



## Nevada Well Driller's Annual Newsletter June 2017

State of Nevada  
Division of Water  
Resources  
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Service Since  
1903

### MESSAGE FROM JASON KING, STATE ENGINEER

As I am writing this, we have approximately 30 days left in the 2017 Legislative Session. I can't remember a session where there have been more "water" related bills being introduced and discussed. I believe the proliferation of water related bills this session is directly tied to three things: 1) over-appropriated basins and domestic well use and their priority; 2) the recent prolonged drought; and 3) the ever increasing litigation associated with water right decisions. Two of those bills, Senate Bill (SB) 47 and SB 51 were introduced by our office. We characterize SB 47 as a "housekeeping" bill that we believe clarifies or makes minor adjustments to various sections throughout the water law. SB 51 is a modernization of the adjudication statutes found in Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 533. Much of the current language remains unchanged since introduced in 1919 and SB 51 is an attempt to modernize the language, not change the process.

Other bills of interest to water professionals are: Assembly Bill (AB) 52 dealing with dissolved mineral exploration (lithium); AB 138 which legalizes rain capture from single family dwellings; AB 209 dealing with forfeiture; SB 270 which puts a deadline of December 31, 2027, for filing proofs of vested claims; and AB 298 which addresses Monitoring, Management and Mitigation (3M) Plans. All the bills must pass both the Senate and Assembly and be signed by the Governor before becoming law.

Of special interest to Nevada's well drillers is AB 52. If the bill is passed, as it was last amended, it would require that *licensed water well drillers* be used to drill *dissolved mineral exploratory holes*. This is a departure from exploration drilling for hard rock mining, the difference being that in order to mine dissolved minerals, water must be produced in the process.

Legislative activities aside, northern Nevada experienced one of the wettest winters of record. Reservoirs are being lowered in anticipation of the spring/summer runoff – it will be nice to have full reservoirs headed into the irrigation and peak water use season. I wish the same could be said for the Colorado River system. Although it has been a decent water year along the Colorado, the system is in dire need of a string of very wet years.

Please never hesitate to contact our office with any questions you have and as always, thanks for everything you do and I hope you have a great 2017!

Best Regards,  
Jason King, P.E

### FUN WATER FACTS

- The total amount of water on the earth is about 326 million cubic miles or 358,964,190,060,000,000,000 gallons.
- Of all the water on the earth, humans can only use about 3 tenths of 1 percent.
- About 15 percent of U.S. residents receive their water from private wells.
- By the time a person feels thirsty, his or her body has lost over 1 percent of its total water amount.
- 8-10 glasses of water a day significantly eases back and joint pain for most sufferers.
- Pure water has a neutral pH of 7, which is neither acidic nor basic.
- Water weighs about 8.34 pounds per gallon.



**You can access the web for your carryover CEU's**

Just go to our website at [water.nv.gov](http://water.nv.gov), click on the "Programs" tab. Under the "Well Driller Licensing Renewals and Continuing Education" topic, click on the "Carryover CEU's for July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018".

**CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE**

**[HTTP://WATER.NV.GOV](http://WATER.NV.GOV)**  
and click on the "Programs" tab to view well driller program information.

## Statewide Well Driller's Advisory Board Members

Advisory Board Member's Name	License Number	Company	Location
Daniel Kohlman	2193	Boart Longyear	Elko, Nevada
Harlen (Andy) Andresen	1028	Andresen Exploration Drilling	Reno, Nevada
Steven Hamrick	1426	Great Basin Drilling	Pahrump, Nevada
Steven Loughry	1563	Allied Drilling	Winnemucca, Nevada
Manuel Quinones II	2272	Eagle Drilling Services	Las Vegas, Nevada

### Upcoming Well Drillers Exam Dates

May 9, 2017 – The Board meets in Carson City to conduct oral interviews (part III)  
 May 10, 2017 – The Board meets in Las Vegas to conduct oral interviews (part III)  
 June 15, 2017 – Written Examination parts I & II is given in Carson City, Elko and Las Vegas  
 July 13, 2017 – Written Examination parts I & II is given in Carson City, Elko and Las Vegas  
 August 8, 2017 – The Board meets in Carson City to conduct oral interviews (part III)  
 August 9, 2017 – The Board meets in Las Vegas to conduct oral interviews (part III)  
 September 21, 2017 – Written Examination parts I & II is given in Carson City, Elko and Las Vegas  
 October 12, 2017 – Written Examination parts I & II is given in Carson City, Elko and Las Vegas  
 November 7, 2017 – The Board meets in Carson City to conduct oral interviews (part III)  
 November 8, 2017 – The Board meets in Las Vegas to conduct oral interviews (part III)  
 December 14, 2017 – Written Examination parts I & II is given in Carson City, Elko and Las Vegas

The Well Drillers Exam consists of three parts:

- I.) A written examination to determine the applicant's knowledge of the State of Nevada's Regulations for Water Well and Related Drilling.
- II.) Identification of a well location on a USGS topographic map by Township, Range, Section and quarter-quarter.
- III.) An oral interview by the Statewide Well Driller's Advisory Board regarding the applicant's experience and knowledge of general drilling practices.

### Reminders of Specific Deadlines & Reporting Periods

- Notice of Intent (NOI) shall be filed **three (3) working days** before the rig is set up. A copy of the NOI approval must be in the possession of the licensed driller at the work site.
- NOI is valid for **sixty (60) days** from date of filing. If a NOI expires, a new notice and fee must be filed and approved and the previous NOI must be referenced on the new card.
- A Well Driller's Report shall be filed within **thirty (30) days** after the well is completed.
- The Division requires a **24 hour notice** (phone call to a well supervisor) before plugging a well.

### Well Drillers Licensed in the State of Nevada

The Statewide Well Driller's Advisory Board recommended licenses for 35 new well drillers from 2016 through June 2017 . As of July 2017, there are a total of **346** Nevada licensed water well drillers.

License No.	Driller's Name
2535	Joshua Combs
2536	Chad Miner
2537	Frank Kurnik
2538	Joshua Beckett
2539	Troy Holbrook
2540	Jeffery Carrick
2541	Luke Hair
2542	Jim Hale
2543	Tyrone Tittle
2544	Robert Sawrey
2545	David Tersigni
2546	Clayton White
2547	Christopher Shedeger
2548	Ryan Miller
2549	Shane McDougal
2550	Michael Limb
2551	Travis Curtis
2552	Steven Neilsen
2553	Tommy Mixon
2554	Patrick Harris
2555	Jake Merrill
2556	Trevor Parsons
2557	Brady White
2558	Jesse Groene
2559	Grant McCoy
2560	Alex Larsen
2561	Travis Peterson
2562	Jonathon Trimbach
2563	Kenneth Porter
2564	Matt McCoy
2565	Jon Tedrick
2566	Robert Harden
2567	Scott Belknap
2568	Matthew Lutje
2869	Eric Prichard



Caterpillar tracks and a dozer blade help this rig operate in the desert playa.

#### \*ANNOUNCEMENTS\*

Water Resource Specialist Shannon McDaniel has left the well drilling section. Shannon recently passed the examination to become a Nevada Licensed Professional Engineer and was promptly promoted to manage the TCID mapping project in the Water Rights Section. Luckily for us, Shannon is always willing to help out the well drillers when we are short handed. Jake Echeverria has moved into Shannon's position and will now run the well driller testing and licensing program and CEU classes.

### Nevada Division of Water Resources Website

The Division's website has been reconstructed to not only provide a more modern look but to also make it more responsive. This means that the website will render more efficiently across multiple devices such as desktops, tablets and smart phones. The website is continually updated with news briefs, workshop dates, coming events as well as new features. The website presents a "live" look at the Division's Water Rights Database allowing the public to track the progress of pending applications or check the status of existing water rights. This database is a very valuable and powerful tool for water right professionals and permittees.

A change that will be coming soon is a complete revamp of the Well Driller's database and web page. This will provide cross-referencing of multiple databases maintained by the Division and will result in well drilling information that is more easily accessible. Additional search options and data sorting will make accessing information such as well driller reports, notice of intent cards, and waivers much easier. Once these changes are rolled-out on the public web page, our staff will provide tutorials on using the web page to maximum advantage during our regulations and forms classes, which are offered at various times throughout the year.

Please help the Division maintain and improve the database by notifying us of any omissions or errors that you may find. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions regarding the website, please email Brian McMenamy ([bmcmenamy@water.nv.gov](mailto:bmcmenamy@water.nv.gov)).

### Well Drilling CEU Classes

Coming up in the fall of 2017, the well drilling section will send our usual scheduling notification for the Regulations and Forms class and well driller licensing testing; setting places, times and dates for these important events. The well drilling section's Regulations and Forms class is required every other renewal period and counts towards 4.0 Continuing Education Units (CEUs). We have made a concerted effort to offer our class at various water and/or well drilling related expos, conventions, symposiums, etc. The advantage of attending classes at these events is they typically offer other qualifying classes and, therefore, all of your CEUs can be obtained at one time. Be aware that expos, conventions and symposiums typically charge a registration fee to attend. The well drilling section does not have any say in the setting of the fees and does not receive any of the proceeds. We will continue to offer classes free of charge at our office in Carson City (teleconferenced to Las Vegas), Elko and one in Winnemucca.

The Division is frequently asked to discuss a wide range of water topics at expos, conventions and symposiums; however, only the official 4-hour Regulations and Forms class satisfies the renewal requirement. Other presentations may count toward your remaining CEU requirement. If you have any question about qualifying classes, please contact our office.

## Contact Directory

### **Carson City Office** **775-684-2800**

Division of Water Resources  
901 South Stewart St., Suite 2002  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

### **Southern Nevada Office** **702-486-2770**

Division of Water Resources  
400 Shadow Lane,  
Suite 201  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

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### **Water Well & Drilling Questions**

*Carson City Office*  
Ken Haffey  
Jake Echeverria  
Michael Scott  
Vacant

*Southern Nevada Office*  
Tracy Geter  
Christi (Emery) Cooper

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### **Drillers License, Exam and CEU Questions**

*Carson City Office*  
Jake Echeverria

*Southern Nevada Office*  
Tracy Geter

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### **Nevada State Contractors Board**

Henderson Office  
(702) 486-1100

Reno Office  
(775) 688-1141