

Water Well Pump Installer Licensing and Continuing Education Required by Senate Enrolled Act 356

With the passage of Senate Enrolled Act 356 (SEA 356) by the 2010 Indiana General Assembly, **“a person who installs or repairs water well pumps”** must be licensed by the IDNR beginning in 2011. In addition, SEA 356 requires that a **“licensed water well driller or pump installer must complete at least six (6) hours of approved continuing education before December 31 of each even-numbered year for license renewal”**. SEA 356 becomes effective July 1, 2010.

The IDNR, Division of Water anticipates that a single license card will be issued that will specify whether an individual is a water well driller, water well pump installer, or both. The annual fee for an original or renewed license (driller, pump installer, or both) is expected to remain at \$100.

Prior to July 1, 2011, an individual can obtain a water well pump installer license from the IDNR without taking a competency exam if they meet the following qualifications:

- 1) Be at least 18 years of age;
- 2) Furnish evidence that the applicant has installed water well pumps for at least three (3) years;
- 3) Furnish references from three (3) individuals who are licensed under IC 25-39 and are familiar with the applicant’s experience and competency; and
- 4) Pay a \$100 license fee.

Individuals who do not meet the qualifications listed above, or have not obtained a pump installer license by July 1, 2011, are required to meet the following qualifications in order to obtain a license:

- 1) Be at least 18 years of age;
- 2) Furnish evidence from three (3) references, two (2) of whom are water well drillers, water well pump installers or licensed plumbing contractors familiar with the applicant’s work experience and professional competency;
- 3) Have successfully completed a competency examination prepared and administered by the department; and
- 4) Pay a \$100 license fee.

Beginning in 2012, a person who has held a well driller and/or pump installer license for at least one (1) calendar year must complete at least six (6) hours of approved continuing education for license renewal. A minimum of six hours of continuing education is believed to be applicable for the renewal of each license; therefore, a combination water well driller and pump installer license will require a minimum of twelve (12) total hours of approved continuing education for license renewal during each even-numbered year.

The Division of Water is currently developing the application, work verification and reference forms for the water well pump installer license, as well as forms for the verification of continuing education. These new forms, as well as the pump installer licensing exam, will be made available later this year. The Division of Water is also in

the process of amending the Water Well Driller's Rule (312 IAC 13) to accommodate the new provisions of SEA 356. The proposed rule revisions were presented to the Natural Resources Advisory Council by the Division of Water on June 9, 2010, and have been recommended to be preliminarily adopted by the Natural Resources Commission. The next meeting of the Natural Resources Commission is scheduled for 10:00 am (EDT) on July 20, 2010, at The Garrison located in Fort Harrison State Park, Indianapolis. If the proposed rule is preliminarily adopted at that time, the IDNR will conduct hearings throughout the State to obtain public comment. The Division of Water will provide water well drillers and pump installers with dates and locations of the public hearings when they have been scheduled. Within the next several weeks, a copy of the proposed rule and updates regarding the new licensing and continuing education program will be made available for review on the Division of Water's Webpage at www.in.gov/dnr/water.

For updates or additional information regarding the new water well pump installer licensing and continuing education programs, please contact Mark Basch or Monique Riggs of the Division of Water at the following phone numbers or e-mail addresses:
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