



**NECHES & TRINITY VALLEYS
GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Phone: (903) 541-4845

Fax: (903) 541-4869

Email: office@ntvgcd.org

P.O. Box 1387

914 S. Bolton St.

Jacksonville, Texas 75766

Gary Douglas, President

Donald Foster, Secretary

Jimmy Terrell, Director

Sam Hurley, Vice President

Randall Chandler, Director

Terry Morrow, Director

Julianna Peacock, Director

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Subject to Chapter 36.101 of the Texas Water Code, the District will be holding a public hearing on September 17, 2020 in the District Office at 501 Devereux in Jacksonville, Texas at 11:00 AM to hear comments for amending the District Rules. The proposed amendments/additions will be posted on our website: www.ntvgcd.org and copies available in the District office at 501 Devereux St, Jacksonville.

Specifically: **District Rules – Geothermal wells**

Rule 1.1 (cc) and (dd), Rule 3.10 (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f), Rule 3.11

2020 Proposed Amendments/Additions to District Rules 1 and 3

Rule 1 – Definitions and Concepts

(cc) "Open Loop Geothermal Well" – Groundwater drawn from an aquifer through one well, passed through the heat pump's heat exchanger, and discharged to the same aquifer through a second well at a distance from the first.

(dd) "Closed Loop Geothermal Well" – A vertical closed system well used to circulate water, and other fluids or gases through the earth as a heat source or heat sink.

Rule 3 – Permit and Registration Required

3.10 Geothermal Loops

(a) Application and fee must be submitted to the Neches & Trinity Valleys Groundwater Conservation District (NTVGCD) office for approval. The District will charge a one-time administrative fee of \$50 for the drilling application for the borehole and /or a series of boreholes. A drilling log shall be filed with the State of Texas and NTVGCD. A file will be maintained in the NTVGCD district offices of the drilling and equipping.

(b) The closed loop geothermal system shall be designed and installed by a licensed installer. The design shall be submitted to NTVGCD prior to inspection. The installer shall notify the district prior to installation.

(c) A licensed water well driller shall drill the boreholes. The driller shall notify the district prior to drilling.

(d) A district representative shall be allowed on the property to inspect the drilling of the borehole, installation and sealing of the closed loop piping, if the district determines it is necessary.

(e) Construction of the borehole will follow TDLR regulation described in Technical Standards Chapter 76.100 (F) (6) of the TDLR rules: "The annular space of a closed loop geothermal well used to circulate water or other fluids shall be backfilled to the total depth with impervious bentonite or similar material, closed loop injection well where there is no water or only one zone of water is encountered you may use sand, gravel or drill cuttings to back fill up to ten (10) feet from the surface. The top ten (10) feet shall be filled with impervious bentonite or similar materials and meets the standards pursuant to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality 30 TAC, Chapter 331."

(f) Spacing: Any borehole shall be located a minimum horizontal distance of fifty (50) feet from any watertight sewage and liquid-waste collection facility, and a minimum horizontal distance of fifty (50) feet from the nearest property line.

3.11 An open loop geothermal well system is prohibited within the Neches and Trinity Valleys Groundwater Conservation District.