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State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION
MEMORANDUM

SCOTT A. ANGELLE
SECRETARY

JAMES H. WELSH
COMMISSIONER OF CONSERVATION

To: Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Well Operators / Ground Water Well Owners

From: James H. Welsh
Commissioner of Conservation

Date: August 21, 2008

Subject: **Ground Water Use Other than Drilling Rig Supply**
Office of Conservation Water Well Notification and Evaluation Requirements

This memorandum is provided to inform oil and gas exploration and production well operators and water well owners of the water well notification requirements for all drilling rig supply wells and ground water well use for purposes other than drilling rig supply.

Louisiana Revised Statute 38:3097.3 and LAC 43:VI.701 require that 60 days prior to the drilling of a water well, Notice of Intent to Drill must be submitted by the well owner to the Office of Conservation (Conservation). There are four well types that are not required to provide notice to Conservation sixty days prior to drilling. These include drilling rig supply wells, domestic wells, replacement wells and drought relief wells.

As the law states, drilling rig supply wells are "used only for the duration of the oil and gas drilling operation at the drilling location where sited for the immediate needs of rig operations." La. R.S. 38:3097.3.C(4)(a)(iii). In other words, a drilling rig supply well is to be used only temporarily for as long as the associated oil or gas well is being drilled. When the oil or gas well drilling operation is complete, this office must be notified of any change in well use or well type. For this reason all post installation notifications claiming to notify this office of a drilling rig supply well, shall be required to identify the serial number of the oil or gas well it has been drilled to supply.

Notification of change in information is required by LAC 43:VI.703.B.1.e. This includes any transfers of ownership and/or changes of well use or type. All notifications of change in information to a well use or well type, which is not exempt from the sixty (60) day prior notification requirement of LAC 43:VI.701.B, must be submitted to Conservation at least sixty (60) days prior to the change in well use or well type. (See NOTE).

All water well notifications or change of information amendments must be submitted with a properly completed Ground Water Resources Form. To obtain a copy of the form, contact Ground Water Resources Program staff at 225-342-8244 or download the form at <http://dnr.louisiana.gov/CONS/gwater/GWR-01RI.pdf>. Submit completed forms by mail, e-mail or fax to the contact information provided below.

NOTE: water wells used for supplying hydraulic fracturing operations at oil and gas exploration and production sites, also known as Frac Water Supply Wells, do not meet the definition of drilling rig supply wells and shall therefore provide notification to the Office of Conservation sixty (60) days prior to drilling or change of use as set forth above.

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