



NEVADA DIVISION OF
WATER RESOURCES



Nevada Department of
**CONSERVATION &
NATURAL RESOURCES**

Proposed Amendments to NAC 534

January 23, 2025

Presented by:

Chad Walling, P.E.
Chief, Well Drilling Regulations and
Adjudications

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EXECUTIVE ORDER 2023-004

Signed by Gov. Lombardo on 1/12/23

Review all occupational licensing requirements

Provide a pathway for facilitating licensure reciprocity

Submit a responsive report



NDWR REPORT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER

JOE LOMBARDO
GOVERNOR

Nevada Well Driller's Licensing Statutes and Regulations



Report Responsive to Executive Order 2023-004

Submitted March 31, 2023

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
James Settelmeyer, Director

Division of Water Resources
Adam Sullivan, P.E., State Engineer

Prepared by the Division of Water Resources at the direction of the Advisory Board

The report consisted of 4 key sections

- Existing regulations
- Justification
- Recommended revisions
- Pathway for reciprocity

Board recommended regulation revisions and establishing a reciprocity program

SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT



Questionnaire to solicit responses from small businesses

- Determine if the amended regulations is likely to impose a direct and significant economic burden upon a small business
- 6 responses from 5 qualifying small business
- Comments received both in support and in opposition

Small Impact Business Statement available on the Division's website

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Focusing Exclusively on Licensure Regulations

- Material in *blue, bold italics* is new language
- Material in ~~[red, brackets, and strikethrough]~~ is proposed deleted language

Review material on the
Bulletin Board on the
Division's Website

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
Office of the State Engineer

REGULATIONS FOR WATER WELL
AND RELATED DRILLING

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

EXISTING REGULATIONS

NAC 534.280 – Application for license.

An application for a well-drilling license must be submitted to the Division. The application:

1. Must:

(a) Be completed and signed by the applicant on a form provided by the Division.

(b) Be accompanied by evidence that the applicant has at least 2 years of full-time experience. ~~[acquired during the immediately preceding 5 years.]~~ The State Engineer will determine whether such experience is satisfactory and appropriate for the type of license for which the applicant is applying.

(c) Be accompanied by at least four professional references *of which a minimum of three must be received and accepted prior to being eligible to take the written examination pursuant to subsection 1(b)(1) of NAC 534.282.* The State Engineer will determine whether such references are satisfactory and appropriate for the type of license for which the applicant is applying.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

EXISTING REGULATIONS

NAC 534.282 – Qualifications of applicant; denial of application.

1. An applicant for a well-drilling license must:

(a) Be at least 18 years of age; and

(b) Pass: ~~[a two-part examination, consisting of the following sections:]~~

(1) A written examination ~~[which includes:~~

~~—(I) A written test]~~ consisting of questions on which the applicant must obtain a passing score of at least 80 percent; and

~~[(II) A test of the applicant's ability to use a standard 7.5 minute topographic map from the United States Geological Survey to provide the public land survey description of the location of a well, which will be scored on a pass or fail basis; and]~~

(2) *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 of Section 1 of this chapter, An* oral examination conducted by the Board.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

EXISTING REGULATIONS

NAC 534.288 – Board not required to conduct oral examination of certain applicants

The Board is not required to conduct the oral examination section of the examination for an applicant for a well-drilling license:

1. Who receives a score of less than 80 percent on the written test portion of the written examination;
~~[2.—Who is unable to demonstrate his or her ability to locate a well by public land survey on a topographic map; or]~~
- ~~[3]~~ 2. If the State Engineer finds that the applicant's experience or professional references required pursuant to [NAC 534.280](#) are not satisfactory or appropriate for the type of license for which the applicant is applying~~[-]; or~~
3. Who is issued a reciprocity license pursuant to Section 1.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

NEW RECIPROCITY LANGUAGE

Section 1.

- 1. A person holding a valid license in another state or jurisdiction of the United States, which has requirements for obtaining a license that is comparable to or exceeds those outlined in this chapter, may be eligible for reciprocity in Nevada. The State Engineer will determine if any licenses held are satisfactory and appropriate for the type of license for which the applicant is applying. To be granted reciprocity, an applicant must:
 - (a) Submit an application to the Division pursuant to NAC 534.280;*
 - (b) Submit a request for reciprocity on a form provided by the Division; and*
 - (c) Satisfy all the requirements of NAC 534.282**
- 2. An applicant for reciprocity will be exempt from taking the oral examination pursuant to subsection 1(b)(2) of NAC 534.282 if the applicant obtains a passing score of at least 87 percent on the written examination pursuant to NAC 534.282 subsection 1(b)(1).*

Thank you



Contact

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Regulations and Adjudications**

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