



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 (DWR)

SUBJECT: MEASUREMENT RULE POLICY 2008-7A

- **CLARIFICATION TO MEASUREMENT RULE 7 – INACTIVE WELLS**
 - PERMANENTLY INACTIVE WELLS
 - ANNUAL INACTIVE WELLS
 - “ARTESIAN” WELLS

EFFECTIVE DATE: APRIL 11, 2008

PURPOSE:

This MEASUREMENT RULE POLICY pertains to RULE 7 of the **RULES GOVERNING THE MEASUREMENT OF GROUND WEATER DIVERSIONS LOCATED IN WATER DIVISION NO. 3, THE RIO GRANDE BASIN (RULES)**.

- Rule 7 of the Rules states that permanently “Inactive Wells are excluded from these rules... Once an Inactive Well affidavit is filed.....no further filings are required under these rules unless the owner wishes to change the Well from inactive status to active status.” Wells not permanently disabled are required to annually renew inactive status (Form 7).
- This POLICY addresses INACTIVE REQUIREMENTS of Wells including REQUIRED ANNUAL RENEWEL OF *CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF* INACTIVE WELLS.
- This POLICY addresses INACTIVE REQUIREMENTS of Wells including ARTESIAN Wells.

INACTIVATION REQUIREMENTS

PERMANENTLY INACTIVE WELLS:

- Wells that are permanently disabled and NOT USED (no water diverted) for any purposes are required to file an affidavit (Form 7 – Inactivation) with DWR. To be considered permanently disabled the Well must be disconnected from the power supply as indicated on page 1 of Form 7 (*Well Disconnected From Power – You MUST check one of the following*), and referenced below:
 - The Well has NO PUMP, OR
 - The pump is electrically powered, BUT there is no electric meter, OR
 - The pump is electrically powered, BUT electric power has been disconnected.

- Wells that are permanently disabled, as outlined above, are considered Inactive and are NOT required to file any additional affidavit UNLESS the Owner or User desires to change an Inactive Well to an Active Well (Re-Activate). In order to Re-Activate an Inactive Well the Owner and/or User must accomplish the following:
 - Have a TFM installed and verified by a certified well tester that the TFM is in accurate operating condition (Form 3.1 – Notice of Totalizing Flow Meter Verification, Re-Verification, Or Replacement; AND
 - Submit Form 3.1 to DWR; AND
 - Submit Form 7.1 – Re-Activation.

- The Well CAN NOT BE USED OR WATER WITHDRAWN UNTIL THE WELLHEAD ORDER POSTED IS REMOVED BY DWR (if wellhead order was posted).

ANNUAL INACTIVE WELLS:

- Wells that are NOT permanently disabled and NOT USED (no water diverted) for any purposes are required to file an affidavit (Form 7 – Inactivation) ANNUALLY with DWR. This includes Wells that are Inactive but the Wells are NOT disconnected from power or are not powered by means of an electrical connections as indicated on page 2 of Form 7, and referenced below:
 - There is power at the electric meter, but the pump is the ONLY electrical device on that meter, OR
 - There is power at the electric meter, but the pump is NOT the only electrical device on that meter, OR
 - Pump is NOT electrically powered (e.g., it is powered by solar energy, propane, gasoline, etc. or is artesian).

- Wells that are NOT permanently disabled, as outlined above, MUST submit a new Form 7 annually. These Wells are considered Inactive and can NOT be used (no water diverted) as such UNLESS the Owner or User desires to change an Inactive Well to an Active Well (Re-Activate). In order to Re-Activate an Inactive Well the Owner and/or User must accomplish the following:
 - Have TFM installed and verified by certified well tester that the TFM is in accurate operating condition (Form 3.1 – Notice of Totalizing Flow Meter Verification, Re-Verification, Or Replacement; AND
 - Submit Form 3.1 to DWR; AND
 - Submit Form 7.1 – Re-Activation.

- The Well CAN NOT BE USED OR WATER WITHDRAWN UNTIL THE WELLHEAD ORDER POSTED IS REMOVED BY DWR (if wellhead order was posted).

ARTESIAN – INACTIVE WELLS

- Artesian Wells that free-flow (divert water without use of pump) or have the potential to free-flow and are not equipped with a pump MUST be permanently disabled as follows to be considered INACTIVE:
 - All discharges from the well must be reduced to a total diameter of 2-inches or less; AND
 - The total flow under all conditions MUST BE LESS THAN 50 gallons per minute (GPM); AND
 - The overflow from the well can only be used for domestic purposes including in-house use, irrigation of less than 1-acre and stock watering.

- Wells equipped with a pump that are artesian or have the potential of artesian flow must meet all of the criteria for INACTIVE Wells.

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).