety
Mud Testing How Important Is It?	1 Technical
2024 DOT Update	1 Safety

5. CETCO C-Grout Cementitious/Bentonite Grout Product-

S. Reya introduced Mr. Todd Tannehill and Mr. Michael Kleespies from CETCO. The Board welcomed Mr. Tannehill and Mr. Kleespies and thanked them for attending the meeting. S. Reya explained that the CETCO representatives were present in case the Board had any questions regarding their grout.

S. Reya read the CETCO C-Grout mix synopsis and design to the Board. CETCO provided four permeability summary sheets:

- One 50-pound bag of CETCO C-Grout, 94-pounds Portland Type 1 cement
- One 50-pound bag of CETCO C-Grout, 94-pounds Portland Type 1-L cement
- One 50-pound bag of CETCO C-Grout, 188-pounds Portland Type 1 cement
- One 50-pound bag of CETCO C-Grout, 188-pounds Portland Type 1-L cement

S. Reya added that all four mixes meet the Department's permeability standards according to the independent third-party lab data that CETCO provided, which were performed in accordance with ASTM D5084 and reviewed by R. Dalton prior to the Board meeting.

R. Dalton asked the CETCO representatives how this grout performs in groundwater with high chlorides. Mr. Kleespies said that it performs well, and the grout sets appropriately in areas with high chlorides.

It was noted that CETCO's C-Grout can have their Thermal Conductivity (TC) Booster added for geothermal purposes. S. Reya clarified that for a field demonstration, the Department would require that CETCO test the grout mix highest TC Booster do demonstrate that it could adequately be pumped at the specified mix ratio.

Mr. Tannehill informed the Board that some states have already approved this grout mix. Mr. Kleespies added that they ran this mix in a grouter for 60 minutes and it pumped with no problems. He also indicated that CETCO might lower the max usable TC for this grout, as 1.95 might be unpumpable if there are slight variations in the quantity of water that is used in the mix.

J. Yost asked if this grout would only be acceptable for geothermal wells. Mr. Tannehill and S. Reya said that the grout would be acceptable for any well, if approved as long as it meets the relevant standards of DEP regulations. Mr. Tannehill also added that this grout has been found to be an alternative for the currently approved Cementitious Thermally Enhanced Grout, also known as Mix 111. Mr. Tannehill said that this mix can be used for vertical installations and some horizontal wells where high compressive strength is needed.

A. Becker asked S. Reya if all geothermal grouts can be used in water wells. S. Reya confirmed that any of the approved grouts can be used for other well uses provided that there are no other extenuating circumstances, such as high chlorides in the groundwater and the presence of competent rock as bentonite-based grouts are prevented in such environments by the rule.

A. Becker asked about the benefits of a grout with high compressive strength. Mr. Kleespies said that this grout has been used when a building was going to be constructed over a well. A. Becker also asked if CETCO had any information about how this grout bonds to the well casing. He cited the Nebraska study and how a micro-annulus can form around a well casing as grout contracts. Mr. Kleespies said that they have conducted studies that ensure that their grout does not desiccate in the vadose zone, but they need to investigate if their grout bonds to casing.

Mr. Kleespies and the Board discussed Type 1L cement and potential differences in comparison to Type 1 cement, which is currently being phased out throughout the country. Mr. Kleespies noted that some people in the industry have found that Type 1L cement occasionally exhibits cement bleed, but it has been shown that adding bentonite helps to mitigate that.

A motion to allow CETCO to perform their pump test of C-Grout was made by G. Poppe. This motion was seconded by G. Craig. Additional discussion was needed before the Board voted.

Mr. Tannehill asked S. Reya and the Board what solids content would need to be tested. S. Reya said that the highest solids content would need to be tested. R. Dalton noted that permeability data would be needed with the TC Booster added to the mix. Mr. Tannehill asked if any additional tests were needed except for the third-party lab tests. Mr. Kleespies said that it will take them a little over a month to get the permeability results with the TC Booster added to the grout mix. It was noted that if CETCO is seeking approval for the grout mixtures containing the thermally conductive additive, they would need to perform the test using that mixture. The permeability values submitted were for the bentonite and cement grout, as would typically be used in water well/environmental well construction but did not include any thermal enhancement material.

S. Reya asked the Board to consider issuing a conditional approval to CETCO to expedite the review process, as has been done in the past. He added that if the permeability is acceptable for the mixes with the TC Booster (thermal enhancement material) added, then they can proceed with scheduling the field demonstration for both the C-grout product containing the thermal additive and without. The Board agreed. G. Popped revised his motion to issue a conditional approval to CETCO.

A motion to allow CETCO to proceed with their field demonstration of C-Grout if their permeability results for the mixes with the TC Booster are within an acceptable range was made by G. Poppe. This motion was seconded by G. Craig and approved unanimously.

6. Program Updates-

Staffing Updates

S. Reya informed the Board that M. Ortega was recently promoted to Environmental Specialist 3 in Well Permitting's Technical Unit. The Board congratulated M. Ortega on his promotion. M. Ortega's promotion fills the vacancy left by M. Schumacher moving to the Well Permitting Unit.

Board Appointments

S. Reya said that the Department is currently working on reappointments for Board members who expressed interest in serving for another term. The current term expires in February. The Department is also working on finding a replacement for one of the Department representatives. S. Reya reminded the Board that S. Domber replaced J. Hoffman as the State Geologist, so a replacement is needed to fill his old role on the Board. The Department is also working on posting a vacancy for the public member, to replace E. Hoffmann.

Enforcement

S. Reya explained that no enforcement summary table was provided for this meeting since Well Permitting is revamping their existing processes. M. Miller will be taking over Julia Altieri's former role in coordinating enforcement for Well Permitting's Technical Unit. A. Becker again noted that he hopes the Department will focus on unresolved enforcement issues before frequent rule violators are able to renew licenses again for another cycle.

7. Adjournment-

A. Becker thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 15th. A. Becker added that he might not be able to attend the February meeting and already asked G. Poppe to fill in for him.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 am was made by G. Craig. This motion was seconded by D. Lyman and approved unanimously.



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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for February 15, 2024

Approved by the Board on March 21, 2024

Board Members Participating Via Telephone/Microsoft Teams: Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Joe Yost, Gordon Craig, Dave Lyman, Eric Hoffmann, Steve Domber, and Richard Dalton

Board Members Absent: Art Becker

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Jill Denyes, NJ Division of Law

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Kathleen Burkhard, Mark Miller, Steve Reya, Mark Ortega, and Steve Vargo

Other NJDEP Staff Present: Don Hirsch, Northern Water Compliance and Enforcement; Alexandra Carone, Geological Mapping and Coastal Geology Section

Members of the Public: Brian McGuire, MB Drilling

1. Call to Order and Introductions-

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Board's website. G. Poppe thanked everyone for attending. He noted that A. Becker was unable to attend this meeting, as he mentioned in January.

2. Review and Certification of the January 18, 2024, Meeting Minutes-

G. Poppe asked if anyone had any comments on the draft meeting minutes from January 18, 2024. S. Reya noted that K. Burkhard pointed out two typos prior to the meeting. The first was in the Other NJDEP Staff Present section, where the word "coastal" was misspelled. The second mistake was that S. Domber was mistakenly recorded as making the motion for item number three. S. Reya clarified that G. Craig made the motion.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from January 18, 2024, after the noted corrections are made, was made by J. Yost, seconded by E. Hoffmann, and approved unanimously.

3. Review and Certification of Well Driller and Pump Installer License Applications-

G. Poppe said that there were three license applications submitted to the Department for review, but only two were administratively complete. He added that the two approved applications consisted of two Environmental Resource and Geotechnical (ERG) well drillers. G. Poppe asked if the Board had any comments on the license applicants who were deemed acceptable by the Department. No discussion was needed on the applicants, who are listed below:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
ERG	Thomas F. Fitzpatrick IV	Coastal Environmental Solutions, Inc.
ERG	Austin Sysol	MB Drilling, LLC

A motion to approve the two license applicants for licensure was made by D. Lyman. This motion was seconded by S. Domber and approved unanimously.

4. Review of Continuing Education Courses-

Maryland Delaware Water Well Association (MDWWA)

S. Reya explained that the Board reviewed several courses that were a part of the MDWWA 2024 Convention during the January meeting. MDWWA provided details for the final course of the convention, but this information was not reviewed in time to be reviewed for the January meeting. The course name is Calculating Drilling Cost in 2024 and MDWWA is requesting one continuing education point (CEP) for this course.

R. Dalton noted that the course description provided by MDWWA is not very descriptive. No further comments were made about this course.

A motion to approve Calculating Drilling Cost in 2024 for the MDWWA 2024 Convention for one technical CEP was made by R. Dalton. This motion was seconded by E. Hoffmann and approved unanimously.

Tri-State Drilling Contractors Association

S. Reya introduced the topic. He said that the Tri-State Drilling Contractors Association is requesting six CEPs for their upcoming 2024 Annual Tri-State Drilling Contractors Association Training Day. This convention will be held on April 19, 2024, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. S. Reya explained that four courses are one hour in duration and one course is two hours in duration.

The Board discussed the course description provided for Drilling Professionalism & Safety. R. Dalton said that he did not believe that this course was relevant, adding that it was geared more towards life coaching and not well drilling. J. Yost and G. Poppe disagreed. S. Domber pointed out the connections to the industry, provided in the course description. E. Hoffmann explained how he believes that this course could be especially helpful to some well drillers based on his observations and interactions with drillers, which he discussed briefly. The Board asked the Department to obtain a more detailed course description so this course could be reevaluated at a future meeting.

A motion was made by E. Hoffmann to approve all the courses offered at the 2024 Annual Tri-State Drilling Contractors Association Training Day, with the exception of the Drilling Professionalism & Safety course. A request was made for the Department to reach out to the

course provider to obtain a more detailed course description. This motion was seconded by R. Dalton and approved by everyone except for J. Yost, who was opposed.

Below is a list of the courses approved as part of the 2024 Annual Tri-State Drilling Contractors Association Training Day.

Course Name	CEPs
Progressive Cavity Pump Maintenance & Repair	1 Technical
Tier 4 Engine Requirements	2 Technical
Packer Pressure Testing	1 Technical
Barge Drilling (About, Setup, and Safety)	1 Technical

5. New Business-

S. Reya said that the vacancy notice for E. Hoffmann's position was posted to the Board's website and the Division of Water Supply and Geoscience's website. A notice was also emailed to everyone on Well Permitting's email distribution list and will be sent to the Licensed Site Remediation Professional's email distribution list. S. Domber said that he is still working on a replacement for the vacant Department member.

6. Adjournment-

G. Poppe thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 21, 2024.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 am was made by G. Craig. This motion was seconded by J. Yost and approved unanimously.



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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for March 21, 2024

Approved by the Board on April 18, 2024

Board Members Participating Via Telephone/Microsoft Teams: Art Becker (Chairman), Joe Yost, Gordon Craig, Eric Hoffmann, Steve Domber, and Richard Dalton

Board Members Absent: Gary Poppe and Dave Lyman

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Jill Denyes, NJ Division of Law

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Kathleen Burkhard, Mark Miller, Steve Reya, Mark Ortega, and Steve Vargo

Other NJDEP Staff Present: Don Hirsch, Northern Water Compliance and Enforcement; Alexandra Carone, Geological Mapping and Coastal Geology Section

Members of the Public: Brian McGuire, MB Drilling

1. Call to Order and Introductions-

The meeting was called to order at 9:36 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Board's website. A. Becker thanked everyone for attending.

A. Becker discussed the recent passing of Mr. Richard Stothoff, who was a New Jersey licensed Master well driller and ran the Samuel Stothoff Company for many years. He further noted that current Board member Dave Lyman currently runs the Samuel Stothoff Company. A. Becker shared some of his past experiences with Mr. Stothoff and said that he was a nice person and a credit to the industry.

2. Review and Certification of the February 15, 2024, Meeting Minutes-

A. Becker asked if anyone had any comments on the draft meeting minutes from February 15, 2024. No discussion was needed.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from February 15, 2024, as written, was made by J. Yost, seconded by G. Craig, and approved by all except for A. Becker, who abstained.

3. Review and Certification of Well Driller and Pump Installer License Applications-

A. Becker said that there were four license applications submitted to the Department for review, but only two were administratively complete. He added that the two administratively acceptable applications consist of one pump installer and one journeyman well driller. A. Becker asked if the Board had any comments on these license applicants. No discussion was needed on the applicants, who are listed below:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
Pump Installer	Alex Jones	Accurate Well & Pump, LLC
Journeyman	Arthur R. Remedios	Geopro Inc.

A motion to approve the two license applicants for licensure was made by S. Domber. This motion was seconded by J. Yost and approved unanimously.

4. Review of Continuing Education Courses-

A. Becker said that there were two courses up for review. One is a follow up from the Tri-State Drilling Contractors Association and the other is from the New Jersey Ground Water Association (NJGWA). The Board discussed the Tri-State Drilling Contractors Association first.

Tri-State Drilling Contractors Association Follow Up

S. Reya said that this follow-up is due to the Board's motion to request a more detailed course description for the course named Drilling Professionalism and Safety. This one-hour course will be taught during the 2024 Annual Tri-State Drilling Contractors Association Training Day. S. Reya said that the Board does not need to take action on the other courses in the seminar since they were approved in February. He said that M. Ortega reached out to the course provider, and they provided a more detailed description of the course. The course provider acknowledged that the summary was lacking, so they added additional details and added a second course instructor to teach the course. No further discussion was needed.

A motion to approve Drilling Professionalism and Safety for one safety continuing education point (CEP) was made by G. Craig. This motion was seconded by R. Dalton and approved unanimously.

New Jersey Ground Water Association (NJGWA)

S. Reya said that NJGWA's quarterly meeting will have the same format that they usually have. Two CEPs are being requested: one for the meeting and one for the course. S. Reya noted that the course will focus on ground penetrating radar (GPR). A. Becker asked if any discussion was needed, but there were no additional comments.

A motion to approve the NJGWA March 2024 Membership Meeting with GPR and How it Can be Used to Assist Well Drillers and Pump Installers for two technical CEPs was made by J. Yost. This motion was seconded by G. Craig and approved by all except for R. Dalton, who was opposed.

5. Enforcement and Field Work Update-

S. Vargo described the Notice of Non-Compliance (NONC) table, which was provided to the Board electronically. He said that 11 NONCs were sent out in February for perceived well-related violations and the Department has already received responses for seven of them. The potential violators have until April 2, 2024, to respond to the Department in writing. S. Vargo explained that at least two of the responses will result in referrals being sent to Water Compliance and Enforcement. He added that one of those cases was for an individual engaging in unlicensed pump work and the other was for a well driller who drilled a well without a valid permit.

In addition to the 11 NONCs that were sent out in February, S. Vargo said that another 11 older NONCs will be sent out in the near future from Well Permitting's backlog. He added that four letters clarifying regulatory requirements were also sent to drillers for various reasons and they made it clear that any future failure to comply would result in enforcement action.

A. Becker asked if the backlog that S. Vargo mentioned is for NONCs that were already sent out. S. Vargo said that these were all older NONCs that were drafted, which were never sent out to the well drillers. A. Becker mentioned that Ms. Julia Altieri had several open cases that he is hoping the Department will follow up on and resolve. M. Miller said that he is currently looking through Ms. Altieri's old enforcement files. He explained that there are some that were never issued and others that were never followed up on by enforcement. He is still working on sorting through her old files.

M. Miller discussed some of his plans regarding enforcement and fieldwork with the Board. He said that he is starting to get all his staff out in the field more. Well Permitting will soon start to add permit conditions to more well permits with conditions to witness the construction of a well. Well Permitting is also working on an inspection handbook which can be shared with Health Departments. Staff in Well Permitting's Technical Unit have been meeting monthly to discuss NONCs and NONC responses.

M. Miller also added that he has been working with M. Schumacher to address the cancellation of permits that were never acted on or the submittal of well records which were never submitted. They are working on language which dissuades licensees from cancelling permits for wells which were drilled. There have also been discussions on sending automatic NONCs for well permits 30 days after a permit expires if a well record was never submitted.

R. Dalton asked S. Reya if he had heard anything new on the old oil well located in Jackson Township. S. Reya said that he has not heard anything recently and needs to follow up with Ocean County.

M. Miller said that Well Permitting has started the process of making changes to N.J.A.C. 7:9D. He asked the Board to start considering changes that they want to see. A. Becker said that he wants to see something added to the rules which prohibit licensees from renewing their licenses who have outstanding enforcement issues.

A. Becker thanked S. Vargo and M. Miller for their report and asked how often the Board should expect enforcement reports. S. Reya said that enforcement reports will occur during every other meeting. Licensing and continuing education will continue to be discussed every month.

6. Program Updates-

S. Reya updated the Board on appointments and reappointments. He explained that the Department received resumés for E. Hoffmann's replacement as the Board's public member. The position had been posted on the Division of Water Supply and Geoscience's homepage and the Board's webpage. Additionally, email notifications were sent out to Well Permitting's and the LSRP Board's email distribution lists. S. Reya said that The Department is also working on replacing the third Department representative in addition to reappointments for the Board members who are continuing to serve on the Board. He will need current resumés from all Board members seeking reappointment and will send emails to all Board members, which will include the most recent copy the Department has on file so they can be updated as needed.

7. New Business-

A. Becker asked if anyone had any new business to bring up. A. Becker said that he had a topic that he wished to discuss. He asked the Department why bentonite chips are prohibited for use in consolidated formations. He explained that bentonite chips are useful when drillers encounter large voids or caverns.

S. Reya explained that when the rules were revised in 2018, no differentiation was made between bentonite chips and bentonite slurry when discussing competent rock formations. S. Reya said that his understanding was that bentonite was originally prohibited for use in consolidated formations due to concerns with it never setting up and it washing out over time. S. Reya said that the Department will approve deviations in cases where grout is being lost to the formation and often will allow well drillers to use bentonite chips in such intervals. M. Miller said that Bureau is keeping a spreadsheet of potential changes that should be made to the rule during the upcoming rule revisions and that this topic can also be added to the spreadsheet as a discussion topic.

S. Domber informed the Board that the Section Chief position in Well Permitting was recently posted. He anticipates that the spot should be filled in a few months.

8. Adjournment-

A. Becker thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 18, 2024.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 am was made by E. Hoffmann. This motion was seconded by S. Domber and approved unanimously.



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Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Jill Denyes, NJ Division of Law

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Kathleen Burkhard, Mark Miller, Steve Reya, Mark Ortega, and Steve Vargo

Other NJDEP Staff Present: Don Hirsch, Northern Water Compliance and Enforcement; Alexandra Carone, Geological Mapping and Coastal Geology Section

Members of the Public: Brian McGuire, MB Drilling/New Jersey Ground Water Association (NJGWA); Dermot Dillon, Summit Drilling/NJGWA

1. Call to Order and Introductions-

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Board's website. A. Becker thanked everyone for attending. S. Reya informed the Board that S. Domber could not make the meeting due to a scheduling conflict and that DAG J. Denyes would be joining the call a little late.

2. Review and Certification of the March 21, 2024, Meeting Minutes-

A. Becker asked if anyone had any comments on the draft minutes from the March 21, 2024, Board meeting. There were no comments on the draft minutes.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from March 21, 2024, as written, was made by E. Hoffmann, seconded by J. Yost, and approved by all except for D. Lyman and G. Poppe, who were not present for that meeting.

D. Lyman thanked A. Becker for the kind words that he said about Richard Stothoff during the introduction to the March meeting.

3. Review and Certification of Well Driller and Pump Installer License Applications-

A. Becker said that there were three license applications submitted to the Department for review, but only two were administratively complete. He added that the two applicants were applying for their Pump Installer licenses. A. Becker asked if the Board had any comments on the license applicants who were deemed acceptable by the Department. S. Reya provided the Board with some background on Mr. Chris Ritson, who was once assessed a penalty by the Department for performing unlicensed pump work. Mr. Ritson complied with the Department's order and paid a fine of \$3,250 in 2021, which resolved the matter. S. Reya added that Mr. Ritson did demonstrate to the Department in his license application that he completed work referenced in his application under the supervision of a licensed individual to gain experience to earn this license. The Department sees this as a successful example of a person coming into compliance and then doing the work to obtain a license to do the work properly. A. Becker thanked S. Reya for the explanation. No further discussion was needed on the applicants, who are listed below:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
Pump Installer	Matthew M. Furfari	A.C. Schultes
Pump Installer	Chris M. Ritson	Water Central, LLC

A motion to approve the two license applicants for licensure was made by R. Dalton. This motion was seconded by G. Poppe and approved unanimously.

4. Continuing Education-

8 Inch Farm Well

A. Becker introduced the first course, named 8 Inch Farm Well, which is meant to discuss how to construct a larger diameter irrigation well. A. Becker asked S. Reya if there was supposed to be a field component to this course. S. Reya said that he contacted the course provider prior to the meeting who informed him that this course is meant to be a hands-on demonstration. He added that the course will initially be administered to drillers who work for the instructor, but there is a possibility that the instructor will work with NJGWA in the future to host a larger demonstration. S. Reya reminded the Board that this topic came up in the past and the Board and DAG, J. Denyes found that it was acceptable for a course provider to only provide a course to their employees as the well rule does contain any provisions requiring a provider to offer their course to the entire licensed population. E. Hoffmann agreed that this is a good method for employees to receive training. A. Becker asked S. Reya to see if any Board members could attend this course, as he noted it seems interesting.

A. Becker noted that the course application was not signed by the course instructor and asked for the Department to reach out to them to sign the application.

A motion to approve the 8 Inch Farm Well course for six technical continuing education points was made by G. Poppe. This motion was seconded by D. Lyman.

Additional discussion was needed before the Board voted. R. Dalton asked if it was appropriate for the Board to approve this course without the course application being signed by the course provider. E. Hoffmann asked if the course could be approved on the condition that the course application gets signed first. The Board members agreed and G. Poppe revised his motion.

A motion to approve the 8 Inch Farm Well course for six technical continuing education points, once the Department requests and obtains a signed application, was made by G. Poppe. This motion was seconded by D. Lyman and approved unanimously.

NJGWA Membership Meeting

A. Becker said that NJGWA is hosting another membership meeting on May 14, 2024. Along with the meeting, there would be a one-hour course about drilling fluids. He added that during the March membership meeting, it was announced that Mr. Brian McGuire would be the new President of the NJGWA and Mr. Dermot Dillon would act in the role as Past President. No further discussion was needed.

G. Poppe made a motion to approve the NJGWA May 2024 Membership Meeting with Drilling Fluids course for two technical continuing education points. This motion was seconded by G. Craig and approved by all except for R. Dalton, who was opposed.

A. Becker praised Mr. Paul Bent for providing NJGWA's Board and their membership with excellent information regarding legislative updates that affect their livelihoods.

Mr. Jason Ruf – Geoprobe Course

S. Reya said that Mr. Ruf was applying as an individual for a course that he took in December 2023 with Geoprobe about Direct Imaging Logging Tools. A. Becker said that the course looks interesting and speaks well to the technology. E. Hoffmann said that this looks like a great course and would be of good value to well drillers.

D. Lyman asked about the amount of continuing education points that the applicant requested. M. Ortega noted that Mr. Ruf only asked for 10 continuing education points, but the course agenda was for two eight-hour days.

A motion to approve Direct Image Systems in Practice Training for 10 technical continuing education points was made by E. Hoffmann. This motion was seconded by G. Poppe and approved unanimously.

Briefing on Lapsed Licenses Who Failed to Renew During the 2020-2023 Licensing Cycle and Associated Reinstatement Requirements

M. Ortega informed the Board that in March, two former licensees who did not meet the renewal requirements for the 2020-2023 cycle had reached out to him to see what could be done to reinstate their licenses. He briefly discussed the renewal requirements, including the fees associated with being late and the dates when a license expires and becomes inactive.

One of these individuals was a Pump Installer and the other was an Environmental Resource and Geotechnical (ERG) well driller, said M. Ortega. The former Pump Installer did earn his continuing education points before December 31, 2023, but failed to report them to the Department, which resulted in his license becoming inactive on January 1, 2024. The former ERG well driller was discovered to be operating with an expired license between July 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023, and received a Notice of Non-Compliance for drilling without a license. To become licensed again, both individuals are required to meet the continuing education requirements for the 2020-2023 cycle and

take the required certification exams to apply for a new license. Both individuals currently meet the continuing education requirements for the former cycle, but neither have taken the exams needed to become licensed again.

A. Becker asked if either of these individuals will need to meet the continuing education requirements for the 2023-2026 continuing education cycle if they choose to take the exams to reinstate their licenses. M. Ortega explained what the rule states regarding exemptions to the continuing education requirements and noted that this is a new scenario that the rule is not clear about.

A. Becker asked J. Denyes her opinion on the topic. J. Denyes said that this may be a gap in the well rule that needs to be investigated. E. Hoffmann said that by taking the new exams, he believes that these individuals would be getting acquainted with current information and rules. J. Denyes said that she can run the question through her chain of command. S. Reya and M. Ortega will provide her with information on this topic after the meeting.

5. New Business-

S. Reya informed the Board that K. Burkhard is currently working on Board reappointments. R. Dalton discussed some work that he recently did for a graduate student at Penn State who was looking for information on deep well logs.

6. Adjournment-

A. Becker thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 16, 2024.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:09 am was made by G. Poppe. This motion was seconded by E. Hoffmann and approved unanimously.



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for May 16, 2024

Approved by the Board on June 20, 2024

Board Members Participating Via Telephone/Microsoft Teams: Art Becker (Chairman), Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Joe Yost, Gordon Craig, Dave Lyman, Eric Hoffmann, and Steve Domber

Board Members Absent: Richard Dalton

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Jill Denyes, NJ Division of Law

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Kathleen Burkhard, Mark Miller, Steve Reya, Mark Ortega, and Steve Vargo

Other NJDEP Staff Present: Don Hirsch, Northern Water Compliance and Enforcement; Alexandra Carone, Geological Mapping and Coastal Geology Section

Members of the Public: Joel Bernstein, Summit Drilling

1. Call to Order and Introductions-

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Board's website. A. Becker thanked everyone for attending.

2. Review and Certification of the April 18, 2024, Meeting Minutes-

A. Becker asked if anyone had any comments on the draft minutes from the April 18, 2024, Board meeting. A. Becker asked M. Ortega and J. Denyes if there was any resolution on the topic regarding the two individuals with inactive licenses and whether they would need to meet the continuing education requirements if they were to become licensed again. They informed him that there was no current update on that topic yet. There were no comments on the draft minutes.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from April 18, 2024, as prepared, was made by J. Yost, seconded by G. Poppe, and approved by all except for S. Domber, who was not present for that meeting.

3. Election of Board Chair and Vice-Chair

A. Becker stated that the Board must select the Chair and Vice-Chair every May per the bylaws. He offered to step down as Chairman if someone else wanted to fill the role. The Board members nominated A. Becker for Chairman and G. Poppe for Vice-Chairman.

A motion to have G. Poppe serve as the Board Vice-Chairman was made by G. Craig, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

A motion to have A. Becker serve as the Board Chairman was made by J. Yost, seconded by G. Craig, and approved unanimously.

J. Yost praised A. Becker and G. Poppe and thanked them for the work that they have done for the industry.

4. Review and Certification of Well Driller and Pump Installer License Applications-

A. Becker said that there were six license applications that the Department vetted and identified as complete. He added that five of the applicants were applying for their Environmental Resource and Geotechnical (ERG) well driller licenses and one was applying for his Journeyman well driller license. A. Becker asked if the Board had any comments on the license applicants who were deemed acceptable by the Department. No further discussion was needed on the applicants, who are listed below:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
ERG	Brian M. Karshick	Aquifer Drilling & Testing
ERG	Dezmond D. Boyce	Summit Drilling LLC
ERG	Drew E. Seabeck II	Geo Pro Inc.
ERG	Michael P. Heinrich	Geo Pro Inc.
ERG	Thomas A. McNally	Summit Drilling LLC
Journeyman	Darwin B. Reid	Summit Drilling LLC

A motion to approve the six license applicants for licensure was made by S. Domber, seconded by G. Poppe, and approved unanimously.

5. Continuing Education-

A. Becker introduced the two courses up for review from the International School of Well Drilling (ISWD). Directional Drilling I and Directional Drilling II would be the first continuing education courses for New Jersey licensees geared towards horizontal directional drilling (HDD), if approved by the Board. A. Becker added that there is currently a lot of HDD activity in New Jersey.

A. Becker asked M. Ortega if the course format would be the same as the other approved ISWD courses. M. Ortega said that he has not seen the presentation, but he has no reason to believe that the format of these two courses would be different than their other course offerings. A. Becker asked M.

Ortega if it would be possible to obtain a sample log in from ISWD since this is a new topic in which the Board is interested. E. Hoffmann offered to audit the course if a sample log in could be obtained.

A. Becker added that these courses might be good to educate drillers that are looking to get into that part of the industry. S. Reya brought up how HDD is currently used in the environmental remediation sector; HDD injection wells are sometimes permitted and installed by New Jersey licensed drillers. A. Becker agreed and talked about how there was a company in the late-1990's that did a lot of that type of work. No further discussion was needed on these two courses.

E. Hoffmann made a motion to approve Directional Drilling I and Directional Drilling II for one technical continuing education point each and to have the Department request a sample log in for the Board. This motion was seconded by J. Yost and approved unanimously.

A. Becker asked M. Ortega to reach out to ISWD to see if they would be willing to work with the Board and provide credentials to review these courses. S. Domber said that these courses would be helpful for Department staff who are currently working on the HDD guidance document. M. Ortega said that he will reach out to the Board after the meeting to see who is interested in auditing the course to get a headcount.

6. Update on Recent Bureau Enforcement Activity-

S. Vargo explained that the Department received responses for every Notice of Non-Compliance (NONC) that was recently sent out except for one. After review of the responses, all NONCs will be rescinded except for two, which will be referred to Water Compliance and Enforcement's Southern Region.

Well Permitting staff conducted four field visits since the last enforcement update. S. Vargo added that Well Permitting is now routinely adding permit conditions on more well permits that require the well driller to notify the Department via email a minimum three days prior to drilling to provide the date of drilling, which allows staff to visit the drill sites and oversee well installations. S. Vargo noted that some of the field visits included the Princeton geothermal well field and a double-cased well drilled in Toms River. Well Permitting staff also investigated a site with wells that were potentially lost to assist the property owner in locating them.

S. Vargo added that 21 new NONCs were sent out in May. Well Permitting is still working on clearing out the backlog of existing NONCs that were drafted but were never sent out due in part to staff retirements.

S. Vargo discussed an ongoing investigation which involves an unlicensed contractor potentially doing pump work in Rockaway Township. This well, currently permitted as a public non-community well, is believed to serve more than 25 full time residents, which would make it a public community system. The Department's view is that this well appears to be improperly classified as public non-community supply well as it will serve a community system (which would entail additional requirements that would need to be met). A. Becker asked for more information about this unlicensed individual. It was noted that a drilling contractor initially drilled the well and installed the pumping equipment, however, the above-ground portion of the pumping equipment and water lines was reportedly installed by unlicensed individuals.

A. Becker asked S. Reya for an update on the Princeton geothermal well field. S. Reya said that they are currently drilling on the West Windsor portion of the campus. He added that this phase will have approximately 300 wells. Currently, there are between 3 and 4 rigs running and the drilling is still

being overseen by third-party inspectors. S. Reya added that this phase is about halfway done. A. Becker asked which drilling companies are out doing the work. S. Reya said that Midwest Geothermal is drilling at the West Windsor portion and he believed Allied Well Drilling is continuing their work on the Princeton portion of the campus. G. Craig noted that in the process of drilling new wells, about five existing loops have been hit while drilling nearby wells. S. Reya explained the past procedures to rectify these cases. Well Permitting staff receives reports from the third party inspectors and will review them to make sure the damaged/destroyed wells that were struck are being properly decommissioned with an approved grout material.

S. Domber briefly discussed two entities that have recently been in contact with the New Jersey Geologic and Water Survey (NJGWS) regarding geothermal wells. One entity was researching the possibility of drilling an 8,000 ft. Deep well in the Newark Basin.

7. New Business-

E. Hoffmann brought up a recent report from the Society of Military Engineers that discussed water quality data from samples that used uncoated bentonite pellets and coated bentonite pellets. E. Hoffmann explained that the report showed that PFAS was found in the samples with the coated pellets. E. Hoffmann described the testing procedures to the Board. He added that the PFAS compounds were found in low concentrations and none of the compounds found are currently regulated, but it serves as a good heads up for the industry.

A. Becker said that he had received an email from an environmental consultant who said that bentonite chips could no longer be used. A. Becker reached out to a representative from Baroid for clarification who provided him with information that PFAS compounds are not present in Hole Plug, as that is an uncoated form of bentonite chips.

S. Reya said that the Department will work on spreading the word. E. Hoffmann suggested contacting additional manufacturers for additional details.

A. Becker explained the difference between coated and uncoated bentonite pellets. Coated time-release pellets are typically used for deep applications. They are used because they do not immediately swell, which gives them time to reach their intended depth before swelling and potentially bridging. E. Hoffmann offered to investigate other drilling products for PFAS. Mr. Joel Bernstein added that he recently received two certifications for products that are PFAS free. A. Becker asked if he could share those certifications with himself and S. Reya. The Board discussed the manufacturing process of some available products.

A. Becker asked S. Reya to share the email he received from E. Hoffmann with the rest of the Board. Mr. Bernstein asked if S. Reya could also forward him the email as well.

E. Hoffmann reiterated that this is just an advisory at this time. Only one study has been conducted. If anyone has any specific questions, they should reach out to the product manufacturer. A. Becker expressed concern about misinformation on this subject.

8. Adjournment-

A. Becker thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2024.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:36 am was made by G. Poppe. This motion was seconded by S. Domber and approved unanimously.



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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for June 20, 2024

Approved by the Board on July 18, 2024

Board Members Participating Via Telephone/Microsoft Teams: Art Becker (Chairman), Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Joe Yost, Eric Hoffmann, Steve Domber, and Richard Dalton

Board Members Absent: Gordon Craig and Dave Lyman

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Kevin DeCristofer, NJ Division of Law

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Steve Reya, Mark Ortega, and Steve Vargo

Other NJDEP Staff Present: Don Hirsch, Northern Water Compliance and Enforcement; Alexandra Carone, Geological Mapping and Coastal Geology Section

Members of the Public: Michael Miller, Baroid; Chad Yordy, Baroid Industrial Drilling Products; Dermot Dillon, Summit Drilling; Brian McGuire, MB Drilling and New Jersey Ground Water Association

1. Call to Order and Introductions-

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Board's website. A. Becker thanked everyone for attending.

A. Becker announced that Mr. Denis Crayon, of Summit Drilling, would be retiring at the end of the week. A. Becker commended Mr. Crayon on the great job he had done for the industry. He added that Mr. Crayon was a vibrant speaker and an overall great instructor. The Board wished Mr. Crayon well in his retirement.

2. Review and Certification of the May 16, 2024, Meeting Minutes-

A. Becker asked if anyone had any comments on the draft minutes from the May 16, 2024, Board meeting. A. Becker pointed out that the word “properly” was misspelled on the fourth page of the draft minutes. No other comments were made.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from May 16, 2024, which incorporate the noted correction, was made by G. Poppe, seconded by S. Domber, and approved by all except for R. Dalton, who was not present for that meeting and abstained.

3. Review and Certification of Well Driller and Pump Installer License Applications-

A. Becker said that there were six license applications that the Department vetted and identified as complete and one that was pending additional review by the Board. There were two additional license applications that were incomplete. There were three Environmental Resource and Geotechnical (ERG) well driller license applicants, one Journeyman well driller license applicant, one Master well driller license applicant, and two pump installer license applicants. S. Reya suggested that the Board vote on the six license applicants that were deemed acceptable by the Department before reviewing the final pump installer license application. A. Becker asked if the Board had any comments on the six license applicants who were deemed acceptable by the Department. No further discussion was needed for the first six applicants.

A motion to approve the six license applicants deemed acceptable by the Department was made by G. Poppe, seconded by S. Domber, and approved unanimously.

S. Reya discussed the pending license application with the Board. Mr. Andrew Phillips, of AP Water Treatment Service, originally applied for his pump installer license during the September 2023 Board meeting. S. Reya explained that Mr. Phillips, who was formerly employed by Robbins Water Service, had issues with his references and his ability to demonstrate five well pump systems that he worked on during his employment with Robbins Water Service. One of the references that Mr. Phillips had used recently passed away, so the Department could not contact him for additional information. S. Reya added that staff from Robbins Water Service had written to the Department to notify them that they do not believe that Mr. Phillips met the experience requirements of having obtained a full two years of work experience. S. Reya noted that Mr. Phillips’s current application appears to be complete, as he was able to work with a New Jersey licensed pump installer to get five jobs under a licensed well driller. It was also noted that N.J.A.C. 7:9D does not specify specific hours or days needed in the trade for experience; the rule only says two years of experience are needed for a pump installer license.

R. Dalton said that Mr. Phillips should be awarded his pump installer license since he had a signed affidavit from an appropriately licensed individual who reportedly signed off on and verified his experience. J. Yost agreed with R. Dalton. A. Becker talked about water treatment and how the letter from Robbins Water Service said that the applicant mostly engaged in solo water treatment work. S. Reya added that industry experience is thought of as global experience which includes a wide variety of different tasks.

A motion to approve Mr. Andrew Phillips for his pump installer license was made by J. Yost, seconded by R. Dalton, and approved unanimously.

Below is a list of license applicants accepted during this meeting:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
Master	Mario D' Agostino	D'Agostino Well Water Service
Journeyman	Joshua J. Deridder	Robbins Water Service Inc.
Pump Installer	Jason A. Schumann	Binsky Service
ERG	Douglas J. Foster	East Coast Drilling, Inc.
ERG	William J. Holden	Hillis-Carnes Engineering Associates
ERG	Francis X. Harrington	Walker Hill Environmental
Pump Installer	Andrew J. Phillips	AP Water Treatment Service

4. Continuing Education-

A. Becker introduced the two courses up for review. Rutgers applied for an online course named Glacial Deposits of New Jersey. The South Atlantic Well Drillers applied for the 2024 South Atlantic Jubilee.

Rutgers

S. Domber spoke of Dr. Scott Stanford, who is one of the course instructors for the Glacial Deposits of New Jersey course. He added that Dr. Stanford is an excellent speaker and is a former New Jersey Geological Survey employee. R. Dalton noted that the course does not discuss groundwater, and only discusses geology. G. Poppe added that geology is important for drillers in the field. A. Becker and J. Yost agreed with G. Poppe.

A motion to approve Glacial Deposits of New Jersey was made by G. Poppe, seconded by J. Yost, and approved unanimously.

South Atlantic Well Drillers

A. Becker said that the 2024 South Atlantic Jubilee has 22 courses up for review, each course is one hour in duration. He added that M. Ortega included a few notes to the provided spreadsheet about courses that have been previously approved by the Board for the National Ground Water Association. M. Ortega stated that the instructors are different, but the course material and duration are the same. S. Domber asked if the Board could discuss courses which they thought were questionable and then move to vote on the acceptable courses as a block.

R. Dalton abstained from the discussion. He noted that he did not have an opportunity to review the list.

S. Domber brought up the course named Boosting Business: Marketing Essentials for Well Drillers. He said that he did not believe that this course was relevant. J. Yost agreed with S. Domber. M. Ortega added that the Board has historically denied courses geared towards marketing and social media.

A motion to deny Boosting Business: Marketing Essentials for Well Drillers was made by S. Domber, seconded by J. Yost, and approved by all except for R. Dalton, who abstained.

E. Hoffman asked to discuss the course named Drilling Down on Social Media and Youthful Innovation. The Board agreed that this course should not be approved.

A motion to deny Drilling Down on Social Media and Youthful Innovation was made by E. Hoffmann, seconded by J. Yost, and approved by all except for R. Dalton, who abstained.

J. Yost asked to discuss What to Expect when Applying for Credit. A. Becker said that he believed that this course is important to business owners. E. Hoffmann noted that this course could foster new business owners. The Board members discussed business courses and whether they are well attended at conventions, along with whether or not they are consistent with the intent of the continuing education requirements in the rules such that they are directly related to the trade of well drilling/pump installation.

A motion to deny What to Expect when Applying for Credit was made by E. Hoffman, seconded by S. Domber, and approved by all except for A. Becker who was opposed and R. Dalton who abstained.

A motion to approve the remaining 19 courses was made by J. Yost, seconded by S. Domber, and approved by all except for R. Dalton, who abstained.

Below is a list of courses approved for the 2024 South Atlantic Jubilee:

Course Name	CEPs
2024 State of the U.S. Water Well Industry Report	1 Technical
Fundamentals of Electric Motors	1 Technical
Understanding Stray Voltage	1 Technical
Pumping System Installation Safety	1 Safety
Chlorine, The Most Misunderstood Chemical in the Water Well Industry	1 Technical
Casing Advancement 101	1 Technical
Understand Pump Curves and Proper Sizing	1 Technical
Sizing and Selling a Variable Speed Drive	1 Technical
Aqua-Scopic Well Rehabilitation in Dirty Water & Flocking Agents	1 Technical
DTH Hammer/ Bit Troubleshooting and Maintenance	1 Technical
Air Compressors	1 Technical
Equipment Financing: Financial Statements 101	1 Technical
All Things DTH Hammers and Bits	1 Technical
Drilling Fluids: Your Key to Unlocking Well Development	1 Technical
Update on Legal Issues Impacting the Water Well Industry	1 Technical
VFD's: What am I Missing?	1 Technical
Variable Speed Drive Equipment	1 Technical
Field Experience or the Dos and Don'ts of Well Rehabilitation	1 Technical
Well Inner Liners: More Than Just Lipstick on a Pig	1 Technical

5. Program Updates/New Business-

S. Domber informed the Board that appointments and reappointments are moving forward. He also informed the Board that the Department is working with their legal team to draft language clarifying the information about PFAS potentially being utilized in the manufacture of some coated bentonite pellets used as a well grout material.

A. Becker said that he recently received a call about environmental consultants that he wanted to discuss with the Board. He said that consultants have been putting devices in wells and argued that they do not have the authority to perform this work. He cited several examples of these devices getting stuck in wells. A. Becker asked the Department for their perspective on this. S. Reya cited the rule to A. Becker and noted that a licensed driller or pump installer is required to install permanent pumping equipment, however, no permits are not needed from the Department to install permanent pumping equipment. He also noted that consultants often use a sampling pump to obtain water samples from monitoring wells, but this is not typically viewed as meeting the threshold of pump installation/maintenance for which a license is required. He asked for A. Becker to send specifics of the scenarios he is questioning to the Department so they can evaluate it and seek clarification from DAG J. Denyes, as needed.

E. Hoffmann provided his viewpoint on the topic as someone who works in the environmental consulting field. He explained that they never use permanent pumping equipment and that their methods are not invasive to the sediment. He felt that at the point they need to clear sediment from a well, that constitutes well redevelopment activities, and they would hire a driller to perform any necessary well at that point. R. Dalton talked about sampling wells other than monitoring wells. E. Hoffmann said that his staff knows that disassembling a wellhead is the responsibility of a New Jersey licensed well driller.

S. Reya offered to add this to the list of potential rule changes. R. Dalton noted that the rule should clarify that this work can only be done on monitoring wells.

J. Yost discussed the chlorination issue that was a topic of discussion in prior years. S. Reya explained that the Department drafted a letter on this topic, but it is currently sitting with management in DAG J. Denyes's chain of command. This letter advises of proper disinfection procedures. S. Reya said that this topic can be revisited at a future meeting.

6. Adjournment-

A. Becker thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 18, 2024.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 am was made by S. Domber. This motion was seconded by J. Yost and approved unanimously.



State of New Jersey

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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for July 18, 2024

Approved by the Board on August 15, 2024

Board Members Participating Via Telephone/Microsoft Teams: Art Becker (Chairman), Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Gordon, Craig, Dave Lyman, Eric Hoffmann, and Richard Dalton

Board Members Absent: Joe Yost and Steve Domber

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Kevin DeCristofer, NJ Division of Law

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Kathleen Burkhard, Mark Miller, Steve Reya, Mark Ortega, and Steve Vargo

Other NJDEP Staff Present: Don Hirsch, Northern Water Compliance and Enforcement; Alexandra Carone, Geological Mapping and Coastal Geology Section

Members of the Public: Brian McGuire, MB Drilling and New Jersey Ground Water Association

1. Call to Order and Introductions-

The meeting was called to order at 9:36 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Board's website. A. Becker thanked everyone for attending.

2. Review and Certification of the June 20, 2024, Meeting Minutes-

A. Becker asked if anyone had any comments on the draft minutes from the June 20, 2024, Board meeting. No further discussion was needed.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from June 20, 2024, as written, was made by G. Poppe, seconded by E. Hoffmann, and approved by all except for G. Craig and D. Lyman, who were not present for that meeting and abstained.

3. Review and Certification of Well Driller and Pump Installer License Applications-

A. Becker said that there were four license applications that the Department vetted and identified as complete. There was one additional license application that was deemed incomplete. There were two Environmental Resource and Geotechnical (ERG) well driller license applicants, one Dewatering well driller license applicant, and one Pump Installer license applicant. A. Becker asked if the Board had any comments on the four license applicants who were deemed acceptable by the Department. No further discussion was needed.

A motion to approve the four license applicants deemed acceptable by the Department was made by G. Craig, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

Below is a list of license applicants accepted during this meeting:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
ERG	Matthew M. Murtagh	Boring Brothers Inc.
Pump Installer	Clayton G. Robbins	Robbins Water Service Inc.
Dewatering	David Tersigni	Mersino Dewatering, LLC
ERG	Brian Van Doren	Hillis Carnes Engineering Associates

4. Enforcement/Field Work Update-

S. Vargo informed the Board that 11 cases have been referred to Water Compliance and Enforcement since the last update in May. All but one case was referred to Southern Enforcement and most of the referrals were for two well drillers. S. Vargo described some of the referrals to the Board, which included instances of unlicensed pump work and not constructing wells in accordance with permit conditions.

S. Vargo informed the Board that the Department received 16 Notice of Non-Compliance (NONC) responses. The Department was awaiting 6 additional responses, which were all from the same company. Most of the responses resulted in the NONCs being rescinded. Well drillers are citing administrative issues for incorrectly submitted well records. Well Permitting staff is currently working on scheduling field inspections to televise two wells and verify well construction details, in response to NONCs. S. Vargo said that the Department sent out another five NONCs in June.

S. Vargo provided an update on Well Permitting's recent field presence and explained that 40 conditions to notify the Department three days prior to drilling have been placed on well permits. He described some of the field work that had been conducted by staff, including witnessing a successfully constructed irrigation well in Lacey Township. There were four instances of well drillers not notifying the Department prior to drilling pursuant to the well permit requirements; the Department will follow up with NONCs to these companies.

M. Miller informed the Board that Well Permitting has been working with Water Compliance and Enforcement's management to address the volume of referrals being sent to their program. K. Burkhard has a follow up meeting with Enforcement in early August to address the growing backlog.

A. Becker talked about the administrative issues cited by well drillers when submitting well records and well decommissioning reports. He said that some well drillers are under the impression that it is an office issue when documents do not get submitted correctly. He reiterated that the well drillers are ultimately responsible for what is submitted to the Department. He explained that office staff should

not be certifying well records or well decommissioning reports. M. Miller noted that the Bureau agrees with this assessment and stressed that the licensed drillers need to take accountability regarding submission of required documents.

A. Becker thanked S. Vargo for the update.

5. Type 1L Cement-

A. Becker said that he recently sent a notice to S. Reya regarding Florida's requirements for Type 1L Portland cement (Type 1L cement). According to this notice, Florida approved Type 1L cement for well grouting in December 2022. R. Dalton pointed out that there are no permeability requirements for cement grouts in Florida; Florida only has permeability requirements for their bentonite grouts. S. Reya pointed out that the notice does not specifically note the grout mix ratio and mentioned how G. Craig and others have previously noted that the increased limestone quantity in Type 1L may alter the quantity of water required to achieve the same workability and ability to pump, when compared to Type 1.

S. Reya discussed the progress of the study which the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) had undertaken to study Type 1L cement. He reminded the Board that former State Geologist, J. Hoffman, had worked with the Department's Division of Science and Research to contract NJIT to perform permeability tests, strength tests, and pumpability tests of Type 1L cement. S. Reya informed the Board that the tests have been completed and NJIT is in the process of finalizing their report. The draft report should be ready in September 2024. S. Reya thanked G. Craig, on behalf of the Department, for conducting some of the preliminary testing of Type 1L cement. E. Hoffmann asked if NJIT conducted any pH testing, but S. Reya said that he was unsure if that was one of the testing parameters.

6. Program Updates/New Business-

There were no updates from the Department or new business discussed by the Board.

7. Adjournment-

A. Becker thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 15, 2024.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 am was made by G. Craig. This motion was seconded by E. Hoffmann and approved unanimously.



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PHILIP D. MURPHY
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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for August 15, 2024

Approved by the Board on September 19, 2024

Board Members Participating Via Telephone/Microsoft Teams: Art Becker (Chairman), Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Joe Yost, Gordon, Craig, Dave Lyman, Eric Hoffmann, and Richard Dalton

Board Members Absent: Steve Domber

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Jill Denyes, NJ Division of Law

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Mark Miller, Steve Reya, Mark Ortega, and Steve Vargo

Other NJDEP Staff Present: Mitch Reicher, Northern Water Compliance and Enforcement; Alexandra Carone, Geological Mapping and Coastal Geology Section

Members of the Public: Brian McGuire, MB Drilling and New Jersey Ground Water Association

1. Call to Order and Introductions-

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Board's website. A. Becker thanked everyone for attending.

2. Review and Certification of the July 18, 2024, Meeting Minutes-

A. Becker asked if anyone had any comments on the draft minutes from the July 18, 2024, Board meeting. No further discussion was needed.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from July 18, 2024, as written, was made by G. Poppe, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved by all except for J. Yost, who was not present for that meeting and abstained.

3. Review and Certification of Well Driller and Pump Installer License Applications-

A. Becker said that there were four license applications that the Department vetted and identified as complete. There were three Environmental Resource and Geotechnical (ERG) well driller license applicants and one Pump Installer license applicant. A. Becker asked if the Board had any comments on the four license applicants who were deemed acceptable by the Department. No further discussion was needed.

A motion to approve the four license applicants deemed acceptable by the Department was made by G. Craig, seconded by J. Yost, and approved unanimously.

Below is a list of license applicants accepted during this meeting:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
ERG	Derek Mobus	Summit Drilling LLC
ERG	Ryan J. Lacamera	Summit Drilling LLC
ERG	Anthony J. Notorfrancesco	East Coast Drilling, Inc.
Pump Installer	Edward L. Conn	Water Central LLC

A. Becker said that he has noticed a lot of new ERG well drillers being licensed recently. He also asked M. Ortega if he could investigate the number of newly licensed ERG well drillers compared to other license types. M. Ortega said that he can pull the data and present it to the Board at a future meeting.

4. Review of Continuing Education Course Offerings-

A. Becker said that there were three courses up for review by the Board. The Board discussed Drill Expo 2024 first, which is presented by the National Drilling Association (NDA).

NDA - Drill Expo

S. Reya explained that this convention has eight courses up for review. R. Dalton said that there were several courses that he wished to discuss in further detail, as he did not feel that some of them were relevant. A. Becker asked the Board to review each course individually.

The Board first discussed the course, Inspire Your Workforce. A. Becker said that he believed that this course could be valuable to licensees, as leadership skills are important in any field. J. Yost agreed with A. Becker. R. Dalton said that he does not believe that this course is related to the industry and should not be approved for continuing education points (CEPs). A. Becker confirmed with DAG J. Denyes that the Board has a lot of discretion when making decisions on continuing education courses.

A motion to approve Inspire Your Workforce was made by D. Lyman, seconded by G. Poppe, and approved by all except for R. Dalton, who was opposed.

There was no discussion for the course, Sonic Drilling: Pioneers for Progress & Profit.

A motion to approve Sonic Drilling: Pioneers for Progress & Profit was made by J. Yost, seconded by G. Poppe, and approved by all except for R. Dalton, who abstained.

A. Becker and R. Dalton asked how points were being tracked, since a few of the course were listed as being 45 minutes in duration. M. Ortega explained that he is tallying everything up as the Board makes their motions. M. Ortega reminded the Board that the minimum point total that can be awarded is a half of a point. He added that courses which are between 45 minutes and 59 minutes are rounded up to the nearest full point.

There was no discussion regarding the Rig Presentations.

A motion to approve Rig Presentations was made by G. Poppe, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

The Board discussed the course, Navigating Social Media in the Drilling Industry. M. Ortega advised the Board that they have historically denied courses geared towards social media and advertising. No further discussion was needed.

A motion to deny Navigating Social Media in the Drilling Industry was made by J. Yost, seconded by E. Hoffmann, and approved by all except for R. Dalton, who was opposed.

The Board discussed the course, Geotechnical Field Investigations. R. Dalton said that he believed that this course does not apply to New Jersey licensees.

R. Dalton made a motion to deny Geotechnical Field Investigations. No one seconded this motion and the motion was withdrawn.

A motion to approve Geotechnical Field Investigations was made by G. Poppe, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved by all except for R. Dalton, who was opposed.

No discussion was needed for Monitoring While Drilling with Sonic Rigs.

A motion to approve Monitoring While Drilling with Sonic Rigs was made by G. Poppe, seconded by E. Hoffmann, and approved unanimously.

No discussion was needed for Job Safety Analysis Development.

A motion to approve Job Safety Analysis Development was made by R. Dalton, seconded by J. Yost, and approved unanimously.

The Board discussed the course, Trials of Drilling on Oak Island. R. Dalton explained that the geology on Oak Island is not present in New Jersey, and he did not think it was relevant to New Jersey licensees.

A motion to deny Trials of Drilling on Oak Island was made by D. Lyman, seconded by R. Dalton, and approved unanimously.

M. Ortega tallied up the point totals and said that the convention would count for a total of 5.5 CEPs: 4.5 in the technical category and 1 in the safety category.

WB Drilling – Well Rig Pump Maintenance

S. Reya introduced the course, Well Rig Pump Maintenance, which would be administered by WB Drilling to their own employees. The course is geared towards rebuilding a mud pump. S. Reya explained that this company was approved to put on another course for its employees a couple of

months ago. S. Reya said that he felt the course was relevant because mud pumps need rebuilding quite a bit.

R. Dalton expressed concern about this course only being offered to a select group of people. S. Reya explained that this was previously discussed and that if the content has been deemed relevant, the Board has approved the courses. E. Hoffmann said that it is a great practice to have in-house documentation on training.

A. Becker asked DAG J. Denyes for her opinion. S. Reya provided additional background information for J. Denyes. He added that supply houses typically only offer courses to their clients and there is no way for the Department to vet whether or not these courses are only being offered to a select group of people instead of all licensees. J. Denyes asked for the Board to table this discussion so she could investigate further.

The Board discussed the topic, but did not make any motions on the course. M. Ortega said that he would contact WB Drilling.

NJGWA – September 2024 Membership Meeting with Variable Frequency Drives- What You Need to Know course

S. Reya introduced the course to the Board. No discussion was needed.

A motion to approve September 2024 Membership Meeting with Variable Frequency Drives-What You Need to Know was made by D. Lyman, seconded by J. Yost, and approved by all except for R. Dalton, who was opposed.

5. Program Updates/New Business-

Private Well Consortium

S. Reya said that Mr. Brian McGuire had asked the Well Permitting Section if they were available to present at the 2024 Private Well Consortium. M. Miller presented for Well Permitting and discussed the regulations and some projects on which Well Permitting is actively working. Other topics discussed during the meeting included PFAS and water treatment.

Well Permitting staff have been working on a guidance document for Health Departments recently. The document is meant to help educate their staff on well construction requirements. The draft document is not ready for publication, but the Department will share it after it has been approved by management.

Youth Inclusion Initiative

S. Reya said that S. Vargo has been participating in a Department-wide effort to engage young adults to introduce them to the different careers in the environmental field. S. Vargo has partnered up with staff from Safe Drinking Water and Water Systems Engineering and given presentations about well drilling as a trade.

Miscellaneous

A. Becker thanked S. Vargo for a recent inspection that he conducted. A. Becker explained that he received a call from a licensed well driller about potential unlicensed work being performed. S. Vargo visited the site to investigate on the same day. A. Becker said that he is pleased that the Department responded quickly.

A. Becker mentioned that insurance companies will not be covering PFAS as part of pollution liability insurance.

6. Adjournment-

A. Becker thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 19, 2024. A. Becker said that he will not be present for the September meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:27 am was made by G. Craig. This motion was seconded by J. Yost and approved unanimously.



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for September 19, 2024

Approved by the Board on October 17, 2024

Board Members Participating Via Telephone/Microsoft Teams: Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Joe Yost, Gordon Craig, Dave Lyman, Eric Hoffmann, and Richard Dalton

Board Members Absent: Art Becker (Chairman) and Steve Domber

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Jill Denyes, NJ Division of Law

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Steve Reya, Mark Miller, Mike Schumacher, Mark Ortega, and Steve Vargo

Other NJDEP Staff Present: Don Hirsch, Northern Water Compliance and Enforcement

Members of the Public: George Cruz, King George Enterprises, LCC; Rick Howlett, New Jersey Water Association; Dermot Dillon, Summit Drilling; Louis Bainbridge, WB Drilling; Jeffrey Winkowski, WB Drilling

1. Call to Order and Introductions-

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Board's website. G. Poppe thanked everyone for attending.

2. Review and Certification of the August 15, 2024, Meeting Minutes-

G. Poppe asked if anyone had any comments on the draft minutes from the August 15, 2024, Board meeting. No further discussion was needed.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from August 15, 2024, as written, was made by J. Yost, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

3. Review and Certification of Well Driller and Pump Installer License Applications-

S. Reya provided the Board with some information about the license applicants. He said that Mr. Thomas Achilles, who was applying for his pump installer license, required additional review by the Board because he submitted a letter with his license application, in which he described why he was unable to fulfil all of the listed application requirements. Additionally, S. Reya noted that Mr. Brian Sweeney applied to again be licensed as an Environmental Resource and Geotechnical (ERG) well driller after he did not meet the continuing education requirements for last cycle, which resulted in his license lapsing. Mr. Sweeney met the continuing education point (CEP) requirements for the prior and passed the required exams.

There were three ERG well driller license applicants and one Pump Installer license applicant, which were deemed acceptable by the Department. S. Reya recommended voting on these four applications and then discuss Mr. Achilles separately as his application requires further review and discussion. G. Poppe asked if the Board had any comments on the four license applicants who were deemed acceptable by the Department. No further discussion was needed.

A motion to approve the four license applicants deemed acceptable by the Department was made by G. Craig, seconded by J. Yost, and approved unanimously.

Below is a list of license applicants approved for licensure:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
ERG	Brian P. Sweeney	Cascade Remediation Services
ERG	Christopher W. Smolda	Summit Drilling LLC
ERG	Melvin A. Abrego	ANS Consultants Inc.
Pump Installer	John E. Hall	Hall Andrew E & Sons Plumbing and Heating

Next, S. Reya discussed the letter that was attached to the license application submitted by Mr. Achilles. This letter, received on September 12, 2024, informed the Board that Mr. Achilles was unable to obtain a signed reference questionnaire from his prior employer, Mr. Anthony Favorito of Envirosafe, who is a New Jersey licensed pump installer. Mr. Achilles noted in his letter that he attempted to make contact with Mr. Favorito, but he would not sign off as a reference. Mr. Achilles provided W-2 forms from 2017 until 2022 to show that he was an employee at the company. S. Reya explained that occasionally applicants will submit a letter with their application if their reference is deceased or cannot be located, but there are rare occasions when someone will refuse to sign.

The Board noted that their expectation of a licensee is that as a reference they cannot deny the history of the applicant and must provide information on the applicant's work history as it relates to well pump work so the Board can ascertain if he is qualified. They felt he should be compelled to answer and provide details one way or the other; refusing to answer a former employee's work history inquiry should not be acceptable. G. Poppe and D. Lyman recommended that the Department send a letter to Mr. Favorito to request the required information.

A motion to have the Department write a letter to Mr. Favorito, requesting that he provide information on Mr. Achilles's pump installer license application and work history was made by J. Yost.

Additional discussion was needed before the Board voted. D. Lyman asked DAG J. Denyes what type of information could be requested to verify the applicant's experience. Specifically, they inquired as

to whether a character reference could be solicited and/or if asking the reason(s) that Mr. Favorito refused to sign his paperwork would be acceptable. DAG J. Denyes stated that as long as the request does not ask for privileged or personal information and is specific to ascertaining whether license requirements have been met it would be acceptable. The Board discussed the implications of a license applicant not being supervised by a licensed person. No additional discussion was needed and the vote on the motion continued.

The motion was seconded by G. Craig and approved unanimously.

M. Ortega will draft the letter and send it to Mr. Favorito.

4. Review of Continuing Education Course Offerings-

WB Drilling – Well Rig Pump Maintenance

S. Reya reintroduced the course, Well Rig Pump Maintenance, which was administered by WB Drilling to their own employees. The course is geared towards rebuilding a mud pump. S. Reya explained that this company was approved to put on another course for its employees a couple of months ago. He said that he felt the course was relevant, but the Board had questions about this course during the last meeting because it was not offered to the full list of licensees. The Board asked DAG J. Denyes to investigate whether that could be done or if it would be considered exclusionary.

J. Denyes explained that courses like this have been approved by the Board in the past and that the rule does not prohibit this from taking place. The Board is responsible for ensuring that the course content is relevant and to ensure that the course instructor is qualified. After those steps, the Board makes a recommendation to the Department on whether or not the course should be approved. J. Denyes added that the Board could request that the rule be rewritten to cover this subject.

The Board members spent some time discussing the implications of allowing this. Some argued that it is problematic and will cause every company to submit course applications to the Department for mandatory training that they are already conducting. Others argued that this is done in other industries with no issues.

Mr. Jeff Winkowski added that the course is very important to the industry and explained that WB Drilling is not trying to keep this course to themselves. He noted that there are space restrictions and recommended recording the course in the future. The Board recommended that WB Drilling charge for the course and make it available to everyone online.

A motion to approve this course after it is made public and advertised on the Department's list of approved courses was made by D. Lyman.

Additional discussion was needed before the Board voted on the motion. S. Reya clarified that the Department does not advertise courses. The Department maintains a list of every course that was approved by the Board. Mr. Bainbridge explained that the course was already administered because the Board said that WB Drilling could proceed with the course during the August meeting. WB Drilling will attempt to digitize this course. It was also noted that WB Drilling has space constraints at the facility at which the course will occur so even though it will be listed as available for others to register to attend on the Department's website, only a limited number of non-employees will be able to attend.

This motion was seconded by J. Yost and approved unanimously.

S. Reya said that there are three courses up for review. Two courses are being administered at the same event and the other application was submitted by an individual who attended the Florida Ground Water Association (FGWA) 2024 Convention.

FGWA Convention

R. Dalton said that he did not agree with granting credit for a lot of the courses. After some discussion, the Board agreed not to approve the following courses: 811 Essentials – Digging Safely in Florida, Annual Membership Meeting, or Setbacks. These were viewed as not being relevant to those licensed in New Jersey. Additionally, the Board only awarded a maximum of two CEPs for attending four hours at the Trade Show Hall.

A motion to approve the FGWA 2024 Convention courses which were not previously discussed by the Board was made by R. Dalton, seconded by E. Hoffmann, and approved unanimously.

Phase Technologies/A.O. Smith

R. Dalton asked to discuss the A.O. Smith course, Water Source, Contaminants, and Treatment Technologies. He said that he did not believe that surface water is a relevant topic of discussion for well drillers and pump installers. S. Reya noted that groundwater under the direct influence is an important topic for licensees. The Board wanted to know how much time is spent discussing surface water versus discussing groundwater.

A motion was made by D. Lyman to table the discussion until the Department could reach out to the course provider to find out how much time is spent discussing surface water versus groundwater. This motion was seconded by J. Yost and approved unanimously.

R. Dalton said that the course application from Phase Technologies did not have a course description. M. Ortega noted that the course provider submitted their entire PowerPoint presentation for this course. D. Lyman said that he took a similar course during Groundwater Week and thought it was good.

A motion to approve The Relationship Between VFD's, Pumps, and Motors was made by E. Hoffmann, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

5. Enforcement and Field Work Update-

S. Vargo informed the Board that no new referrals have been sent to Water Compliance and Enforcement, however, they have reached out to Well Permitting regarding three referrals that were sent to them.

S. Vargo discussed some illegally decommissioned wells that were brought to the Department's attention by the Department of Transportation (DOT). Well Permitting staff had a meeting with the DOT recently and they provided pictures which show that wells were being improperly decommissioned.

He also noted that Well Permitting staff conducted nine field visits since the last enforcement and field work update. He said that the drillers that were encountered were generally happy to see Well Permitting staff out doing inspections. S. Vargo discussed the specific field visits with the Board:

- The first field visit was set up so staff could witness a well being measured after sending a Notice of Non-Compliance (NONC) to a well driller. The measured depth ended up being satisfactory to the Department and the NONC was rescinded.

- M. Ortega performed a site visit in Cape May County where he discovered that there were no bags of cement grout on the site, despite the permit condition requiring a saltwater resistant grout used to seal the outer casing. The drillers were concerned that the heat of hydration would crush the casing, however, M. Ortega explained that the depth and diameter should not cause the casing to be crushed. The drillers obtained the cement grout to seal this well. Unfortunately, the well had to be decommissioned after accidentally pulling up on the outer casing which was sealed, resulting in the grout in the outer annulus to enter the casing.
- S. Vargo performed an inspection in Cumberland County of a four-inch domestic which required additional casing. This well took more grout than expected, but the driller obtained additional grout and properly constructed the well.
- S. Reya observed the construction of a double-cased irrigation well in Ocean County. This driller was able to construct a double-cased well in one day, partially due to the shallow depth of clay in the area.
- S. Vargo and J. Walker observed an irrigation well drilled at a farm. During their visit, they witnessed the driller using a substance called Tetrasodium Polyphosphate. The Department is currently investigating this substance to ensure it is safe to use for well construction. S. Vargo said that this substance will be discussed later in the agenda.
- S. Reya witnessed a domestic well get constructed in Sussex County. S. Vargo added that S. Reya encountered Type 1L Portland cement during this inspection. He added that S. Reya will discuss this later in the meeting.
- J. Walker and G. Fernandes went to follow up with a driller for a well that was drilled in an area of known contamination. The well driller reported an unsatisfactory construction of the well on the well record. This well was televised and discovered to not be a conforming well.

G. Poppe thanked S. Vargo for the update. He added that the New Jersey Ground Water Association (NJGWA) is pleased to see the Department doing more inspections.

S. Vargo discussed some of the notices and letters that the Department has sent out. The Department sent out three letters to people or companies who were reportedly performing unlicensed pump work. Nine NONCs were sent out, mostly for not complying with permit conditions. Five rescind letters were issued after the Department concluded that no violation occurred. Two warning letters were sent out for lesser offenses.

The Board and Department discussed whether or not a license is required to disinfect a well. S. Reya explained the history of this topic, noting that the Department's standpoint is that the rule does not prohibit someone who is not licensed from doing this work. The Department drafted a letter for individuals who advertise well disinfection as a service, but it is still undergoing legal review. The Board urged the Department to finish the letter and send it out sooner rather than later.

6. Tetrasodium Polyphosphate-

S. Reya reminded the Board that S. Vargo encountered this substance while doing a recent inspection. The driller informed him that this product is used to help break down drilling mud. S. Reya cited N.J.A.C. 7:9D-2.11(d)5, which states that chemical treatment is an acceptable method of

development/redevelopment of wells. He said that materials must be designed for water wells but there is no reference that he could find that states these products must be NSF-certified. Of three such products he researched, which he provided specifics on via email, only one appeared to be NSF-certified. Further, one version of this product not that many states do not allow the product to be used so it cautioned drillers against using it prior to checking with their state regulatory authority. S. Reya said that he already made note of this in the spreadsheet the Department is using to track proposed changes to the rule in the event language is needed to further clarify criteria that these development/redevelopment chemicals must meet. S. Reya asked the Board if this is regularly used in the field.

E. Hoffmann said that this product is mostly used as a food preservative, but the dosage needs to be looked at. This product is commonly used in daily used items, such as toothpaste. The Board and Department thought that this product would be cleared out after redevelopment of the well occurs so as long as it is used as directed by the manufacturers it was not immediately thought to pose a risk to groundwater.

E. Hoffmann left the call at 11:00 am.

G. Poppe said that this substance has been regularly used for a long time. He added that most drillers use it. R. Dalton said that a substance called sodium hexametaphosphate used to be used for the same purpose. R. Dalton recommended that tetrasodium polyphosphate be NSF certified. J. Yost brought up how hydrochloric acid is used in some wells but is not NSF certified.

S. Reya thanked the Board for their input.

7. NJDEP Website Search Tool to Help Users Find a Driller by Geographic Region/Types of Wells They Install-

M. Schumacher discussed the need for something for people to look for companies that can perform well drilling and pump installation services. M. Schumacher explained that the Department has an established report on the DEP DataMiner which allows someone to see the name of every well drilling company set up in the ePermitting system. He added that the report is not broken down by location and does not remove companies that are not longer actively obtaining well permits.

M. Schumacher shared his computer screen to show the Board the Department's DataMiner report, NJGWA's website, and WellOwner.org's website. He then showed the Board what he is currently working on for New Jersey. He explained how it currently works and asked the Board for feedback. M. Schumacher explained that he does not want to have this act as an advertisement and wants it to be as equitable as possible.

D. Lyman said that he likes the idea. M. Schumacher thanked the Board and said that he will continue to work on this project.

8. Program Updates/New Business-

S. Reya informed the Board that the New Jersey Institute of Technology completed their draft report on Type 1L cement on August 25, 2024. The draft is currently undergoing review and will be made available to the Board at an upcoming meeting. S. Reya talked about a recent field visit in Sussex County where he witnessed Type 1L cement being used for the first time. The well driller said that he has not noticed any difference between the types of cement and that the supplier had only recently started providing them with the new bags. S. Reya said that he weighed the grout with his mud

balance, and it was close to the current target density. He added that this grout appeared to pump similarly to Type 1 cement.

M. Ortega informed the Board that he has completed A. Becker's request to investigate new licenses issued by license type. He informed the Board that he would brief them on his findings at the October or November meeting so A. Becker can be present to hear the findings.

M. Schumacher informed the Board that management recently filled Well Permitting's Section Chief position, formerly held by Mr. Joe Mattle. S. Reya will be filling that position and will lead the Well Permitting Section beginning September 23, 2024. The Board congratulated S. Reya on his promotion.

9. Adjournment-

G. Poppe thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 17, 2024.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:21 am was made by G. Craig. This motion was seconded by D. Lyman and approved unanimously.

10. Post Meeting Discussion-

After the meeting adjourned, Mr. George Cruz and Mr. Rick Howlett asked to discuss potential training opportunities. There was no quorum present at this time, as only three Board members were remaining on the call with some staff from the Department. They explained that they were contracted by the Bureau of Water Systems Engineering to conduct CEHA training. They were looking for some input on what should be included in their curriculum in respect to well installation, maintenance, and inspections.

Department staff noted that they have been working on a handbook called the "Well Drilling Inspection Guidebook" which is designed to be a resource for local health department officials to utilize when inspecting well and pump work. Mr. Howlett noted that they would like to receive a copy of the document as it would help them understand what the Department believes are the important aspects for local inspectors. Staff noted that it is currently being finalized and the draft needs to be reviewed by management after which point it can be shared. Mr. Howlett also volunteered to maintain an open line of communication with the Department and Board as any information they can provide on training recommendations would be helpful for their development of training curriculum. It was noted that the training would be conducted in-person. The Department agreed to stay in touch and keep him updated on the progress of the draft guidebook.



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHAWN M. LaTOURETTE
Commissioner

TAHESHA WAY, Esq.
Lt. Governor

DIVISION OF WATER SUPPLY AND GEOSCIENCE
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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for October 17, 2024

Approved by the Board on November 21, 2024

Board Members Participating Via Telephone/Microsoft Teams: Art Becker (Chairman), Joe Yost, Gordon Craig, Eric Hoffmann, and Richard Dalton

Board Members Absent: Gary Poppe, Dave Lyman, and Steve Domber

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Kevin DeCristofer, NJ Division of Law

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Steve Reya, Kat Burkhard, Mark Miller, and Mark Ortega

Other NJDEP Staff Present: Don Hirsch, Northern Water Compliance and Enforcement; Alexandra Carone, Geological Mapping and Coastal Geology Section

Members of the Public: Brian McGuire, MB Drilling and New Jersey Ground Water Association (NJGWA)

1. Call to Order and Introductions-

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Board's website. A. Becker thanked everyone for attending.

2. Review and Certification of the September 19, 2024, Meeting Minutes-

A. Becker asked if anyone had any comments on the draft minutes from the September 19, 2024, Board meeting. A. Becker pointed out two grammatical errors in the minutes that needed to be addressed. The first was on the last paragraph of the second page. A. Becker pointed out that the word "as" should have been written as "ask." The second error that A. Becker pointed out was on the fourth page. A. Becker pointed out that the word "be" should have been written as "being" in the first bullet under the Enforcement Update. No other comments were made on the draft minutes.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from September 19, 2024, after the corrections are made, was made by G. Craig, seconded by J. Yost, and approved by all except for A. Becker who abstained.

3. Proposed Board Meeting Dates for 2025-

A. Becker read the list of proposed meeting dates to the Board. The meetings will tentatively be scheduled for the third Thursday of each month at 9:30 am. The January, March, May, July, September, and November meetings will contain full agendas. The February, April, June, August, October, and December meetings will only serve to discuss license applications, continuing education applications, and other emergency topics. A. Becker asked if any of the Board members had any comments on the proposed dates. There were no comments.

A motion to approve the proposed 2025 Board meeting dates was made by J. Yost, seconded by R. Dalton, and approved unanimously.

Below is a list of Board meeting dates for 2025. The Board meetings will continue to be held virtually via Microsoft Teams:

Thursday, January 16, 2025	Thursday, July 17, 2025
Thursday, February 20, 2025	Thursday, August 21, 2025
Thursday, March 20, 2025	Thursday, September 18, 2025
Thursday, April 17, 2025	Thursday, October 16, 2025
Thursday, May 15, 2025	Thursday, November 20, 2025
Thursday, June 19, 2025	Thursday, December 18, 2025

R. Dalton informed the Board that he will not be available to attend the upcoming December Board meeting. A. Becker thanked R. Dalton for letting him know.

4. Review and Certification of Well Driller and Pump Installer License Applications-

A. Becker listed the names of the two license applicants who were deemed administratively complete by the Department. There was one Environmental Resource and Geotechnical (ERG) well driller license applicant and one Journeyman well driller license applicant. A. Becker pointed out that the Department reviewed three additional license applications which were deemed to be incomplete and an additional application was listed as pending. A. Becker asked if there were any comments on the two license applicants. No comments were made.

A motion to approve the two license applicants deemed acceptable by the Department was made by J. Yost, seconded by G. Craig, and approved unanimously.

Below is a list of license applicants approved for licensure:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
ERG	Cody R. Allen	Summit Drilling LLC
Journeyman	Brian J. McGuire	MB Drilling, LLC

S. Reya provided a follow-up to the Board regarding the application for Mr. Thomas Achilles. S. Reya stated that M. Ortega contacted Mr. Anthony Favorito at the behest of the Board at the

conclusion of the October meeting. S. Reya reported that Mr. Favorito has been very responsive and has been working on providing the required information to the Department and the Board.

5. Review of Continuing Education Course Offerings-

A. O. Smith

S. Reya introduced the topic. He noted that there were three course applications that were deemed to be administratively complete by the Department. The first course, Water Source, Contaminants, and Treatment Technologies, presented by A.O. Smith, is a follow-up from the September meeting. During the September meeting, the Board asked the Department to inquire approximately how much time was spent discussing surface water treatment versus groundwater treatment. The course provider pointed out that the course syllabus lists how much time is spent on each topic. The course provider also submitted a revised course application to document that the course instructor would be different. No further discussion was needed.

A motion to approve Water Source, Contaminants, and Treatment Technologies was made by R. Dalton, seconded by J. Yost, and approved unanimously.

NJGWA

S. Reya provided background information on NJGWA's November 2024 Membership Meeting with The Five Step Process to Building a Drilling Fluid. S. Reya explained that the drilling fluid course was originally supposed to be offered in May but had to be rescheduled due to unforeseen circumstances. The Board already vetted the course content, but it is being brought before the Board again because the content of the membership meeting is different. No further discussion was needed.

A motion to approve the November 2024 Membership Meeting with The Five Step Process to Building a Drilling Fluid was made by G. Craig, seconded by J. Yost, and approved by all except for R. Dalton, who was opposed.

Parkhurst Distributing and Marshall + Sterling, Inc.

S. Reya introduced Parkhurst Distributing and Marshall + Sterling's safety course to the Board. He noted that this course will be held on Thursday, November 21st. A. Becker asked if this course would only be held for their customers. S. Reya said that no contact information was provided yet, so the Department's assumption was that this course would only be offered to Parkhurst customers.

A motion to approve the Drillers OSHA/Safety course was made by E. Hoffmann, seconded by R. Dalton, and approved by all except for J. Yost who was opposed.

6. License Report-

S. Reya provided some background information on the topic. He reminded the Board that A. Becker requested a report during the August meeting to show license statistics. M. Ortega briefed the Board on his report.

M. Ortega explained that his report looked at all licenses granted between July 2008 and August 2024 by license type. M. Ortega showed three graphs to the Board: one showing licenses issued by license type by year, one showing licenses issued by license type by licensing cycle, and one showing net gains and losses by license type during each licensing cycle. The graphs can be found at the end of the minutes.

M. Ortega confirmed what A. Becker originally believed, which was that most new licenses issued are mostly for ERG well drillers and pump installers. M. Ortega noted that there has been a steady decline in the issuance of every license type since the 2008-2011 licensing cycle. He pointed out that there has been an overall net loss of 348 New Jersey licensed well drillers and pump installers for the period he ran the report. The bulk of the losses were Journeyman well drillers and pump installers. M. Ortega also pointed out that there have not been many new Master well driller licenses issued since the 2014-2017 licensing cycle.

M. Ortega discussed the current trend with the Board. He explained that the 2023-2026 licensing cycle is on track to see the most licenses issued since the 2011-2014 cycle, where 127 new licenses were issued.

A. Becker thanked M. Ortega for the report. The Board discussed the potential causes of ERG well drillers and pump installer licenses being greater in number than any other license type. The two suggestions were that it was an easier point of entry or there is a greater demand for that work.

7. Program Updates/New Business-

S. Reya informed the Board that one of the staff members in the Well Permitting Unit has recently left for another job. M. Schumacher will be working on hiring a replacement for his group. S. Reya noted that another staff member in the Well Permitting Unit is on maternity leave, so the group is currently down to two reviewers. S. Reya urged patience if wait times for permit reviews take a little longer over the next few months. He advised the Board members to have individuals email the Well Permitting mailbox with permit emergencies that need to be expedited.

K. Burkhard discussed the status of Board appointments and reappointments. She said that there still is no update, and she has reached up the chain for an update. She thanked E. Hoffmann for continuing to serve.

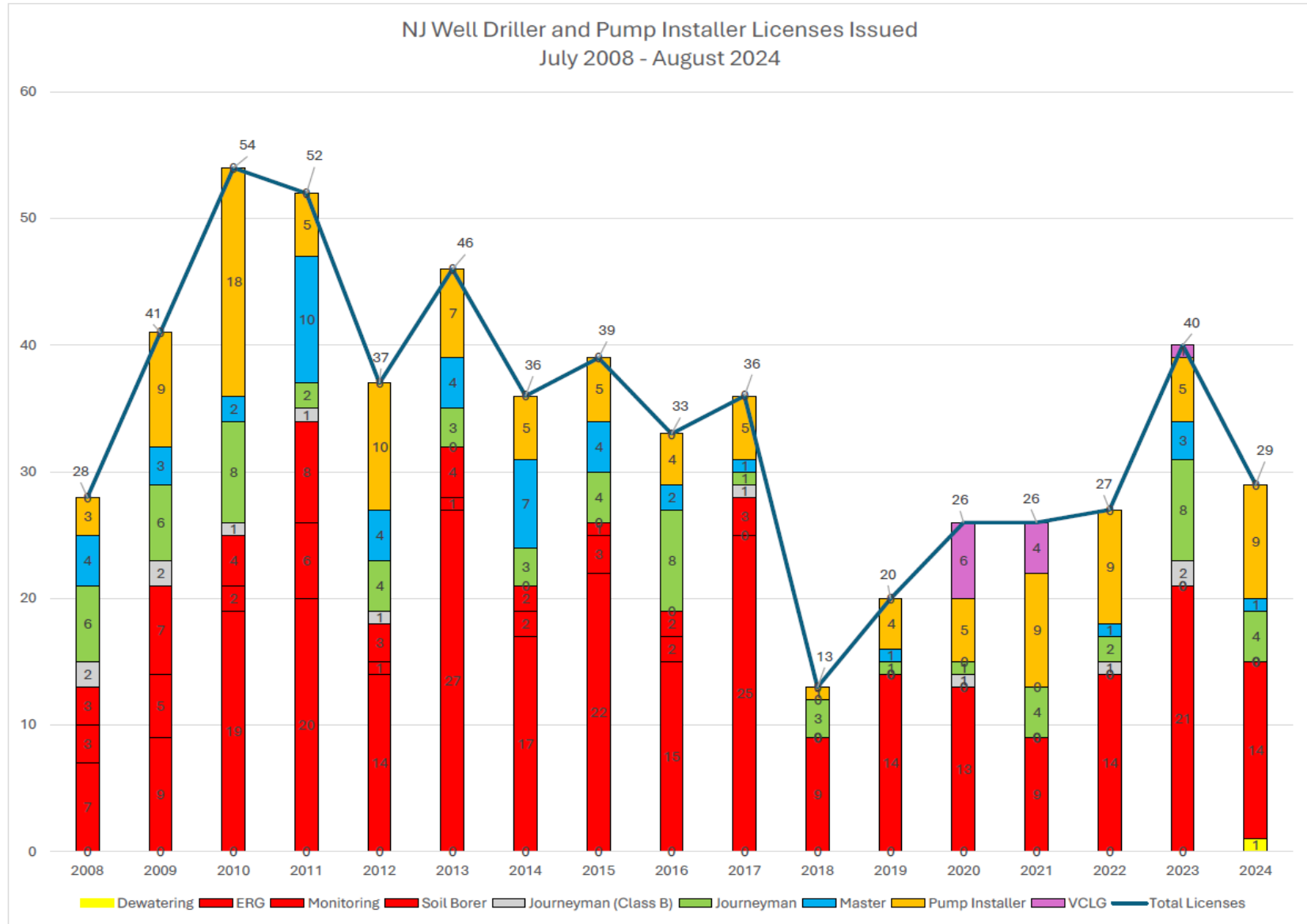
A. Becker asked M. Ortega if he could resume the continuing education completion reports to the Board since the last year of the continuing education cycle starts soon. M. Ortega said that he will begin preparing the reports for the January meeting.

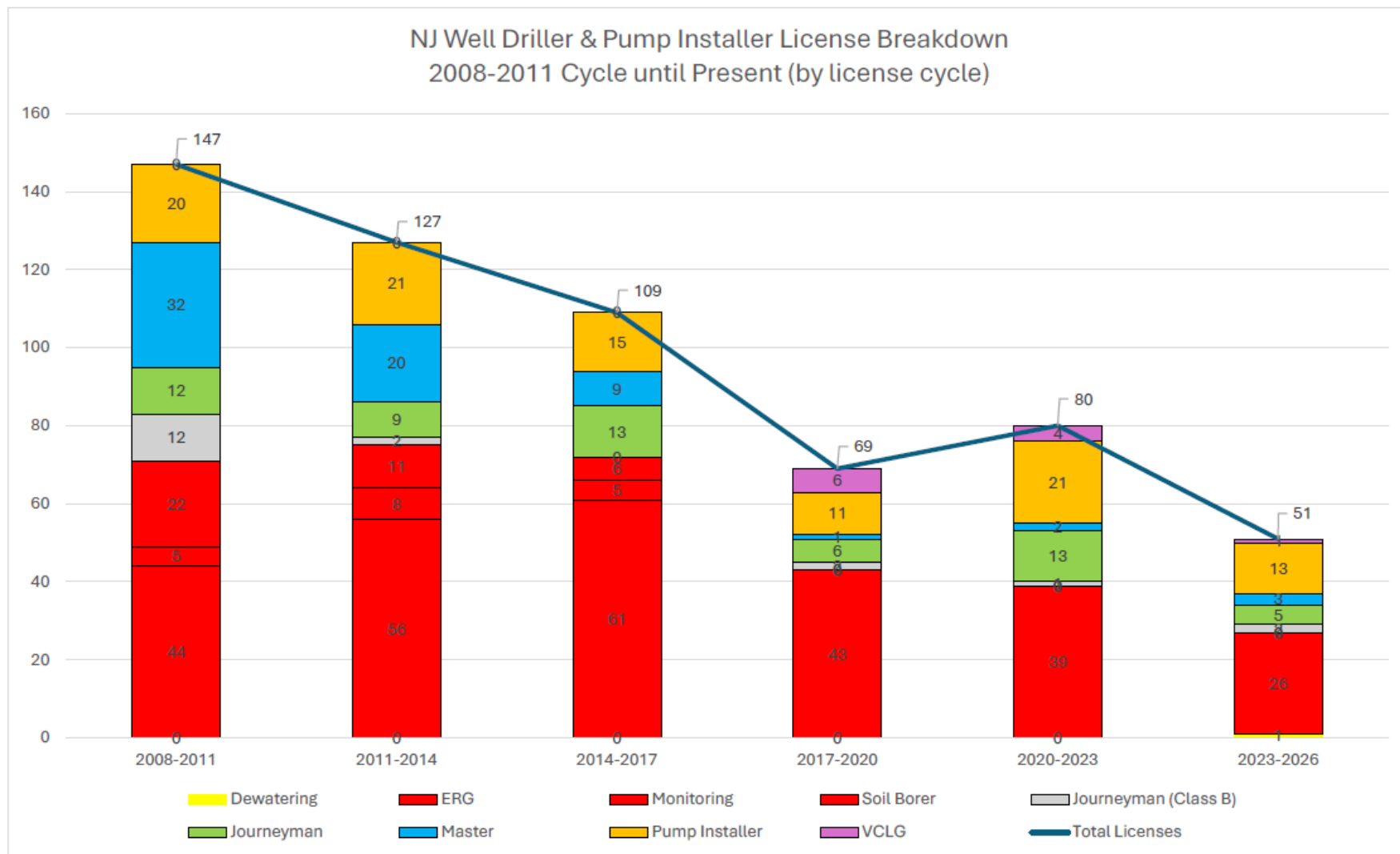
E. Hoffmann briefly discussed something that he encountered at a site that he wanted to share with the Board. He told the Board that they recently found a case where they found vaporized hydrochloric acid while remediating vinyl chloride. He wanted the Board to know in case they encounter something like that.

8. Adjournment-

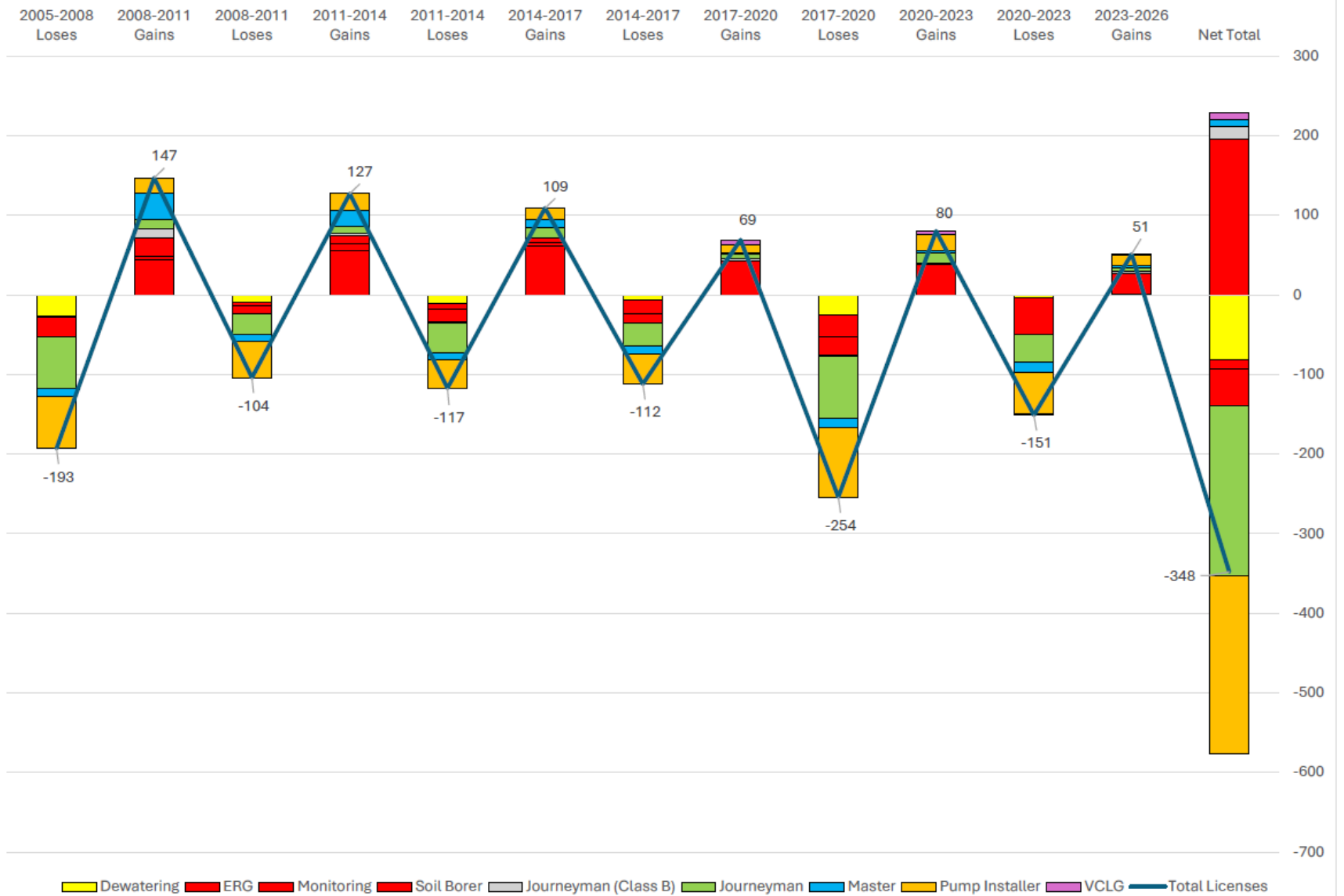
A. Becker thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 21, 2024.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:11 am was made by E. Hoffmann, seconded by G. Craig, and approved unanimously.





NJ Well Driller and Pump Installer Licences Net Gains and Losses (by license cycle)





State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for November 21, 2024

Approved by the Board on December 19, 2024

Board Members Participating Via Telephone/Microsoft Teams: Art Becker (Chairman), Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Joe Yost, Gordon Craig (present from the start of the meeting until 9:58 am and again from 11:10-11:38 am), Dave Lyman, Eric Hoffmann, Steve Domber, and Richard Dalton

Board Members Absent: N/A

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Jill Denyes, NJ Division of Law

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Kat Burkhard, Steve Reya, Mark Miller, Michael Schumacher, Mark Ortega, Steve Vargo, and Jillian Walker

Other NJDEP Staff Present: Don Hirsch, Northern Water Compliance and Enforcement; Alexandra Carone, Geological Mapping and Coastal Geology Section

Members of the Public: John Wason, JW Water Well Service

1. Call to Order and Introductions-

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Board's website. A. Becker thanked everyone for attending.

2. Review and Certification of October 17, 2024, Meeting Minutes-

A. Becker asked if anyone had any comments on the draft minutes from the October 17, 2024, Board meeting. A. Becker thanked M. Ortega for including the licensing charts in the minutes and thanked him again for his work. No further comments were made.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from October 17, 2024, as written, was made by R. Dalton, seconded by G. Craig, and approved by all except for D. Lyman, G. Poppe, and S. Domber who abstained.

3. Review and Certification of Well Driller and Pump Installer License Applications-

A. Becker listed the names of the four license applicants who were deemed administratively complete by the Department. There was one Environmental Resource and Geotechnical (ERG) well driller license applicant and three pump installer license applicants. A. Becker asked if there were any comments on the four license applicants. No comments were made.

A motion to approve the four license applicants deemed acceptable by the Department was made by G. Craig, seconded by S. Domber, and approved unanimously.

Below is a list of license applicants approved for licensure:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
Pump Installer	Timothy Gondek	Accurate Well & Pump
Pump Installer	Thomas Achilles	South Jersey Water Conditioning Service Inc.
Pump Installer	John W. Wason	JW Water Well Service
ERG	Wesley J. Rivett	Redox Tech, LLC

4. Review of Continuing Education Course Offerings-

A. Becker said that there were a lot of courses to go over between the two conventions. A. Becker pointed out a mistake on the table provided to the Board. He noted that the date for the Maryland Delaware Water Well Association (MDWWA) 2025 Annual Convention should be February 2025 instead of 2024. M. Ortega thanked A. Becker for pointing out the typo and said that he would make the correction on his end.

National Ground Water Association (NGWA)

A. Becker opened the discussion. He said that after reviewing the list of 47 courses, he felt that there were four that he found questionable. A. Becker listed the four courses to the Board. The Board also made note of four courses that they believed should be in the safety continuing education point (CEP) category: Managing Fatigue: Strategies for Workplace Safety and Health, Power of Written Procedures, Electrical Protection and Safety Disconnect for Your Field Equipment, and Site & Project Safety.

D. Lyman asked about the potential of adding a Business CEP category in the future. M. Ortega explained that the Board discussed this during the first licensing cycle but noted that it would be very challenging for the Department to track a third category. He added that a member of the Board of Licensed Site Remediation Professionals attended a Board meeting during the first cycle and told the Board that they sometimes have issues with their ethics category, which does not frequently have available courses and poses problems to those seeking to meet renewal requirements. It was advised that the CEP categories not become too specific to avoid such problems.

S. Domber suggested that the Board review the rules to see what the Board is specifically able to approve. R. Dalton noted that there are several courses that are strictly business-related. S. Domber suggested tabling the discussion and asked M. Ortega to revisit some of the Board's older motions.

The Board discussed some of the business-related courses and the importance of them to the well drilling and pump installation industry. Several motions followed this discussion.

A motion to deny Meeting, Monitoring, and Managing Groundwater and Wells Through Interactive Technologies was made by R. Dalton. There was no second to the motion, so the motion did not move forward.

A motion to approve State of the Art for High-Rate Groundwater Sand Control: Design, Fabrication, Installation, and Field for a half of a CEP was made by R. Dalton. There was no second to the motion, so the motion did not move forward.

A motion to deny Roundtable: Ask the Master Groundwater Contractor was made by R. Dalton. There was no second to the motion, so the motion did not move forward.

A. Becker noted that he is one of the presenters for this course and said that there would be a lot of interesting topics up for discussion.

A motion to deny Nitrate-impacted Groundwater - How Did This Happen? It's Not Always What You Think was made by R. Dalton. There was no second to this motion, so the motion did not move forward.

A motion to deny Don't Kill Your Golden Goose - Protect & Perpetuate Your Business was made by E. Hoffmann and seconded by S. Domber. R. Dalton and J. Yost were in favor while for A. Becker, G. Poppe, G. Craig, and D. Lyman opposed. The motion did not pass and was a tie. J. Yost subsequently changed his vote from in favor to opposed resulting in the motion to deny the course not passing.

A motion to deny How are You Selling You? Because With or Without Effort Your Name is Out There was made by S. Domber and seconded by E. Hoffmann. All were in favor except for A. Becker, G. Poppe, G. Craig, D. Lyman, and J. Yost. The motion did not pass.

A motion to deny Roundtable: Women in the Groundwater Industry was made by S. Domber and seconded by E. Hoffmann. This motion was approved by all except for A. Becker, G. Poppe, G. Craig, D. Lyman, and J. Yost. The motion did not pass.

A motion to approve One Year Later - Navigating the Build America, Buy America Act was made by J. Yost and seconded by D. Lyman. This motion was approved by all except S. Domber. The motion passed.

A motion to approve all 47 courses was made by S. Domber, seconded by J. Yost, and approved by all except for R. Dalton who abstained.

Below is a list of courses approved by the Board for NGWA's 2025 Groundwater Week:

Course Name	CEPs
Alphabet Soup of Geothermal Heat Pumps	1 Technical
Don't Kill Your Golden Goose - Protect & Perpetuate Your Business	1 Technical
Replacements - Replacement of Avondale Replacement Well 25	1 Technical
Toilet Talk - Lessons from Looking in the Back of the Toilet	1 Technical
Advanced VFD Topics - PID, Ramps, EMI, Harmonics	1 Technical
Boreholes vs. Wells	1 Technical

Metering, Monitoring and Managing Groundwater and Wells Through Interactive Technology	1 Technical
What Warranty?	1 Technical
Managing Fatigue: Strategies for Workplace Safety and Health	1 Safety
Optimizing Geothermal Drilling: Operations, Equipment, and Scalability Insights	1 Technical
Productive Drilling, Solids Control, & Waste Disposal	1 Technical
Understanding Traditional Controls and Submersible Motors	1 Technical
History of HSLA Steel and Other Corrosion Resistant Steel Options for Water Well Applications	1 Technical
Power of Written Procedures	1 Safety
State of the Art for High-Rate Groundwater Sand Control: Design, Fabrication, Installation, and Field Performance	1 Technical
Wire to Water and Smart Installation: Replacement Practices for Improved Efficiency in the 21st Century	1 Technical
Drilling with Air	1 Technical
Electrical Protection and Safety Disconnect for Your Field Equipment	1 Safety
Geothermal Drilling - Lessons Learned	1 Technical
Simple Do and Don't All Specific to Well Rehabilitation - Avoiding Serious Pitfalls	1 Technical
Emerging Contaminants	1 Technical
Hydraulics - The Know-How	1 Technical
Transforming Perspectives on Ground Source Heat Pumps	1 Technical
VFD Control for Ground Water Application	1 Technical
How are You Selling You? Because With or Without Effort Your Name is Out There	1 Technical
Proper Bit Selection	1 Technical
Roundtable: Ask the Master Groundwater Contractor	1 Technical
Your Toolkit for Water Systems	1 Technical
Maximizing Sonic Rig Potential: Infield and Innovative Uses of Sonic Rigs	1 Technical
Remote Monitoring and Control of Water Systems	1 Technical
Roundtable: Passing on Knowledge to the Next Generation	1 Technical
Site & Project Safety	1 Safety
Groundwater Occurrence and Aquifer Types	1 Technical
Integrating UV Water Treatment Systems into Your Existing Product Portfolio	1 Technical
Preventive Maintenance – Extending the Life of Your Water Well	1 Technical
Roundtable: Women in the Groundwater Industry	1 Technical
Leveraging Energy Assessments for Pumping Systems	1 Technical
Nitrate-impacted Groundwater - How Did This Happen? It's Not Always What You Think	1 Technical
Understanding Aquifer Characteristics and Well Performance Through Aquifer Testing	1 Technical
Why Did My Last Rehabilitation Not Meet Expectation	1 Technical
One Year Later - Navigating the Build America, Buy America Act	1 Technical
Slug Tests to Optimize Groundwater Well Design	1 Technical

Sonic Drilling: Pioneers for Progress and Profit	1 Technical
Well Rehabilitation and Construction Techniques Using Inflatable Packers	1 Technical
Benefits of Solar Pumping with Variable Frequency Drives	1 Technical
High Pressure Hydro-Jetting as a Tool in New Well Development	1 Technical
Well Rehabilitation from Start to Finish: Logistics, Planning, Data Collection, Execution, Chemistry, Follow Up	1 Technical

Maryland Delaware Water Well Association (MDWWA)

A. Becker moved on to MDWWA's 2025 Annual Convention. He reminded the Board that their opening Legislative Update course is usually denied by the Board, so the Board did not review that course. The Board went down the list of courses and made individual motions for each class.

A motion to deny State of the US Water Well Industry Report was made by D. Lyman, seconded by R. Dalton, and approved unanimously.

A motion to approve Geothermal in Schools: Great for the Country, the Students, and for the Drilling Industry was made by G. Poppe, seconded by S. Domber, and approved unanimously.

A motion to approve Making the Most of Your Drilling Fluids was made by J. Yost, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

M. Ortega informed the Board that no review of the placeholder jobsite safety course was needed at this time. MDWWA will provide additional information on that course at a later date, which will be forwarded to the Board upon determination that the course application is administratively complete.

A motion to approve Navigating the Unknown: Applying Treatment with Limited Information was made by D. Lyman, seconded by S. Domber, and approved unanimously.

R. Dalton asked about the Classic Series Single Head Pump Workshop course. He asked the Board if anyone was familiar with Stenner pumps, which the course description advertises. A. Becker said that that they are used for chemical treatment. A. Becker did express concern that this course could be primarily a sales pitch.

A motion to deny Classic Series Single Head Pump Workshop was made by R. Dalton, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

A motion to approve Electrical Basics and Tips for Water Systems was made by D. Lyman, seconded by J. Yost, and approved unanimously.

A motion to approve Rising to the Occasion: Workshopping Real-world Corrosion Scenarios was made by G. Poppe, seconded by S. Domber, and approved unanimously.

A motion to approve Contaminants of Concern: Impacts of Groundwater and Remediation was made by D. Lyman, seconded by G. Poppe, and approved unanimously.

A motion to deny Maryland's Board of Well Drillers Function Overview was made by R. Dalton, seconded by S. Domber, and approved unanimously.

5. Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting Enforcement & Field Work Update-

S. Vargo discussed three field inspections that have occurred since the last update. Most notably, he discussed a site visit that he and another staff member performed on October 24, 2024. The inspection, which was for a proposed well in an area of known contamination, had requirements to notify the Department at least three days prior to drilling and to construct the well with an outer casing. The driller contacted the Department on Monday, October 21st, notifying the Department that they would begin construction the following day. S. Vargo contacted the well driller and notified them that they needed to provide three business days in accordance with the permit conditions. The driller rescheduled for another day with enough notice so Department staff could visit the site.

When Department staff arrived on site at the agreed upon start time, the driller informed the inspectors that the outer casing was installed and grouted already. S. Vargo discussed the suspected fraudulent activities that occurred during the inspection. Ultimately, this well was decommissioned by the driller prior to completion, as he could not confirm the depth of the outer casing of the well which was to be installed in a confining unit beneath the contaminated aquifer. A. Becker asked if any fines would come from his inspection. S. Vargo said that the Department will send a Notice of Non-Compliance to the driller and will follow up with a referral to Water Compliance and Enforcement.

A. Becker asked if there was another way for the Department to notify a well driller when there is a three-day notification requirement added to a well permit. M. Schumacher said that the certifying well driller on the permit and the facility administrator will receive emails with permit conditions that are added to a permit upon issuance, beyond those that are standard on all permit applications.

A. Becker thanked S. Vargo for the update.

6. Disinfection/Shock Chlorination of Potable Wells-

S. Reya reintroduced this topic, which was originally brought up in late 2021 by D. Lyman. At the time, the Board contented that only New Jersey licensed well drillers of the proper class and pump installers could remove a well cap to disinfect a well. The Department's contention was that while licensees are permitted to perform this work, the general provisions at N.J.A.C. 7:9D-1.6 do not prohibit unlicensed individuals from performing this work. Therefore, there would be nothing to cite someone on for performing this work without a license. S. Reya reminded the Board that former Board member Jeff Hoffman requested legal interpretation from DAG J. Denyes and her office. The Department had drafted a letter to be sent to an individual who was suspected of improperly disinfecting a well to notify them of the proper requirements.

S. Reya informed the Board that Well Permitting recently had met with J. Denyes and her group to discuss this situation further. Neither N.J.A.C. 7:9D or N.J.A.C. 7:10 speak to requirements for disinfecting private wells. S. Reya explained that the Department sees the importance of this and recommended changes to N.J.A.C. 7:9D. Well Permitting plans on beginning the rule writing process to begin in January 2025 to begin making changes to the rule. J. Denyes apologized for the delayed review and informed the Board that her office is prioritizing this issue.

S. Reya showed the Board a photo of a well pit that was flooded, which he received by a licensed driller. The driller who sent it was advised that the photo depicts well that was recently opened up and disinfected, but was not put together in a sanitary state and the well pit continued to flood and directly drain surface water straight into the well. It was also believed that an unlicensed individual performed the work, and it was noted that customers are potentially unknowingly paying unlicensed individuals to open wells, disinfect them, and then leave them in an unsanitary state. This results in any bacteriological issue that existed not being addressed, despite the customer hiring someone to perform

corrective action. S. Reya noted that this was another example of the potential issues resulting from unlicensed work and the need to send correspondence and potentially update existing rules, if needed. D. Lyman thanked S. Reya for the update.

7. Bureau Implementation of N.J.A.C. 7:10-12.4(c) of the New Jersey Safe Drinking Water Act Rules-

D. Lyman discussed two recent cases where a property owner was authorized by a water system or town to separate from public water, but due to the New Jersey Safe Drinking Water Act rules, N.J.A.C. 7:10, the owner is forced to hook up to public water. A. Becker reminded the Board that Mr. Tom Stover, a New Jersey licensed Journey well driller, had brought this topic up to the Board in the past.

M. Schumacher discussed Well Permitting's perspective. He said in the past, some considerations used to be made regarding the cost of the well versus the cost to hook up to public water. He explained that there is no guidance on what constitutes something being cost prohibitive. M. Schumacher explained Well Permitting's review process for well permits located in a water company's franchise area. He explained that at N.J.A.C. 7:10-12.4(c), the New Jersey Safe Drinking Water Act rules specify that if a water line is 200 feet to the property line, not the distance to the structure, then the owner will be required to hook up to public water.

A. Becker asked how the properties that D. Lyman brought up are currently getting their water if they cannot receive new wells. M. Schumacher explained that the well permits were denied so the owner would need to connect to public water. D. Lyman said that he has reviewed design documents for extending water mains that are over 100 pages long. He explained that this is very difficult for most homeowners. D. Lyman explained that he could see these permits being denied if the well was planned to be drilled in a wellhead protection area or in an area with contamination.

S. Reya said that Well Permitting is currently working to refine their current policy on this issue, and coordinate with the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water to potentially revise this provision of the New Jersey Safe Drinking Water Act rule.

8. Drought Status Update-

S. Domber provided the Board with a brief update on the status of the ongoing drought in New Jersey. He informed the Board that the State of New Jersey entered a drought watch on October 10th and then a drought warning on November 13th. He explained that conditions are still very dry and unseasonably warm.

S. Domber explained that there are no mandatory restrictions under the drought warning. The Department is urging water conservation and is encouraging people to fix leaks. He further explained that the Department does not have a good handle on private wells currently, since permits are not required to lower a well pump. M. Ortega created some charts to show replacement, deepening, and decommissionings of Category 1 wells over a 10-year period of time. These charts showed that the majority of work occurred between 2016 and 2017, which coincided with the last drought warning declared by the State of New Jersey.

M. Ortega shared his charts with the Board, explaining that the data is still a work in progress. He explained that so far, the data has not shown that this drought has had a significant impact on private wells. He attributed this to a lot of shallow wells being decommissioned and replaced during the last drought.

M. Ortega asked G. Poppe and D. Lyman if they had any evidence of specific areas being affected by the drought. D. Lyman said that his company has been receiving a lot of calls to address older wells that are shallow, but they have not done a lot of domestic deepenings. His company has been advising homeowners to do their best to conserve water. D. Lyman expressed concern about this drought continuing into the growing season in the spring.

G. Poppe said that he has had a few issues during the last couple of months. He referred to some hand dug wells and another well that was screened in a shallow aquifer. He singled out the Englishtown formation being an area of concern, between 40 and 100 feet deep in the Colts Neck area. He also said that Lakewood is another area of concern since they have recently added three new community supply wells. He noted that most of these wells are screened in the Cohansey. S. Domber thanked D. Lyman and G. Poppe for their perspective and noted that this is indicative of the data that M. Ortega has collected so far.

S. Domber asked if it would be beneficial if the Department sent out an email to licensed well drillers and pump installers to solicit additional information. A. Becker said that it would be a good idea, but to keep the survey short. He recommended contacting Mr. Brian McGuire to see if the New Jersey Ground Water Association could send it to their mailing list.

9. Program Updates/New Business-

S. Reya discussed a geothermal webinar that he attended the day before the Board meeting. He said that they discussed true geothermal systems instead of the typical geo-exchange systems seen in New Jersey. In the presentation, they discussed wells as deep as six kilometers where super-heated rock is used as an energy source. The presenters were investigating the feasibility of these deep wells on the east coast of the United States.

A. Becker discussed the most recent New Jersey Ground Water Association meeting with the Board. He said that one of the Board members usually gives a briefing about what is discussed during the Board meetings. A. Becker said that he discussed M. Ortega's licensing report from the October meeting and the members were fascinated by the findings.

10. Adjournment-

A. Becker thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 19, 2024.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:38 am was made by S. Domber, seconded by G. Poppe, and approved unanimously.



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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Governor

SHAWN M. LaTOURETTE
Commissioner

TAHESHA WAY, Esq.
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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for December 19, 2024

Approved by the Board on January 16, 2025

Board Members Participating Via Telephone/Microsoft Teams: Art Becker (Chairman), Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Gordon Craig, Dave Lyman, Eric Hoffmann, and Steve Domber

Board Members Absent: Joe Yost and Richard Dalton

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Jill Denyes, NJ Division of Law

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Kat Burkhard, Steve Reya, Mark Miller, Mark Ortega, Steve Vargo, and Jillian Walker

Other NJDEP Staff Present: Don Hirsch, Northern Water Compliance and Enforcement; Alexandra Carone, Geological Mapping and Coastal Geology Section

Members of the Public: Brian McGuire, MB Drilling LLC

1. Call to Order and Introductions-

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Board's website. A. Becker wished everyone happy and safe holidays and thanked them for attending.

2. Review and Certification of November 21, 2024, Meeting Minutes-

A. Becker asked if anyone had any comments on the draft minutes from the November 21, 2024, Board meeting. A. Becker pointed out a necessary spelling correction under item 6 in the third paragraph. No further comments were made.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from November 21, 2024, with the necessary spelling correction in Item 6, was made by S. Domber, seconded by G. Poppe, and approved unanimously.

3. Review of License Applicants-

A. Becker summarized the list of license applicants which were approved by the Department. There was one Journeyman well driller applicant, one Environmental Resource and Geotechnical (ERG) well driller license applicant, and one Pump Installer license applicant. A. Becker noted that there was an additional application submitted to the Department which was marked as incomplete. A. Becker asked if anyone had any comments on the list of license applicants. No comments were made.

A motion to approve the license applicants was made by G. Craig, Seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

Below is a list of license applicants approved for licensure:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
Journeyman	Garett D. Stiers	MB Drilling, LLC
ERG	Steven T. Comis	MB Drilling, LLC
Pump Installer	Kevin F. Ryan	Wm. M. Ryan & Co., Inc.

4. Continuing Education Course Review/Classification-

S. Reya reintroduced the topic of course review and classification for business-type continuing education courses, which was tabled during the November 21st meeting. It was also noted that prior to the meeting, he provided the Board with a summary document relevant Board motions from September 2018 and October 2018 dictating continuing education course approval and license renewal eligibility requirements. Relevant rule language was presented from N.J.A.C. 7:9D-1.9(g)3, listing criteria for which the Department will not approve a course. Rule language from N.J.A.C. 7:9D-1.10(j) was presented as well, noting this rule leaves discretion to the Board to approve or deny business-type courses as industry courses.

The Board suggested adding a third category for business-type courses. S. Reya explained that the Department does not see the merit in adding an additional category. Adding a third category will make continuing education point (CEP) tracking more difficult for the Department and will make it more difficult for licensees to renew. S. Reya cited a discussion with representatives of the Board of Licensed Site Remediation Professionals, in which they discouraged the Board from creating a category that did not have a lot of course offerings as it proved difficult for licensees to meet renewal requirements in their program.

A. Becker agreed the way the rule is written leaves discretion up to the Board to approve business-type courses. He noted that the referenced rule language states that the Board must review continuing education courses that cover “subject matter related to the industry.” Both he and DAG, Jill Denyes discussed how this affords the Board discretion to determine what courses they believe to be relevant and industry-related. G. Poppe agreed business courses are relevant, and the Board should have the ability to approve or deny these courses. E. Hoffman expressed concern with the potential for drillers and pump installers to take all business-type courses during license renewal and not take enough technical courses.

S. Domber mentioned bringing a presenter to a future Board meeting to speak on the topic of recruiting younger people to the well industry, which the business-type courses are often about. The Board expressed positivity toward this idea.

5. Drought Status and Outreach Update-

M. Miller provided the Board with an update of the current drought status and presented 30-day trend data after recent rainfall. New Jersey is still in a drought warning with no foreseeable change, despite surrounding states having moved out of a drought warning status.

M. Ortega summarized the results of a survey recently sent to well drillers and pump installers to gauge if the drought has resulted in an increase in calls to service well pumps and replace water supply wells. Per survey responses, there has not been a major increase in service calls, which echoes what the Board had reported in the November 21st meeting.

6. Adjournment-

S. Reya thanked the Board for their participation on the Board and for being so helpful in providing their expertise throughout the year. M. Miller reminded the Board that the Department will begin the rule writing process in January 2025. A. Becker mentioned that Mr. Dermot Dillon was recently elected to the National Ground Water Association's Board of Directors and offered congratulations to him.

A. Becker thanked everyone for their participation this year. The next meeting will be held Thursday, January 16, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.