

Ann Edwards  
County Executive



Bruce Wagstaff  
Deputy County Executive  
Social Services Agency

Environmental Management  
Department

Marie Woodin, Director

## County of Sacramento

---

Date: December 11, 2013 (Revised)

To: EMD Wells Website (<http://www.emd.saccounty.net/EnvComp/WP/Wells.html>)

**SUBJECT: PUMP REMOVAL/REPLACEMENT/REPAIR PERMIT COMPLIANCE BULLETIN**

This "Compliance Bulletin" has been issued to notify members of our regulated community that, effective January 2, 2014, we will no longer be fully waiving the \$320 permit fee for pump permits. The new, partially waived pump permit fee will be \$107. We have made this correction in an effort to recover the costs associated with processing and approving the permits and ensuring compliance with Sacramento County Code, Chapter 6.28 ("Wells & Pumps"). We will continue to review our cost recovery for this program and it may be necessary to make further adjustments in the future.

To qualify for a partial fee waiver, the applicant must submit a permit application with a fee payment of \$107 and receive permit approval prior to performing the work. If the work qualifies as "emergency work required to maintain drinking, agricultural, or industrial water supply systems, or to prevent an imminent and substantial threat to public health and safety" (see Table, p. 2), the permit application and fee must be submitted within 3 working days of starting the work. In either case, the following information must be submitted to EMD within 30 days of completing the work:

- Photographs of the final surface construction features of the well; and
- GPS coordinates (latitude and longitude) for the well.

If it is necessary for us to conduct a field inspection of the well because we do not receive the required submittals or we are unable to confirm code compliance by viewing the submitted photographs, the applicant will be invoiced for the time necessary to conduct an inspection of the well at our hourly rate of \$213.

**Please note that a pump permit is required any time you break the well seal to complete down-hole work. This includes pump repair, pump replacement, down-hole videos, and well rehabilitation (including chemical treatment, surging, jetting, sonic cleaning, vibratory explosives and combinations thereof).** We have created the Table on p. 2 of this document to assist you in complying with our Well & Pump Ordinance.

Our entire Well & Pump Ordinance (Sacramento County Code, Title 6, Chapter 6.28) may be accessed online at: <http://qcode.us/codes/saccounty/>.

Please contact Megan Floyd at (916) 591-0082 (or [FloydM@saccounty.net](mailto:FloydM@saccounty.net)) if you have any questions.

## SACRAMENTO COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT PUMP REMOVAL/REPAIR/REPLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Do you need to break the well seal to complete the work?

Yes.	No.
You need a permit.	You do not need a permit.

Is the work “emergency work required to maintain drinking, agricultural, or industrial water supply systems, or to prevent an imminent and substantial threat to public health and safety?”

Yes.	No.
<p>You may immediately commence work required to restore the water supply or abate the threat to public safety, but you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Apply for a permit within 3 working days of starting the work;</li> <li>(b) Satisfy EMD that it was an emergency; and</li> <li>(c) Demonstrate that you complied with the well ordinance.</li> </ul>	<p>You need to apply for the permit and receive approval prior to beginning the work. You are eligible for a partial fee waiver (\$107 permit fee) if you are willing to submit GPS coordinates and photographs within 30 days of completing the work.</p>

Did you either fail to obtain a permit prior to completing non-emergency work or fail to apply for a permit within 3 working days of starting emergency work?

Yes.	No.
<p>You have violated Section 6.28.030.A of our well ordinance. Under Section 6.28.030.A.2, you may be eligible for a late fee for your required permit in lieu of formal enforcement action if it is your first offense. The cost of a pump repair/replacement permit under this provision is \$640. The alternative to this provision is a “Notice of Violation” and formal enforcement action, with penalties of up to \$10,000 per day, per well, per violation.</p>	<p>No action necessary</p>