## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE BILL No. 1591 Session of 2001

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YOUNGBLOOD, PICKETT, BARD, SCRIMENTI AND TURZAI, MAY 10, 2001

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, NOVEMBER 19, 2001

## AN ACT

- Providing for the regulation of the location and construction of water wells, for licensing water-well contractors and for the collection of information on groundwater quality and quantity; conferring powers and duties on the Department of Environmental Protection; creating the Water-Well Construction Technical Advisory Committee; establishing the Water-Well Construction Fund; imposing penalties; and making a repeal.
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- 20 Section 25. Effective date.
- 21 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 22 hereby enacts as follows:
- 23 Section 1. Short title.
- 24 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Water-Well
- 25 Construction Act.
- 26 Section 2. Legislative findings and declaration of purpose.
- 27 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds that a large
- 28 portion of this Commonwealth's citizens rely on water wells for
- 29 drinking water and that improperly constructed water wells can
- 30 adversely affect public health and cause groundwater

- 1 contamination.
- 2 (b) Purpose. -- The purpose of this act is to:
- 3 (1) Protect public health and safety by establishing
- 4 location and construction standards for water wells.
- 5 (2) Establish a Statewide program to regulate water-well
- 6 construction in a manner which will protect the groundwater
- 7 resource for present and future use.
- 8 (3) Protect public health and safety and groundwater
- 9 resources through the licensing of water-well contractors.
- 10 (4) Provide information on groundwater quantity and
- 11 quality which will enhance the economic and efficient use of
- this Commonwealth's groundwater resources.
- 13 Section 3. Definitions.
- 14 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
- 15 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 16 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 17 "Aquifer." Any geologic material, including, but not limited
- 18 to, sand, gravel or rock, below the land surface which has the
- 19 capability to transmit water.
- 20 "Board." The Environmental Quality Board.
- 21 "Casing penetration." Any hole or slot that is bored, cut,
- 22 ripped, burned or otherwise created through the wall of a well
- 23 casing at any point below the land surface. This term includes,
- 24 but is not limited to, any hole below the land surface that is
- 25 necessary to install or operate any pumping or other equipment
- 26 in the well.
- 27 "Certification board." The administrative board within the
- 28 Department of Environmental Protection established in section 6.
- 29 "Committee." The Water-Well Construction Technical Advisory
- 30 Committee.

- "Decommissioned" or "decommissioning." In reference to a
- 2 water well, this term means that the water well is no longer
- 3 equipped in such a manner as to be able to draw groundwater.
- 4 This term also refers to a well where the pump, piping or
- 5 electrical components have been disconnected or removed and then
- 6 sealed in accordance with the decommissioning standards in the
- 7 regulations promulgated under this act and which is released
- 8 from liability under the act of June 22, 1937 (P.L.1987,
- 9 No.394), known as The Clean Streams Law.
- 10 "Department." The Department of Environmental Protection of
- 11 the Commonwealth.
- 12 "Direct supervision." Being observed and directed by a
- 13 licensed water-well driller who is onsite.
- 14 "Drinking water well." Any water well which provides or is
- 15 intended to provide water for human consumption if the well is
- 16 not regulated under the act of May 1, 1984 (P.L.206, No.43),
- 17 known as the Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act.
- 18 "Fund." The Water-Well Construction Fund established in
- 19 section 17.
- 20 "Geothermal well." Any borehole in the ground constructed
- 21 for the purpose of extracting heat from or transferring heat to
- 22 the ground or groundwater. This term does not include a trench
- 23 necessary for installation of horizontal closed-loop heat
- 24 transfer systems.
- 25 "Groundwater." Water that is either contained in or removed
- 26 from an aquifer.
- 27 "Immediate relative." An individual's spouse, child, parent,
- 28 sibling, niece, nephew, grandparent, uncle, aunt or first
- 29 cousin, regardless of whether the relation is by consanguinity,
- 30 affinity or adoption.

- 1 "In service." A water well that is being used to locate,
- 2 monitor, withdraw or inject water from or into any aquifer or
- 3 for the purpose of transferring heat to or from the ground or
- 4 groundwater.
- 5 "Local agency." A municipality or any combination of
- 6 municipalities acting cooperatively or jointly under the laws of
- 7 this Commonwealth, county health department or joint county
- 8 health department.
- 9 "Lot." Any part of a subdivision or a parcel of land used as
- 10 a building site or intended to be used for building purposes,
- 11 whether immediate or future, which would not be further
- 12 subdivided.
- "Out of service." In reference to a water well, this term
- 14 means that the water well is not being used to locate, monitor,
- 15 withdraw or inject water from or into any aquifer or for the
- 16 purpose of transferring heat to or from the ground or
- 17 groundwater and that is to be a temporarily closed water well or
- 18 that becomes a decommissioned water well.
- 19 "Person." An individual, partnership, association, company,
- 20 corporation, municipal authority, political subdivision or
- 21 agency of the Federal or State Government. The term includes the
- 22 officers, employees and agents of any partnership, association,
- 23 company, corporation, municipality, municipal authority,
- 24 political subdivision or any agency of Federal or State
- 25 Government.
- 26 "Secretary." The Secretary of Environmental Protection of
- 27 the Commonwealth.
- 28 "Temporarily closed" or "temporary closure." In reference to
- 29 a water well, this term means that the water well has been
- 30 closed with a sanitary cap that is removable for future

- 1 operational service where the pump, piping or electrical
- 2 components have not been disconnected or removed in accordance
- 3 with the temporary closure standards regulations promulgated
- 4 under this act.
- 5 "Water well." Any borehole in the ground made with the
- 6 intent to locate, monitor, withdraw or inject water from or into
- 7 any aquifer. The term includes geothermal wells. The term does
- 8 not include:
- 9 (1) A borehole made for the purpose of mining,
- 10 producing, extracting or injecting any gas, petroleum or
- other liquid related to oil or gas production or storage,
- 12 including brine disposal.
- 13 (2) A ditch or other excavation such as an agricultural
- drain, road construction drain or culvert, curtain drain,
- tile drain or on-lot sewage disposal system that is within
- the soil profile and within 15 feet from the soil surface and
- that has as its purpose the diversion, storage or
- 18 transmission of water.
- 19 (3) A spring or well otherwise regulated under the
- 20 provisions of the act of May 1, 1984 (P.L.206, No.43), known
- as the Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act, and the
- 22 regulations adopted thereunder.
- 23 "Water-well alteration." Any activity that physically
- 24 modifies an existing water well. The term does not include
- 25 opening or unsealing of the water well for the purposes of
- 26 disinfecting the well, monitoring the groundwater level or the
- 27 repair and replacement of the pump or pumping equipment.
- 28 "Water-well construction." Any activity undertaken for the
- 29 purpose of creating, altering or decommissioning a water well.
- 30 This term includes, but is not limited to:

- 1 (1) The drilling, digging, boring, jetting or other
- 2 processes necessary to construct the hole in the ground.
- 3 (2) The installation and removal of well casings,
- 4 screens, liners, packers, sealants, aggregates, plugs and
- 5 other appurtenances inside the hole that are necessary to
- 6 either construct or decommission a water well.
- 7 (3) The creation and sealing of any casing penetrations
- 8 that are or will be located below the land surface following
- 9 construction of the well.
- 10 (4) Activities, including, but not limited to,
- 11 hydrofracturing, surging, jetting and brushing that are
- 12 undertaken on or inside a water well to modify or restore the
- 13 yield.
- 14 This term does not include the installation of pumps and pumping
- 15 equipment.
- 16 "Water-well construction permit." A permit issued by a
- 17 certified water-well enforcement officer stating that the water-
- 18 well location and casing of a newly constructed water well meet
- 19 the standards of this act and the regulations promulgated under
- 20 this act.
- 21 "Water-well contractor." A person that has been issued a
- 22 valid license by the Department of Environmental Protection to
- 23 construct, decommission or alter water wells.
- 24 "Water-well driller." An individual who has been issued a
- 25 valid water-well driller certificate by or under the authority
- 26 of the Department of Environmental Protection.
- 27 "Water-well enforcement officer." An official of a local
- 28 agency who:
- 29 (1) has been issued a valid water-well enforcement
- 30 officer certificate by or under the authority of the

- 1 Department of Environmental Protection;
- 2 (2) reviews permit applications and issues permits under
- 3 this act; and
- 4 (3) conducts the investigations and inspections
- 5 necessary to implement this act and regulations under this
- 6 act.
- 7 "Water-well rig." The principal drilling or excavation
- 8 equipment used in the construction, alteration or
- 9 decommissioning of a water well.
- 10 "Well yield." The quantity of water per unit of time which
- 11 may flow or be pumped from a drinking water well under specified
- 12 conditions.
- 13 Section 4. Power and duties of Environmental Quality Board.
- 14 (a) Regulations.--The board shall have the power and its
- 15 duty shall be to adopt rules and regulations as it deems
- 16 necessary for the implementation of this act. The rules and
- 17 regulations shall reflect the regional hydrogeological
- 18 differences found in this Commonwealth. The rules and
- 19 regulations shall include, but not be limited to:
- 20 (1) Standards for the location, construction,
- inspection, alteration and temporary closure or
- 22 decommissioning of water wells, provided that:
- 23 (i) Any minimum distance requirement between an
- 24 existing on-lot sewage disposal system component
- 25 specified in the regulations under this act or in the act
- of January 24, 1966 (1965 P.L.1535, No.537), known as the
- 27 Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act, or the regulations
- 28 promulgated thereunder, and a proposed water well on the
- same lot shall not be applicable if the local agency
- finds, after reviewing appropriate groundwater studies

submitted by an applicant, the new distance between the proposed water well and on-lot sewage disposal system component will not pose a threat of pollution to the water well.

- (ii) Minimum distances between a proposed water well on the applicant's lot and any on-lot sewage disposal system component on any other lot must satisfy the specifications set forth in the regulations under this act.
- (iii) No regulation may be promulgated to require
  decommissioning of a water well in which initial
  construction activity was commenced prior to the
  effective date of the initial regulations promulgated
  under this act.
- 15 (2) Requirements and procedures for determining and 16 reporting on water quality and well yield for drinking water 17 wells.
  - (3) Criteria for licensing and review of water-well contractors and registration of water-well rigs.
- 20 (4) Criteria for the certification and review of water-21 well drillers and water-well enforcement officers.
- 22 (5) Water-well registration and reporting requirements.
- 23 (6) Criteria for the programs administered by local 24 agencies under section 7, including criteria for issuing 25 water-well construction permits.
- 26 (b) Fees.--The board shall establish fees for water-well 27 registrations, water-well contractor license applications, 28 water-well rig permits, water-well driller certification and
- 29 water-well enforcement officer certification. Fees shall bear a
- 30 reasonable relationship to the cost of administering this act.

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- 1 Section 5. Power and duties of Department of Environmental
- 2 Protection.
- 3 The department shall have the power and its duty shall be to:
- 4 (1) Administer the water-well programs established under
- 5 this act.
- 6 (2) Cooperate with local agencies and appropriate
- 7 Federal, State and interstate units of government and with
- 8 appropriate private organizations in carrying out its duties
- 9 under this act.
- 10 (3) Establish procedures, forms and an appeal process
- for the submission, review, approval, denial, modification,
- 12 suspension, revocation, reinstatement and rejection of any
- water-well contractor license, water-well rig permit, water-
- 14 well enforcement officer certification or water-well driller
- 15 certification.
- 16 (4) Establish procedures and formats for the water-well
- 17 registration and water-well certification reports required by
- 18 this act.
- 19 (5) Require water-well contractors to submit geological
- 20 and groundwater data and any other papers, books and records
- 21 to the department for the purposes set forth in this act.
- 22 (6) Establish programs for educating the public about
- 23 groundwater resources, the construction and operation of
- their water supply systems and the regulatory program enacted
- 25 by this act.
- 26 (7) Cooperate with the organizations that represent
- 27 water-well drillers, water-well enforcement officers and
- 28 businesses engaged in well-drilling activities and to assist
- 29 these organizations in the development of training curricula
- that address the knowledge base, minimum skills and technical

- 1 aspects AND INCORPORATE THE CERTIFICATION TESTING CURRICULA
- 2 DEVELOPED BY THE NATIONAL GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION which will
- 3 be the subject of the department's certification
- 4 examinations.
- 5 (8) Prescribe or establish minimum continuing education

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- 6 requirements, INCLUDING THOSE CONTINUING REQUIREMENTS
- 7 DEVELOPED BY THE NATIONAL GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION, such as
- 8 the number of training hours, provided that renewal of
- 9 certification shall not be contingent upon passage of the
- 10 initial certification examination.
- 11 (9) Review the performance of local agencies in the
- 12 administration of this act.
- 13 (10) Order a local agency to take actions deemed by the
- 14 department as necessary to effectively administer this act in
- conformance with the rules and regulations of the department.
- 16 (11) Make inspections and require the submission of
- papers, books and records by local agencies for the purposes
- 18 set forth in this act.
- 19 (12) Make available all water-well registration reports,
- 20 water-well certification reports, water-well decommissioning
- 21 reports and other reports related to well construction or
- decommissioning, to the Bureau of Topographic and Geologic
- 23 Survey in the Department of Conservation and Natural
- 24 Resources. These reports, facsimiles of these reports or
- access to the information contained in these reports shall be
- 26 provided in a timely manner and in an electronic format such
- as a computer data base.
- 28 Section 6. Certification board.
- 29 (a) Establishment.--
- 30 (1) There is hereby created within the department a

- State Board for Certification of Water-Well Enforcement

  Officers, Water-Well Drillers and Water-Well Contractors.
- 3 The certification board shall consist of five 4 members to be appointed by the secretary. One member shall be 5 a representative of local government; one member shall be a water-well enforcement officer certified under the provisions 6 of this act; one member shall be a practicing registered 7 8 professional geologist; one member shall be a water-well 9 driller certified or licensed under the provisions of this act; and one shall be a water-well contractor certified or 10 licensed under the provisions of this act. 11
  - (3) Nominees shall be submitted to the secretary by the Water-Well Construction Technical Advisory Committee which shall designate a minimum of two nominees for each position.
- 15 (4) Each appointment shall be for a period of four 16 years.
  - (5) Until such time that a licensing and certification procedure is in place, the requirement that members of the board be certified or licensed shall not apply.
- 20 (6) The secretary may reappoint certification board
  21 members for one successive term. If vacancies occur prior to
  22 completion of a term, the secretary shall appoint another
  23 member in accordance with this section to fill the unexpired
  24 term. No individual shall serve more than eight consecutive
  25 years.
- 26 (7) No member of this committee may also be a member or 27 alternate of the Water-Well Construction Technical Advisory 28 Committee.
- 29 (b) Meetings.--

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30 (1) Within 180 days of the effective date of this act, 20010H1591B2920 - 12 -

- 1 the secretary, or his representative, shall call the first
- 2 meeting of the certification board. At the initial meeting
- 3 the board shall elect a chairperson. Thereafter, the chairman
- 4 shall be elected annually.
- 5 (2) The board shall meet at least twice annually and
- 6 other meetings may be called by the chairman as needed to
- 7 conduct the business of the board. Three members of the board
- 8 shall constitute a quorum.
- 9 (3) The members of the board shall receive no
- 10 compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for
- 11 actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of
- 12 their duties.
- 13 (c) Powers and duties. -- The certification board shall have
- 14 the power and its duty shall be, in accordance with the rules
- 15 and regulations of the department, to:
- 16 (1) Review and approve or deny applications for
- 17 certification of water-well enforcement officers and water-
- well drillers within 30 days of the receipt of the test
- 19 results from the testing contractor. If the board does not
- 20 meet within this time period, the applicants who have
- 21 achieved the necessary passing score on the certification
- 22 examination and who are not in violation or restrained by any
- 23 department regulation from certification shall be deemed to
- 24 be certified.
- 25 (2) Administer such examinations as prepared by the
- department, as may be deemed necessary to determine the
- 27 qualification of candidates for certification. Such
- 28 examinations shall be held no less than four times in each
- 29 calendar year. The board shall determine and shall announce,
- 30 in sufficient time, the location and time for such

- 1 examinations except that the board shall allow the department
- 2 to schedule special walk-in examinations when a local agency
- demonstrates an immediate need to obtain a water-well
- 4 enforcement officer. During the first year after the
- 5 effective date of this act, no fees shall be charged for the
- 6 examinations. During the second and subsequent years, the
- 7 board may collect a fee of \$10 from each applicant for
- 8 certification.
- 9 (3) Hold hearings and issue adjudications under the
- 10 provisions of 2 Pa.C.S. Ch. 5 Subch. A (relating to practice
- and procedure of Commonwealth agencies) on any revocation,
- 12 suspension or reinstatement of certification by the
- department, provided, that the filing of an appeal with the
- board shall not operate as an automatic supersedeas of the
- action of the department. Actions of the department may be
- appealed to the Environmental Hearing Board.
- 17 (4) Compile and keep current a register showing the
- names and addresses of water-well enforcement officers,
- 19 water-well drillers and water-well contractors. Copies of
- this register shall be furnished on request upon payment of
- 21 such reasonable fees as the department shall establish.
- 22 Section 7. Powers and duties of local agencies.
- 23 (a) General rule. -- County or joint county departments of
- 24 health shall administer this act in the territorial area subject
- 25 to their jurisdiction. In all other areas this act shall be
- 26 administered by each municipality unless the municipality has
- 27 transferred or delegated the administration of this act to
- 28 another local agency or is cooperating in the administration, in
- 29 conformance with 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 23 Subch. A (relating to
- 30 intergovernmental cooperation), and the other local agency has

- 1 accepted administration of this act. No local agency shall
- 2 voluntarily surrender administration of the provisions of this
- 3 act except to another local agency pursuant to this section.
- 4 (b) Specific powers and duties.--Each local agency, county
- 5 or joint county department of health, in addition to the powers
- 6 and duties conferred upon it by existing law, shall have the
- 7 power and the duty:
- 8 (1) To employ or contract with an adequate number of
- 9 water-well enforcement officers to adequately perform the
- 10 services required of water-well enforcement officers within
- the time periods set forth in this act and in accordance with
- the rules and regulations of the department. No person shall
- 13 be employed or contracted as a water-well enforcement officer
- unless the person has been certified by the department
- pursuant to standards set by the Environmental Quality Board.
- No individual shall be employed or contracted as a water-well
- 17 enforcement officer to administer the provisions of this act
- with respect to a water well for which the individual or an
- 19 immediate relative was or is the contractor or with respect
- to a water well, or the property or structure which the water
- 21 well is intended to serve, in which the individual or an
- 22 immediate relative has a financial interest. In such a case,
- the local agency's alternate water-well enforcement officer
- shall administer the provisions of this act with respect to
- 25 the particular water well.
- 26 (2) To have at least one alternate water-well
- 27 enforcement officer as authorized by the local agency to work
- in the municipality or municipalities of the local agency.
- 29 (3) To employ or contract with other technical and
- 30 administrative personnel necessary to support the activities

of the water-well enforcement officer and the local agency.

(4) To adopt by resolution a list of individuals who are water-well enforcement officers employed by the local agency or by companies or corporations under contract with the local agency to perform the services of water-well enforcement officers.

- (5) To set rates of compensation, maintain offices, establish personnel policies and establish administrative rules or policies and to purchase necessary equipment and supplies.
- 11 (6) To set and collect fees necessary to support the 12 administrative and personnel costs of implementing the 13 requirements of this act. SECTION 8(B)(4)(I) THROUGH (V) OF THE ACT OF JANUARY 24, 1966 (1965 P.L.1535, NO.537), KNOWN AS 14 15 THE PENNSYLVANIA SEWAGE FACILITIES ACT. When engineering or 16 consulting services are required by the local agency to 17 complete their review of a permit application, the 18 application or review fees charged for such services shall be 19 reasonable and in accordance with the ordinary and customary charges by the engineer or consultant for similar service in 20 21 the community, and in no event shall the fees exceed the rate 22 or cost charged by the engineer or consultant to the local 23 agency when fees are not reimbursed by or otherwise imposed 24 on applicants.
  - (7) To make or cause to be made such inspections and tests as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act, and the local agency's authorized representatives shall have the right to enter upon lands for said purpose.
- 29 (8) To proceed to restrain violations of this act and 30 the rules and regulations promulgated under this act.

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- 1 (9) To submit such reports and data to the department as 2 the department may by its rules and regulations or by order 3 require.
- 4 (10) To adopt and maintain standards and procedures for
  5 applications and permits identical to those of the
  6 department. Any other rules or regulations which the local
  7 agency deems necessary in order to administer and enforce
  8 this act may only be adopted if they are consistent with this
  9 act and the rules and regulations promulgated under this act.
  - (11) To make such inspections of and to verify
    measurements made by applicants on public or private
    properties which are determined by the local agency's
    authorized representative to have natural or manmade features
    from which specific isolation distances are required prior to
    the approval of water-well construction permits. The local
    agency's authorized representative shall have the right to
    enter upon lands for these purposes.
  - (c) Limitations.--

- (1) No municipality, local agency or water-well enforcement officer may, orally or in writing, suggest, recommend or require the use of any individual or firm providing services which may be required or are subject to review pursuant to this act or the regulations hereunder.
  - (2) The following shall apply:
- (i) Except as set forth in subparagraph (ii), no water-well enforcement officer shall perform any consulting or design work or related services required or regulated under this act within the municipality or local agency by which the officer is employed or with which the officer has a contractual relationship.

- 1 (ii) Subparagraph (i) shall not apply if:
- 2 (A) the work is for a water well which will
- 3 serve the residence of the water-well enforcement
- 4 officer or an immediate relative;
- 5 (B) the undertaking of the work is approved in advance by the local agency and the department; and
- 7 (C) the work is permitted and inspected by an alternate well-water officer.
- 9 (3) No water-well enforcement officer may issue a permit 10 or participate in the official processing of an application 11 for a water-well permit in which the water-well enforcement 12 officer, an immediate relative of the water-well enforcement 13 officer, a business associate of the water-well enforcement 14 officer or an employer of the water-well enforcement officer, 15 other than the local agency, has a financial interest.
- 16 (d) Existing municipal ordinances.--
- (1) Provisions of municipal water-well construction

  ordinances in effect on the effective date of the regulations <-
  promulgated under this act OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2001, that <-
  do not at least equal the minimum requirements of the

  regulations promulgated under this act shall be amended to

  provide for the minimum requirements.
  - (2) Provisions of municipal water-well construction ordinances in effect on the effective date of the regulations <--promulgated under this act OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2001, that <--equal or exceed the minimum requirements of the regulations
    promulgated under this act shall remain in effect until such
    time as they no longer equal or exceed the minimum
    requirements of the regulations adopted under this act.
- 30 (e) Review of ordinances by department. After the effective

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- 1 date of the regulations promulgated under this act, the
- 2 department shall review any municipal water well construction
- 3 ordinance proposing to exceed the minimum requirements of this
- 4 act based on the following standards:
- 5 (1) That certain clear and convincing local, geologic,
- 6 topographic or public health and safety circumstances or
- 7 conditions justify the more stringent provision.
- 8 (2) That the more stringent provision shall be adequate
- 9 for the purpose intended and shall meet a standard of
- 10 performance equal to or greater than that prescribed by this
- 11 <del>act.</del>
- 12 (3) That the more stringent provision would not diminish
- or threaten the health, safety and welfare of the public.
- 14 (4) That the more stringent provision shall be generally
- 15 consistent with the legislative findings and purpose
- 16 described in section 2.
- 17 (f) (E) Reimbursement.--Expenses for activities under this
- 18 section shall be deemed eligible for reimbursement under section

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- 19 6(b)(1) of the act of January 24, 1966 (1965 P.L.1535, No.537),
- 20 known as the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act.
- 21 Section 8. Licensing of water-well contractors and permitting
- of water-well rigs.
- 23 (a) License requirement.--It shall be a violation of this
- 24 act for any person to undertake the construction, alteration or
- 25 decommissioning of a water well unless it is under the authority
- 26 of a valid water-well contractor license. All water-well
- 27 contractors shall register annually with the department. The
- 28 contractor shall insure that certified water-well drillers are
- 29 responsible for the construction, alteration and decommissioning
- 30 of all water wells for which the contractor has been retained.

- 1 The contractor shall also obtain a yearly permit for all water-
- 2 well rigs employed in the construction, alteration or
- 3 decommissioning of water wells.
- 4 (b) Application. -- An application for a license shall be in
- 5 writing on forms provided by the department and shall be
- 6 accompanied by the water-well contractor license fee and water-
- 7 well rig registration fee, if applicable, as established under
- 8 section 12, or as set by regulation of the board. The
- 9 application shall contain a statement showing:
- 10 (1) The name of the applicant.
- 11 (2) The business address of the applicant.
- 12 (3) The registration of all water-well rigs that will be
- used during the license year.
- 14 (4) Any additional information the department may
- 15 require.
- 16 (c) Requirements for licensee. -- Until such time as the board
- 17 adopts regulations on licensee qualifications, the department
- 18 may issue and renew licenses and rig registrations based on
- 19 satisfaction of the requirements contained in subsection (b). In
- 20 accordance with regulations promulgated under this act, the
- 21 applicant for a license shall meet all the following
- 22 requirements:
- 23 (1) Demonstrate to the department that the applicant and
- the applicant's agents and employees are qualified to
- 25 practice water-well construction, alteration and
- decommissioning.
- 27 (2) File with the department evidence of financial
- 28 responsibility, which shall include, but not be limited to, a
- commercial liability insurance policy or self-insurance in an
- amount to be prescribed by rules and regulations promulgated

- 1 under this act.
- 2 (3) Pay the annual license fees.
- 3 (4) Register with the department any water-well rig to
- 4 be operated during the license year and pay a registration
- 5 fee for each water-well rig registered. The department shall
- 6 issue one water-well rig placard with the water-well
- 7 contractor license number for each water-well rig registered.
- 8 The water-well contractor shall post such placards on each
- 9 rig registered under his license.
- 10 (5) Provide any other information the department deems
- 11 necessary.
- 12 (d) Regulations.--The board shall adopt such regulations to
- 13 provide proof of a licensee's qualifications and to provide for
- 14 proof of financial responsibility of licensees as is necessary
- 15 to insure compliance with this act.
- 16 (e) Renewal.--Any license issued under this section is not
- 17 transferable and must be renewed annually. The board by
- 18 regulation may require individuals licensed under this section
- 19 to attend continuing education programs as a prerequisite for
- 20 the renewal of a license.
- 21 (f) Duplicates.--The department may issue a duplicate
- 22 license or rig registration to replace a lost or destroyed
- 23 license or registration.
- 24 (g) Suspension or revocation. -- Whenever the department
- 25 determines that the holder of a license issued pursuant to this
- 26 section has violated any provision of this act, any rule or
- 27 regulation adopted under this act, any order of the department
- 28 or any condition of any license issued under this act, the
- 29 department may suspend or revoke that license.
- 30 (h) Limitation on reissuance.--The department may not issue

- 1 a new license to a water-well contractor within one year after
- 2 revocation of the contractor's previous license.
- 3 (i) Reciprocal licensing. -- The department, upon application
- 4 for the license and payment of the fees required by the
- 5 department, shall issue a water-well contractor license to a
- 6 person who holds a similar license in any state, territory or
- 7 possession of the United States, or in any foreign country, if
- 8 the requirements for licensing of a water-well contractor under
- 9 which the license was issued are of a standard not lower than
- 10 those specified by the provisions of this act and the rules and
- 11 regulations promulgated under this act. The provisions of this
- 12 subsection shall apply to those states and territories that
- 13 provide similar provisions to water-well contractors of this
- 14 Commonwealth.
- 15 (j) Equivalency. -- On an annual basis, the board will
- 16 identify states where a license and a water-well drillers
- 17 certification are equivalent to the Commonwealth's standards. In
- 18 such cases, Commonwealth licensure or certification shall be
- 19 granted.
- 20 Section 9. Certification of water-well drillers.
- 21 (a) General rule. -- Except as provided in subsections (b) and
- 22 (c), it shall be a violation of this act for any individual to
- 23 construct, decommission or alter a water well without first
- 24 obtaining, through processes approved by the department, a
- 25 water-well driller certificate.
- 26 (b) Exemption.--Any individual operating under the direct
- 27 supervision of a certified water-well driller is exempt from the
- 28 requirements of subsection (a).
- 29 (c) Direct supervision. -- Only one water-well construction,
- 30 alteration or decommissioning operation can be directly

- 1 supervised by a licensed water-well driller at any given time
- 2 unless all of the water-well construction, alteration or
- 3 decommissioning operations being supervised simultaneously are
- 4 being done for the same client, on the same site and under the
- 5 same contract with that client.
- 6 (d) Interim certification. -- Until such time as the board
- 7 promulgates regulations regarding the certification requirements
- 8 for water-well drillers, the department shall issue interim
- 9 certificates to individuals that provide the department with the
- 10 following information:
- 11 (1) The name of the applicant.
- 12 (2) The business address of the applicant.
- 13 (3) The affiliation with any water-well contractor.
- 14 (4) Any additional information the department may
- 15 require.
- 16 Section 10. Water-well registration.
- 17 (a) Registration identification number.--In advance of
- 18 constructing or altering any water well and upon the payment of
- 19 the registration fee established by section 12 or as may be
- 20 required by regulation of the board, the water-well contractor
- 21 shall obtain from the department a water-well registration
- 22 identification number, in the form of a tag, label or other
- 23 device, which shall be permanently affixed to the water well
- 24 upon completion of the work and in a manner specified by the
- 25 department.
- 26 (b) Registration required.--
- 27 (1) The information required to register newly
- 28 constructed or altered water wells shall be provided by the
- 29 water-well contractor and be on a form prescribed by the
- 30 department. The required information shall at a minimum

Т	include.
2	(i) the water-well registration identification
3	number;
4	(ii) the name of the water-well owner;
5	(iii) the address of the property owner on which the
6	water well is located;
7	(iv) the name and license number of the water-well
8	contractor responsible for the work;
9	(v) the name, certification number and signature of
LO	the water-well driller that supervised the work;
L1	(vi) the exact geographic location of the water
L2	well;
L3	(vii) a log of the water well containing a
L4	description of materials penetrated;
L5	(viii) the size, depth, diameters and lengths of the
L6	boring, the casings and the screen installed;
L7	(ix) the static water level, pumping water level and
L8	pumping rate; and
L9	(x) any other information the department deems
20	necessary.
21	The water quality analysis and well yield reports, as
22	required by section 11, shall be submitted to the department
23	at the time of registration of each drinking water well.
24	(2) The information required to register decommissioned
25	water wells shall be provided by the water-well contractor
26	and be on a form prescribed by the department. The required
27	information shall at a minimum include:
28	(i) the water-well registration identification
29	number, if one was previously issued for the water well;
30	(ii) the date of decommissioning;

- 1 (iii) the type of closure performed;
- 2 (iv) the name and license number of the water-well
- 3 contractor responsible for the decommissioning;
- 4 (v) the name, certification number and signature of
- 5 the water-well driller that supervised the
- 6 decommissioning;
- 7 (vi) the exact geographic location of the water
- 8 well;
- 9 (vii) the materials used; and
- 10 (viii) any other information the department deems
- 11 necessary.
- 12 The water-well contractor shall return the water-well
- registration tag to the department whenever a water well with
- a registration tag is decommissioned. The water-well
- 15 contractor shall not be required to obtain a registration
- identification number or pay a fee in connection with the
- decommissioning of any water well.
- 18 (c) Certification by water-well contractor.--Within 30 days
- 19 of completing the construction, alteration or decommissioning of
- 20 a water well, the water-well contractor performing the work
- 21 shall provide written certification to the owner of the water
- 22 well that the work was performed in accordance with this act and
- 23 with all applicable standards, rules and regulations. This
- 24 certification shall be accomplished on a form prescribed by the
- 25 department containing the information required by this
- 26 subsection or as may be established by regulation of the board.
- 27 (d) Duty to notify local agency and department. -- A licensed
- 28 driller shall notify the local agency and the department within
- 29 30 days of any action to temporarily close or decommission a
- 30 water well.

- 1 Section 11. Water quality analysis and well yield reports.
- 2 (a) Water quality analysis report. -- The water-well
- 3 contractor shall collect and submit to the department and the
- 4 owner of the drinking water well a water quality analysis
- 5 report. The report shall be based on a water sample obtained
- 6 from the drinking water well according to the procedures
- 7 established by the board under section 4.
- 8 (b) Content.--The report shall include water quality
- 9 analyses performed by a laboratory certified under the act of
- 10 May 1, 1984 (P.L.206, No.43), known as the Pennsylvania Safe
- 11 Drinking Water Act, of the contaminants specified by regulation
- 12 and any other substances which the drinking water-well owner may
- 13 request.
- 14 (c) Water quality information. -- The department shall develop
- 15 water quality information which shall include, but not be
- 16 limited to, water quality standards, potential effects on human
- 17 health and safety relative to the tested substances, available
- 18 water treatment technologies and associated costs. The
- 19 information shall be provided to all certified laboratories and
- 20 water-well contractors who shall provide this information to the
- 21 owner of the drinking water well.
- 22 (d) Notice to well users.--Where the owner of a drinking
- 23 water well is not the sole user of the water from a drinking
- 24 water well, the owner shall, within 48 hours of receipt of the
- 25 water quality analysis report, notify all other users of the
- 26 results of the water quality analysis. The notice shall be given
- 27 by mail or by conspicuous posting at the place of use in a
- 28 location where it will be seen by users.
- 29 (e) Well yield report.--In accordance with regulations
- 30 adopted by the board, the water-well contractor shall submit to

- 1 the department and drinking water-well owner a well yield
- 2 report. The well yield report must be based on testing of the
- 3 drinking water well according to the procedures established by
- 4 the board under section 4.
- 5 Section 12. Interim fees and requirements.
- 6 (a) Water-well registration fee. -- Until alternative fees are
- 7 established by the board by regulation, a registration fee of
- 8 \$35 for each water well constructed or altered after the
- 9 effective date of this act shall be paid by the well contractor
- 10 to the department. Each well contractor shall register with the
- 11 department each water well by completing and submitting the form
- 12 provided by the department, including the registration fee
- 13 prescribed by the department, for each water well in accordance
- 14 with section 11.
- 15 (b) Water-well contractor license fee.--Until alternative
- 16 annual license fees are established by the board by regulation,
- 17 an annual license fee of \$80 shall be paid to the department by
- 18 any person prior to constructing or altering a water well. Each
- 19 water-well contractor shall apply to the department by
- 20 completing and submitting the application form provided by the
- 21 department, including the license fee, in accordance with
- 22 section 8.
- 23 (c) Water-well rig registration fee. -- Until alternative
- 24 annual fees are established by the board by regulation, an
- 25 annual water-well rig registration fee \$30 shall be paid to the
- 26 department by the water-well contractor for each water-well rig
- 27 which is to be owned or operated during the registration year.
- 28 Each water-well contractor shall register each water-well rig
- 29 with the department by completing and submitting the form
- 30 provided by the department, including the registration fee, in

- 1 accordance with section 8.
- 2 (d) Water-well drillers certification fee.--Until
- 3 alternative annual fees are established by the board by
- 4 regulation, an annual water-well driller certification fee of
- 5 \$20 shall be paid to the department by each individual water-
- 6 well driller.
- 7 (e) Use of registration fees.--All fees collected by the
- 8 department shall be deposited in the Water-Well Construction
- 9 Fund established under section 17.
- 10 Section 13. Recordkeeping and reports.
- 11 The department may require any water-well contractor to
- 12 establish and maintain such records and make such reports and
- 13 furnish such data as the department deems necessary to
- 14 demonstrate that the water-well contractor is complying with
- 15 this act and the rules and regulations promulgated under this
- 16 act. A copy of the written certification required by section
- 17 11(d) shall be kept for ten years by the water-well contractor.
- 18 Section 14. Water-Well Construction Technical Advisory
- 19 Committee.
- 20 (a) Establishment and composition. --
- 21 (1) There is hereby established the Water-Well
- 22 Construction Technical Advisory Committee. The committee
- 23 shall consist of  $\frac{20}{20}$  23 members, all of whom shall be
- 24 appointed by the secretary within three months of the
- 25 effective date of this act and all of whom must be residents

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- of this Commonwealth with five years of experience in this
- 27 Commonwealth in their respective fields. In addition, one
- 28 alternate member shall be appointed for each member. The
- 29 alternate member shall take the place of the respective
- 30 member whenever that member is unable to attend an official

- meeting. The committee shall encourage alternate members to attend all meetings even when not taking the place of the member.
  - (2) The committee shall be composed of the following members:
    - (i) Four members shall be water-well contractors recommended from the membership of the Pennsylvania Ground Water Association, at least one shall be a cable tool driller and at least one shall be a rotary driller.
    - (ii) Two geologists with expertise in hydrogeology shall be recommended from the membership of the Pennsylvania Council of Professional Geologists and licensed under the act of May 23, 1945 (P.L.913, No.367), known as the Engineer, Land Surveyor and Geologist Registration Law.
    - (iii) One member shall be a public health official, chosen from a list of at least four names submitted by the department's Citizens Advisory Council to the secretary.
    - (iv) Three members shall be water-well owners, chosen from a list of six names submitted by the department's Citizens Advisory Council to the secretary.
    - (v) One member representing Pennsylvania townships of the first class shall be recommended from the membership of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners.
    - (vi) One member representing Pennsylvania townships of the second class shall be recommended from the membership of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors.

1	(vii) One member representing Pennsylvania boroughs
2	shall be recommended from the membership of the
3	Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs.
4	(viii) One member representing Pennsylvania cities
5	shall be recommended from the membership of the
6	Pennsylvania League of Cities and Municipalities.
7	(ix) One member representing Pennsylvania counties
8	shall be recommended from the membership of the County
9	Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania.
10	(x) One member representing the home building
11	industry shall be recommended from the membership of
12	Pennsylvania Home Builders Association.
13	(xi) Two members representing agriculture shall be
14	recommended from the membership of the Pennsylvania Farm
15	Bureau.
16	(xii) One member representing sewage enforcement
17	officers shall be recommended from the membership of the
18	Pennsylvania Association of Sewage Enforcement Officers.
19	(xiii) One member representing county health
20	departments with a water-well ordinance in effect upon
21	the effective date of this act.
22	(xiv) One member representing municipal authorities
23	shall be recommended from the membership of the
24	Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association.
25	(XV) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE PUBLIC WATER <
26	SUPPLIERS SHALL BE RECOMMENDED BY THE AMERICAN WATER
27	WORKS ASSOCIATION (AWWA).
28	(XVI) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE BOTTLED WATER
29	INDUSTRY SHALL BE RECOMMENDED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA BOTTLED
30	WATER ASSOCIATION.

- 1 (b) Expenses.--Committee members shall not receive a salary
- 2 but shall be reimbursed for all necessary expenses incurred in
- 3 the performance of their duties. An alternate may not be
- 4 reimbursed unless serving in place of the appointed member.
- 5 (c) Meetings, chairperson, etc. All actions of the
- 6 committee shall be by majority vote of the members assembled if
- 7 a quorum is present. A quorum shall be considered as being one
- 8 more than 50% of the total membership. The committee shall meet
- 9 upon the call of the secretary, but not less than semiannually,
- 10 to carry out its duties under this act. The committee shall
- 11 select a chairperson and other officers and establish bylaws as
- 12 it deems appropriate. The department shall provide clerical and
- 13 technical support as the committee may reasonably require.
- 14 (d) Regulations. The department shall consult with the
- 15 committee in the formulation, drafting and presentation stages
- 16 of all regulations promulgated under this act. The committee
- 17 shall be given a reasonable opportunity to review and comment on
- 18 all regulations prior to their submission to the board for
- 19 initial consideration. The written comments of the committee
- 20 shall be presented to the board with any regulatory proposal.
- 21 (C) MEETINGS, CHAIRPERSON, ETC.--ALL ACTIONS OF THE
- 22 COMMITTEE SHALL BE BY MAJORITY VOTE OF THE MEMBERS OR ALTERNATES

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- 23 PRESENT. A QUORUM SHALL BE AT LEAST ONE MORE THAN HALF OF THE
- 24 NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS, HOWEVER, VACANCIES SHALL NOT BE
- 25 COUNTED WHEN CALCULATING THE NUMBER NEEDED FOR A QUORUM. THE
- 26 COMMITTEE SHALL MEET UPON THE CALL OF THE SECRETARY, OR CALL OF
- 27 THE CHAIR OR UPON REQUEST OF EIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERS, BUT NOT
- 28 LESS THAN SEMIANNUALLY, TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES UNDER THIS ACT.
- 29 THE COMMITTEE SHALL SELECT A CHAIRPERSON AND OTHER OFFICERS AND
- 30 ESTABLISH BYLAWS, AS IT DEEMS APPROPRIATE. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL

- 1 PROVIDE CLERICAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT AS THE COMMITTEE MAY
- 2 REASONABLY REQUIRE.
- 3 (D) REGULATIONS.--
- 4 (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT TO THE COMMITTEE FOR
- 5 REVIEW AND COMMENT ALL REGULATIONS, GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS,
- 6 POLICY POSITIONS AND SIMILAR ACTIVITIES PROMULGATED, ADOPTED,
- 7 IMPLEMENTED OR PUT INTO PLACE UNDER THIS ACT, WHEN ANY OF
- 8 THOSE DOCUMENTS ARE IN THE FORMULATION, DRAFTING OR SIMILAR
- 9 EVOLUTIONARY STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT AND WILL AFFECT, IN ANY
- 10 MANNER WHATSOEVER, THE RELATED WATER-WELL STANDARDS.
- 11 (2) THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE GIVEN A REASONABLE
- 12 OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW AND COMMENT ON ALL REGULATIONS PRIOR TO
- 13 THEIR SUBMISSION TO THE BOARD FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION. THE
- 14 WRITTEN COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE PRESENTED TO THE
- 15 BOARD WITH ANY REGULATORY PROPOSAL.
- 16 (3) SHOULD THE COMMITTEE DESIRE TO REVIEW AND COMMENT ON
- 17 ANY DRAFT DOCUMENT, POLICY OR GUIDANCE DOCUMENT NOT SUBMITTED
- 18 TO IT BY THE DEPARTMENT, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT THAT
- 19 DOCUMENT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT WHEN A MOTION TO RECEIVE AND
- 20 REVIEW THAT DOCUMENT IS PASSED BY A MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE
- 21 MEMBERS.
- 22 Section 15. Penalties and remedies.
- 23 (a) Summary offense.--
- 24 (1) A person who violates any provision of this act, any
- regulation of the department, any order of the department, or
- 26 any term or condition of a well registration or license of
- 27 the department issued under this act, or who resists or
- interferes with an officer, agent or employee of the
- department in the performance of his duties commits a summary
- offense and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a

- fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 and costs for
- 2 each separate offense or, in default of payment thereof,
- 3 shall be sentenced to imprisonment for a period of not more
- 4 than 30 days.
- 5 (2) For purposes of this subsection, a summary offense
- 6 may be prosecuted before the district justice with
- 7 jurisdiction over the area where the offense occurred.
- 8 (3) Employees of the department authorized to conduct
- 9 inspections or investigations are hereby declared to be law
- 10 enforcement officers authorized to issue or file citations
- 11 for summary violations under this act and the General Counsel
- is hereby authorized to prosecute these offenses.
- 13 (b) Equitable relief.--The department may apply to the
- 14 Commonwealth Court or to a court of common pleas having
- 15 jurisdiction for preliminary, special or final injunction to
- 16 restrain or prevent violations of this act or to compel
- 17 compliance with this act or any rule, regulation, order, license
- 18 or registration issued under this act.
- 19 (c) Civil penalties.--
- 20 (1) In addition to proceeding under any other remedy
- 21 available at law or in equity for a violation of any
- provision of this act, any rule or regulation of the
- 23 department or order of the department, or any term or
- 24 condition of any well registration or license issued under
- 25 this act, the department may assess a civil penalty upon a
- 26 person for such violation. The maximum civil penalty which
- 27 may be assessed under this subsection shall be \$1,000 per day
- for each violation. The penalty may be assessed whether the
- violation was willful or negligent.
- 30 (2) When the department assesses a civil penalty, it

- 1 shall inform the person of the amount of the penalty. The
- 2 person charged with the penalty shall then have 30 days to
- 3 pay the penalty in full or, if the person wishes to contest
- 4 either the amount of the penalty or the fact of the
- 5 violation, the person shall, within the 30-day period, file
- 6 an appeal of the action with the Environmental Hearing Board.
- 7 Failure to appeal within 30 days shall result in a waiver of
- 8 all legal rights to contest the violation or the amount of
- 9 the penalty.
- 10 (d) Remedies cumulative. -- The penalties and remedies
- 11 prescribed by this act shall be deemed cumulative, and the
- 12 existence of or exercise of any remedy shall not prevent the
- 13 department from exercising any other remedy under this act, at
- 14 law or in equity.
- 15 (e) Separate offense.--Violations on separate days shall
- 16 constitute separate offenses.
- 17 Section 16. Local agency hearings and appeals.
- 18 (a) Right to hearing. -- Any person aggrieved by an action of
- 19 a local agency or water-well enforcement officer in granting or
- 20 denying a permit, issuing an order or other actions taken under
- 21 this act shall have the right within 30 days after receipt of
- 22 notice of the action to request a hearing before the local
- 23 agency.
- 24 (b) Revocation of permits.--
- 25 (1) Revocation of permits shall occur only after:
- 26 (i) notice and opportunity for hearing have been
- 27 given to the permittee; and
- 28 (ii) the opportunity to appeal is exhausted.
- 29 (2) If work has not been commenced on a property for
- 30 which a water-well construction permit has been issued and

- 1 for which the permittee has received notice of a permit
- 2 revocation, the permittee may not commence work on the water
- 3 well and the permit shall be suspended until the applicant
- 4 has requested a hearing under subsection (a), the hearing has
- 5 been conducted and a decision announced or the time for such
- 6 request has expired. If the time has expired and no hearing
- 7 request has been received by the local agency, the revocation
- 8 shall be final.
- 9 (3) If work has commenced on a property for which a
- 10 water well construction permit has been issued and for which
- 11 the permittee has received notice of a permit revocation, the
- 12 permittee shall cease work on the water well except such work
- as may be needed to secure the water well to prevent
- 14 contamination of the groundwater or prevent a safety hazard.
- The permit shall be suspended until the permittee has
- reguested a hearing under subsection (a), the hearing has
- 17 been conducted and a decision announced or until the time for
- 18 such request has expired. If the time has expired and no
- 19 hearing request has been received by the local agency, the
- 20 revocation shall be final.
- 21 (c) Hearings.--Hearings under subsections (a) and (b) shall
- 22 be conducted pursuant to 2 Pa.C.S. Ch. 5 Subch. B (relating to
- 23 practice and procedure of local agencies).
- 24 (d) Appeals.--
- 25 (1) Any subsequent appeal shall be to the court of
- 26 common pleas of the county where the land to which the permit
- 27 pertains is located. The Attorney General shall be notified
- in writing by the appellant of any appeal challenging the
- 29 constitutionality of any provision of this act or the
- 30 validity of any rule or regulation promulgated under this

- 1 act.
- 2 (2) Any order, permit or decision of the department
- 3 under this act, except as otherwise provided by sections 5
- 4 and 6(c), shall be taken, subject to the right of notice and
- 5 appeal to the Environmental Hearing Board, pursuant to
- 6 section 1921-A of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175),
- 7 known as The Administrative Code of 1929 and 2 Pa.C.S. Ch. 5
- 8 Subch. A (relating to practice and procedure of Commonwealth
- 9 agencies).
- 10 Section 17. Water-Well Construction Fund.
- 11 (a) Establishment.--There is established in the State
- 12 Treasury a restricted nonlapsing fund to be known as the Water-
- 13 Well Construction Fund for the deposit of all fees, fines and
- 14 civil penalties authorized by this act and collected by the
- 15 department. All moneys in the fund are hereby appropriated on a
- 16 continuing basis to the department for the costs of
- 17 administering the provisions of this act.
- 18 (b) Grants to owners of water wells.--
- 19 (1) Fifty FORTY percent of the money contained in the
- 20 fund each fiscal year shall be used by the department to
- 21 provide grants to owners of water wells to offset costs
- incurred by the owner in decommissioning a water well in
- 23 accordance with the standards and requirements imposed
- 24 pursuant to this act.
- 25 (2) During a fiscal year, an owner may not make more
- than one application for a grant under this subsection.
- 27 (c) Reimbursement to local agencies.--
- 28 (1) Each fiscal year 40% 50% of the moneys contained in
- 29 the fund shall be used for reimbursing the expenses incurred
- 30 by local agencies in the enforcement of section 7.

- 1 (2) Reimbursement requests under this subsection may be
- 2 submitted simultaneously with, and on the same forms used
- for, reimbursement requests under section 6(b)(1) of the act
- 4 of January 24, 1966 (1965 P.L.1535, No.537), known as the
- 5 Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act.
- 6 (d) Other sources.--The fund may be supplemented by
- 7 appropriations from the General Assembly, the Federal, State or
- 8 a local government or from any private source.
- 9 Section 18. Transfer of funds.
- 10 All moneys currently collected under the act of May 29, 1956
- 11 (1955 P.L.1840, No.610), known as the Water Well Drillers
- 12 License Act, shall be immediately transferred to the Water-Well
- 13 Construction Fund.
- 14 Section 19. Status of existing licenses and permits.
- 15 Water-well driller licenses and water-well rig permits issued
- 16 under the act of May 29, 1956 (1955 P.L.1840, No.610), known as
- 17 the Water Well Drillers License Act, shall remain in full force
- 18 and effect for six months after the effective date of the
- 19 regulations adopted under this act.
- 20 Section 20. Savings provision.
- 21 The provisions of this act shall not affect any suit,
- 22 prosecution or other action instituted, prior to the effective
- 23 date of this act, to enforce any right or abate any violation of
- 24 any act or part thereof repealed by this act.
- 25 Section 21. Severability.
- 26 The provisions of this act are severable. If any provision of
- 27 this act or its application to any person or circumstance is
- 28 held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions
- 29 or applications of this act which can be given effect without
- 30 the invalid provision or application.

- 1 Section 22. Repeal.
- 2 The act of May 29, 1956 (1955 P.L.1840, No.610), known as the
- 3 Water Well Drillers License Act, is repealed.
- 4 Section 23. Applicability.
- 5 With the exception of the rules and regulations regarding

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- 6 THIS ACT SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE FOLLOWING:
- 7 (1) WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS
- 8 REGARDING standards for the inspection, alteration, temporary
- 9 closure or decommissioning of water wells as established by
- the board under section 4, the provisions of this act shall
- 11 not apply to any well in which initial construction activity
- was commenced prior to the effective date of the regulations
- 13 promulgated under this act.
- 14 (2) ANY WELL, BOREHOLE OR PROBE DRILLED PURSUANT TO THE
- 15 ACT OF JULY 7, 1980 (P.L.380, NO.97), KNOWN AS THE SOLID
- 16 WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT, THE ACT OF OCTOBER 18, 1988 (P.L.756,
- NO.108), KNOWN AS THE HAZARDOUS SITES CLEANUP ACT, THE ACT OF
- JULY 6, 1989 (P.L.169, NO.32), KNOWN AS THE STORAGE TANK AND
- 19 SPILL PREVENTION ACT, ACT OF MAY 19, 1995 (P.L.4, NO.2),
- 20 KNOWN AS THE LAND RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION
- 21 STANDARDS ACT, AND 42 U.S.C. § 321 AND 9601 ET SEQ.
- 22 (3) ANY WELL, BOREHOLE OR PROBE DRILLED FOR THE PURPOSE
- OF CONDUCTING A CHARACTERIZATION OF A POTENTIALLY
- 24 CONTAMINATED SITE.
- 25 Section 24. Construction.
- 26 Unless where specifically authorized, nothing in this act
- 27 shall be construed to alter the requirements contained in the
- 28 act of May 1, 1984 (P.L.206, No.43), known as the Pennsylvania
- 29 Safe Drinking Water Act, and applicable regulations or the
- 30 requirements contained in other environmental statutes.

- 1 Section 25. Effective date.
- 2 This act shall take effect as follows:
- 3 (1) Section 7 shall take effect 180 days after
- 4 promulgation of regulations established by the Environmental
- 5 Quality Board under section 4.
- 6 (2) Section 11 shall take effect upon promulgation of
- 7 regulations established by the Environmental Quality Board
- 8 under section 4.
- 9 (3) The remainder of this act shall take effect
- immediately.