

Tulare County Environmental Health

Well Permit Application Guide



2021 Edition

INTRODUCTION

Due to recent changes with the Tulare County Well Ordinance, the upcoming implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), the amount of information needed to complete a Well Permit Application has increased significantly. Also, new policies and requirements are being proposed that, if enacted, will greatly impact the Well Permitting process. This document is intended to assist Well Contractors in completing the **Application to Construct, Deepen, Reconstruct or Destroy a Well**. Please refer to this guide when filling out the application form.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide will go through each section of the **Application to Construct, Deepen, Reconstruct or Destroy a Well**, and provide instruction on what information is being requested. This is so that submitted applications are as complete as possible in order to avoid delays in processing.

As always, should there be questions, the Tulare County Environmental Health Well Permitting Program can be reached at:

Paul Charpentier: (559)624-7416

Kevin Bangsund: (559)624-7405

Or by Email at:

tularecountyehwells@tularecounty.ca.gov

PAGE 1; SECTION I: APPLICANT INFORMATION

This section is for information related to the client of the drilling contractor. Provide the:

- Applicant's Name
- Applicant's Telephone Number
- Mailing Address to send the issued permit
- Email Address for contact with applicant

Check the appropriate box if the applicant is the Property Owner or an Authorized Agent of the Property Owner. If the Applicant is not the Property Owner, provide the Property Owner's name and Telephone Number. Written authorization **must** be attached to the application form in the case of an Authorized Agent of the Property Owner. An Authorized Agent is an employee of a C-57 licensed water well drilling contractor working under the license of the well contractor, the property owner, or any individual duly authorized in writing by the property owner as the agent thereof.

PAGE 1; SECTION II: LICENSED CONTRACTOR DECLARATION

This section has largely remained unchanged from the previous version. Provide the:

- Drilling Company Name
- Email Address
- Mailing Address to send the issued permit
- C-57 License Number
- Office Telephone Number
- Cellphone Number

Check the appropriate box for the method of delivery for the permit. A copy will be mailed to the mailing address provided; however, copies can also be sent via Email.

Initial the statement certifying that the C-57 Contractor's License identified in this section is current and active, and that Workers' Compensation Insurance is provided if the Drilling Company has employees.

PAGE 1; SECTION III: CONSULTANT INFORMATION

This section is only required for the construction, deepening, reconstruction or destruction of a well as part of a project where a consultant has been hired. Provide the:

- Name of the Consulting Firm
- Consultant's Name
- Mailing Address
- Email Address
- Telephone number

PAGE 1; SECTION IV: PARCEL INFORMATION

This section has many fields that were carried over from the previous version, as well as new elements due to the establishment of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs). Provide the:

- Location of the well site. Either an address, or measured distances from cross streets or property lines.

Indicate if the proposed well, or existing well to be deepened, reconstructed or destroyed is located within city limits.

- City nearest to the proposed well location
- Parcel Size in Acres
- Assessor's Parcel Number (APN)
- Township, Range and Section
- GPS Data using decimal degrees (example: 36.249886; -119.155854)
- Indicate if the proposed well, or existing well to be deepened or reconstructed, is located in the Valley or Foothills/Mountain region of the County
- Project Start Date

Please note that due to possible review of the permit application by agencies outside Tulare County Environmental Health, the application form must be submitted a minimum of ten (10) days prior to the Project Start Date. In the event of an emergency situation, this requirement can be waived on a case-by-case basis.

- Groundwater Basin where the well is, or will be, located.

Each Groundwater Basin in the Valley has GSAs that were established to monitor and protect the sustainability of the groundwater within their jurisdictions. These agencies will be reviewing all well construction and deepening permit applications for their areas, and have the authority to add conditions above and beyond those of Tulare County Environmental Health. Indicate the GSA where the well to be constructed or deepened is located. Please note that the Foothill/Mountain region of the County is not subject to GSA review.

PAGE 2; SECTION V: TYPE OF WORK

In this section, indicate if the work to be done is:

- New well construction
- A Replacement well
- An existing well to be deepened
- An existing well to be reconstructed (Installation of a Casing Liner)
- A well to be destroyed

Please note the definitions of each work type and select the appropriate one.

PAGE 2; SECTION VI: WELL TYPE

For this section, indicate the type of well to be constructed, deepened or reconstructed. The options are:

- Domestic (1 – 4 Connections)
- Dairy Supply (Exclusively used by a Dairy Farm for the milk production process)
- Test Well
- Community (5+ Connections)
- Industrial (Exclusively used by a Business for the processes related to producing goods or services)
- Cathodic Protection
- Agricultural (Exclusively used to supply water for irrigation or other agricultural purposes)
- Soil Boring(s) (No permit is required for exploratory borings less than 45 feet unless groundwater is encountered. If groundwater is encountered, work must stop and an application for a permit must be filed)
- Monitoring Well(s)*
- Other – Use the provided space to describe the well if it does not meet the other descriptions.

For Monitoring Wells and Soil Borings, indicate the number of them in the space provided.

PAGE 2; SECTION VII: INTENDED USE

This section was added to gather more information about Community and Agricultural wells.

For Community (5+ Connections) wells indicate:

- If the well serves a regulated Water System

If the well **will or does** serve a regulated Water System, provide:

- The name of the Water System
- The name of the Water System's Contact
- The Water System Contact's Telephone Number

If the well **will not or does not** serve a regulated Water System, provide:

- The number of people served by the well
- The number of days per year that the well serves water

For Agricultural wells, indicate:

- All the APNs to be irrigated by the well
- The total acreage of the listed APNs

PAGE 2; SECTION VIII: WELL CONSTRUCTION

This section is for technical information pertaining to the construction of a new or replacement well. Provide the following:

Drilling Method:

- Rotary
- Reverse Rotary
- Cable Tool
- Air Rotary
- Auger
- Casing Driven
- Other – Use the provided space to describe the drilling method if it does not meet the other descriptions.

Borehole information:

- Diameter in inches
- Depth in feet

Well Casing information:

- PVC
- Steel
- Diameter in inches
- Gauge or Thickness
- Slot Size
- Perforations – Additional fields are available if there are multiple perforation zones.

Conductor Casing, if applicable:

- Indicate if a Conductor Casing is to be installed
- Diameter in inches
- Depth in feet

Annular Seal:

- Depth – Additional fields are available if there are multiple annular seal zones.
- Thickness – Indicate the thickness of the annular seal based on the Well Type

PAGE 2; SECTION VIII: WELL CONSTRUCTION – CONTINUED

Material:

- Neat Cement
- Sand Slurry – Use the provided field to indicate the Sand Slurry mix
- Bentonite
- Other – Use the provided space to describe the sealing material if it does not meet the other descriptions.

Method:

- Tremie Pipe
- Free Fall – This option requires the annular space to be less than 30 feet deep and contain no water. Also, a variance is required to approve the Free Fall of an annular seal.

PAGE 2; SECTION IX: WELL DEEPENING

This section is for technical information pertaining to the deepening of an existing well. Provide the following:

Original Well information:

- PVC or Steel casing
- Diameter in inches
- Depth in feet
- Depth to water in feet

Deepened Well information:

- PVC or Steel casing
- Diameter in inches
- Gauge or Thickness
- Slot Size
- Perforations – Additional fields are available if there are multiple perforation zones.
- Proposed Well Depth in feet

Annular Seal:

- Depth – Additional fields are available if there are multiple annular seal zones.

PAGE 2; SECTION IX: WELL DEEPENING – CONTINUED

Material:

- Neat Cement
- Sand Slurry – Use the provided field to indicate the Sand Slurry mix
- Bentonite
- Other – Use the provided space to describe the sealing material if it does not meet the other descriptions.

Method:

- Tremie Pipe
- Free Fall – This option requires the annular space to be less than 30 feet deep and contain no water. Also, a variance is required to approve the Free Fall of an annular seal.

PAGE 2; SECTION X: WELL RECONSTRUCTION

This section is to be used to describe the work to Reconstruct an existing well. Well Reconstruction does not require a permit fee and does not change the physical aspects of the well, but a Well Completion Report (WCR) is required within 30 days of the completion of work.

PAGE 2; SECTION XI: WELL DESTRUCTION

This section is for technical information pertaining to the destruction of a well. Provide the following:

Well Casing:

- PVC or Steel casing
- Diameter in inches
- Excavation Depth in feet
- Original Well Depth in feet
- Distance from property lines

Informational statement indicating the maximum depth of an excavation is five (5) feet. The excavation requirement can be waived on a case-by-case basis.

Seal:

- Seal Depth in feet
- Sealing Method

For destruction seals deeper than 30', a tremie pipe must be used. The tremie pipe must be made of metal, not PVC.

- Sealing Material

- Sand Slurry – Use the provided field to indicate the Sand Slurry mix

PAGE 3; SECTION XII: WELL SETBACKS

This section is for recording the measured setback distances, in feet, between the well and the listed land features and potential sources of groundwater contamination.

In the event that a proposed well site location needs to be verified by Environmental Health staff, all well sites are to be staked and labeled “Well Site”.

PAGE 3; SECTION XIII: CONTRACTOR DISCLAIMERS

The Contractor should read the disclaimers in this section and indicate that they’ve read and understood them by initialing in the provided space.

PAGE 3; SECTION XIV: APPLICANT DISCLAIMERS

The Applicant should read the disclaimers in this section and indicate that they’ve read and understood them by initialing in the provided space.

PAGE 3; SECTION XV: DRILLING CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

The Contractor should read the statement in this section and certify their agreement to the statements with their initials in the provided space.

PAGE 3; SECTION XVI: CONTRACTOR

There are additional statements in the signature box for the Contractor to read as well as the disclaimer at the top of page 4 before printing, signing and dating the application form.

PAGE 3; SECTION XVII: APPLICANT

There are additional statements in the signature box for the Applicant to read as well as the disclaimer at the top of page 4 before printing, signing and dating the application form.

**PAGE 4; SECTION XVIII: DISCLAIMER & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION
USE ONLY**

At the top of page 4, the contractor and the applicant must read the disclaimer.

At the bottom of page 4, Environmental Health uses this section to process the application.

PAGE 5; SECTION XIX: SITE MAP

Use the space provided to draw a map of the property which includes the following:

- Location of the well site
- Nearest cross streets
- Setbacks as reported in Section XI, with the measurements included
- Property lines and dimensions
- Any existing and proposed structures on the parcel
- Surface water within 300 feet
- All wells and septic systems on the parcel, and any neighboring parcel(s)

A compass arrow pointing North has been added to the map section.

Use the spaces beneath the map section to provide written directions to the well site.

PAGE 6; SECTION XX: SURVEY TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

Applicant must review and answer the ten (10) questions.