Oregon Health Authority, Drinking Water Program

Plan Review requirements for new wells at existing public water systems.

The requirements apply to new wells for existing Community, Non-Transient Non-Community, Transient Non-Community, and Non-Public (aka State Regulated) water systems which are defined on page 6. Two sets of information are provided below, ‘short’ and ‘long’ instructions. The short instructions are abbreviated. If you are unfamiliar with the plan review process, it is strongly recommended you read the long instructions.

For assistance, call (971) 673-0405 or fax (971) 673-0694.

SHORT INSTRUCTIONS:

The following shall be submitted and approved by OHA prior to construction of a new well or major additions or modifications to existing well systems:

1. Plans prepared by an Oregon Professional Engineer or an Oregon Registered Geologist.
2. A Land Use Compatibility Statement (LUCS), or equivalent documentation, approved by the local planning authority. Modifications to existing facilities with a LUCS on file may submit the original LUCS.
3. Copy of water right permit from Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD; if they require one). Public water systems that are classified as transient (e.g., restaurants, parks, churches) and non-transient non-community (e.g., schools, industries) shall have a water right if the use is greater than 5,000 gallons/day (OWRD uses ‘commercial use’). Public water systems classified as community or state-regulated (OWRD uses ‘domestic use’) shall have a water right if the use is greater than 15,000 gallons/day per distribution system.
4. The appropriate plan review fee.

Specific Requirements

A. Prior to drilling, a well site plan shall be submitted showing, at a minimum:
   1. Site location;
   2. A drawing, or amended tax lot map, clearly showing the well’s proximity to any potential contaminant within sanitary hazard setbacks (e.g., septic tanks, sewers, drainfields, underground storage tanks, grazing areas, waste disposal, chemical storage, etc.) and to surface waters within 500 feet;
   3. Indication on a map that the well owner has at least a 100-foot radius of ownership and control, where no potential contaminants are allowed. Provide copies of perpetual restrictive easements if ownership and control is less than 100 feet;
   4. Surface conditions around the well demonstrating drainage away from the well and floodplain information; and
   5. Well drilling specifications, as planned (see OAR 690-200 and OAR 690-210 for Oregon Water Resources Department’s minimum Well Construction Standards).

B. After drilling, submit the following:
   1. Well driller’s report, often referred to as a “well log;”
   2. Aquifer stress (aka pump test) performance data;
   3. Water quality analyses. This includes arsenic, nitrate, and coliform bacteria at a minimum, plus additional contaminants depending on water system type;
   4. Wellhead detail (e.g., concrete slab, sample tap, pump to waste, etc.);
   5. Wellhouse detail (e.g., locked, insulated, heated, etc.);
   6. Plans and specifications for connection of a new well to the system; and
   7. Plans for any treatment, if applicable.

END SHORT INSTRUCTIONS