



DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

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April 1, 2008

TO: APPROVED WELL TESTERS

FROM: COREY T. DEANGELIS, CHIEF – WATER MEASUREMENT BRANCH
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES, DIVISION 3

SUBJECT: MEASUREMENT RULE POLICY 2008-3.1.B

- **CLARIFICATION AND VARIANCE TO MEASUREMENT RULE 3.1**
 - VARIANCE TO USE A FIELD CALIBRATION COEFFICIENT

EFFECTIVE DATE: APRIL 11, 2008

PURPOSE:

This MEASUREMENT RULE POLICY pertains to RULE 3.1 of the **RULES GOVERNING THE MEASUREMENT OF GROUND WATER DIVERSIONS LOCATED IN WATER DIVISION NO. 3, THE RIO GRANDE BASIN (RULES)**.

- Rule 3.1.1 of the Rules states that “an installed flow meter shall be deemed to be in accurate operating condition when the flow measured by the meter is within plus or minus 5% of an independent field measurement made using calibrated test equipment.”
- Rule 3.1.4 of the Rules states “Should a meter fail to meet the accuracy standard, the well owner may seek a variance to use a field calibration coefficient computed by a Qualified Well Tester using standards established by the State Engineer.”
- This POLICY addresses the VARIANCE TO USE FIELD CALIBRATION COEFFICIENT (CORRECTION FACTOR) WITHIN 5-8% OF ACTUAL VERIFIED FLOW.

POLICY FOR APPLICATION OF CORRECTION FACTOR:

- Division of Water Resources, Division 3 may grant a request for a variance to allow the use of a CORRECTION FACTOR computed by a Qualified Well Tester for totalizing flow meters that measure within plus or minus 5 % up to 8% of an independent field measurement made using calibrated test equipment. Following are required conditions of a granted variance request to allow a Correction Factor:
 - The variance will utilize the CORRECTION FACTOR computed by a Qualified Well Tester for a maximum of 1-year.
 - A new CORRECTION FACTOR computed by a Qualified Well Tester shall be required each year thereafter.
 - A variance will only be allowed for an individual totalizing flow meter for a maximum of 3-years. After 3-years the totalizing flow meter must be repaired or replaced and working within the required plus or minus 5%.

- The procedure for requesting a variance to allow the use of a CORRECTION FACTOR computed by a Qualified Well Tester is summarized below:
 - Completion and submittal of Form 3.1 – Meter Verification, Re-verification, New Meter Installation. This form will provide the results of a field test by a Qualified Well Tester including; the meter accuracy and CORRECTION FACTOR.
 - The portion of Form 3.1 – Variance Request To Use Correction Factor For TFM Between 5-8% (Variance Requests Only), located on Page 4 of 5, must be completed by the Well Owner and/or User.
 - If the Request for a Variance to use a correction factor is made after the submittal of Form 3.1, the request can be made by submitting Form 11.0 – Variance Request. All required information shall be included on Form 11.0 to be considered valid.

- Current CORRECTION FACTOR WILL be applied to ALL use records for a one year period following the date of the Field Test, unless the TFM is repaired or replaced.

- A variance WILL NOT be issued to allow a CORRECTION FACTOR for totalizing flow meters above the required 5% accuracy up to 8% if the inaccuracy is due to the totalizing flow meter or appurtenance being intentionally damaged or modified by the owner and/or user of the well.

- All requirements and terms outlined in Policy Memorandum 2006-1 issued by the State Engineer, dated July 26, 2006 shall be applicable to variance requests.

- Following is a summary of the VARIANCE POLICY FOR TFM CORRECTION FACTORS:

INSTALLED TFM ACCURACY	CORRECTION FACTOR	Action Required
0.0% to ±5.0%	0.950 to 1.050	No action required.
±5.0% to ±8.0%	0.920 to 0.950 OR 1.050 to 1.080	REQUEST FOR VARIANCE must be submitted (FORM 11.0) with FORM 3.1 AND CORRECTION FACTOR will be applied to all use records
more than ±8.0%	<0.920 or >1.080	Unacceptable; test will be rejected. INSTALLED TFM must be repaired or replaced and the system retested (See Rule 3.1.3).

If you have any questions regarding this MEASUREMENT POLICY, contact DIVISION 3 GROUND WATER MEASUREMENT BRANCH at 719-589-6683: Corey T. DeAngelis (Ext. 3105).