



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 Conference Call Minutes for August 12, 2021

Approved by the Board on September 23, 2021

Board Members Present at NJDEP Headquarters Building: N/A

Board Members Participating Via Telephone: Art Becker (Chairman), Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Joe Yost, Gordon Craig, Dave Lyman, Eric Hoffmann, Jeff Hoffman, 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: Terry Pilawski, Joe Mattle, Steve Reya, Mark Ortega, and Steve Vargo

Members of the Public: N/A

1. Call to Order-

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 am with a quorum present via telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by phone were listed on the Department's website.

2. Review and Certification of the July 22, 2021 Conference Call Minutes-

A motion to approve the draft minutes as written was made by G. Poppe, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved by everyone except for J. Hoffman and J. Yost who abstained because they were not present for the July 22nd meeting.

3. Licensing-

Review of License Applicants

The Board members reviewed the applicant information for one journeyman well driller license. A. Becker asked if there was any discussion needed for the license candidate. No further discussion was needed. The license application reviewed is as follows:

License Type	Applicant Name	Employer
Pump Installer	Luke Dvorak	A.C. Schultes, Inc.

A motion to approve the license applicant was made by G. Poppe, seconded by J. Yost, and approved unanimously.

4. Continuing Education-

S. Reya said that WorldWide Drilling Resource (WorldWide) had contacted the Department to report a change in instructors for their upcoming WorldWide DownHome DrillFest seminar in Branson, Missouri. The seminar was previously approved for eight continuing education points (CEPs) and one of their approved presenters was no longer able to participate in the event. WorldWide provided updated instructor and course information for review.

A. Becker noted that he has taken courses from the new instructor and said that he teaches excellent courses. No further discussion was needed:

A motion to approve the change to the 2021 WorldWide DownHome DrillFest was made by J. Hoffman, seconded by G. Craig, and approved unanimously.

5. Disinfection of Wells by Unlicensed Individuals-

A. Becker asked J. Denyes if there was any update from her office regarding the disinfection topic that had been discussed during the June and July meetings. DAG J. Denyes apologized for not having an official answer for the Board yet, citing that there have been delays due to availability issues in her office. She said that she anticipates sending a response to J. Hoffman’s inquiry before the September meeting takes place. A. Becker and G. Poppe noted that since there was no update no action was needed from the Board. This topic will be added to the September agenda for follow-up.

T. Pilawski noted that Bureau staff has an upcoming meeting with the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water about a related topic, which was raised by the Sussex County Health Department. She said that she invited J. Denyes to that meeting to keep her in the loop as it is also related to disinfection of wells by unlicensed individuals.

6. New Items-

S. Reya informed the Board that there has been progress with the Direct Exchange geothermal system grout demo. He reminded the Board about Total Green’s proposed well construction, which involves grouting a copper pipe inside of a PVC pipe. Total Green proposed testing two different grouts with different thermal conductivities. He said that recently a licensed well driller submitted five well permits for a residence in Burlington County. While the permits have not been approved by the Department, it appears that the documentation that the driller submitted matches what Total Green most recently proposed to the Board and Department back in 2019.

S. Reya said that he would let the Board know once a date has been selected and asked for volunteers to attend. A. Becker, G. Poppe, J. Yost, G. Craig, and R. Dalton all expressed interest with attending, noting that only four Board members could attend.

A. Becker asked who would be drilling the wells. S. Reya said that Mr. Mike Ryan of Environmental Technical Drilling submitted well permit applications and would be drilling the wells.

D. Lyman asked S. Reya if he had heard anything from CETCO about the permeability tests for the grout demo on June 25th. S. Reya said that he has not heard back from CETCO or the lab yet.

7. Adjournment-

A. Becker thanked the Board members for their attendance and participation. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 23, 2021, at 9:30 am via conference call.

At 9:48 am, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by G. Poppe, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.