



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

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Monitoring Wells and Geotechnical Borings Within Stanislaus County

Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources (DER) oversees the constructing and destructing of soil borings for including those for installing vadose zone, groundwater (monitoring and/or extraction) and cathodic protection wells in all areas of Stanislaus County. The above types of wells include both permanent and temporary wells and those that are made with cone penetration technology or so called "Hydropunch type" sampling devices.

Completion and submittal of a Stanislaus County Monitoring Well Permit is required prior to beginning work on any of the following:

1. Exploratory boring in areas where hazardous substances or wastes have or are stored or where soil and/or groundwater is suspected/ known to be contaminated with hazardous substances or wastes, or
2. Any boring in which a casing will be installed, or
3. Any boring that has a monitoring device installed, or
4. Any soil boring greater than 20 feet.in depth, or
5. Any soil boring 20 feet in depth or less where it is anticipated that groundwater table will be encountered.

The City of Modesto has a separate permitting requirement, in addition to those of DER, for activities performed within the incorporated area where they have jurisdiction. Please consult with City of Modesto if you intend to place wells in these two cities.

It is not necessary to obtain a separate monitoring well permit for the installation of multiple groundwater monitoring wells provided the wells:

1. Are all located at one site, and
2. Will be installed during the same specified time frame, and
3. Are of the same construction type.

All wells shall be constructed according to the State of California Department of Water Resources (CA DWR) Bulletins 74-81 and 74-90. Each well must be identified by a unique descriptive well name/number. Each well must have this descriptive name/number permanently marked on the well.

A representative line drawing of the wells construction details as well as a separate site map depicting the proposed location (referenced with each wells descriptive name/ number) must accompany each monitoring well permit. If construction specifications of the monitoring wells differ, a specific monitoring well construction diagram must be provided for each differing well. It is acceptable to reference a previously completed work plan if well construction details/location we addressed in the work plan and a copy of this work plan accompanies the well permit.

Containerized soil cuttings and purge water left onsite must have information the following information marked on the drum in indelible ink:

1. Site Name & Address
2. Contact Name and Phone
3. Contents of Drum
4. Accumulation start date

Any contractor performing work of this type must have on file with the DER:

1. A valid C-57 license, and
2. A current Certificate of Insurance.

Once permitted, the DER must be notified at least 48 hours in advance of the construction/ destruction activities. DER reserves its right to inspect field activities but a representative of DER need not be present prior to commencing the work provided the activity has been properly permitted and the DER has been sufficiently notified. The permit fee is derived from analysis of staff time for review and processing of the permit application and any site inspections, which may be conducted by staff during or subsequent to the installation of the monitoring wells.

The DER fee is waived for installations within the incorporated city of Modesto.

For monitoring wells installed in the unincorporated areas of the County, the DER permit fee is:

\$265.00 for the first boring/well included in the permit, and \$53.00 for each additional boring/well.

(Example: the permit fee for 3 monitoring wells would be $\$265.00 + \$53.00 + \$53.00 = \371.00).

Monitoring wells and soil borings shall be abandoned in accordance with CA DWR Bulletins 74-81 and 74-90.

Prior to commencing boring/well destruction and for completion of boring/well permit, the contractor must:

1. Complete of the destruction section a monitoring well permit form. (For wells constructed and destructed within the same mobilization both the construction and destruction sections must be completed.)
2. Estimate the volume of grout expected to be necessary to destruct each monitoring well prior to destruction, and
3. Describe the steps and methods used to destruct the well including the management of the casing and the installation method used to fill the well with grout.

After field destruction activities are complete, the contractor must report to the DER:

1. Any planned vs. field work anomalies, and
2. The actual amount of grout used so as to evaluate the effectiveness of the well destruction.

For additional information on boring/monitoring well construction and/or destruction, please refer to the Stanislaus County Guidelines for Sampling and Site Investigations (copies available upon request), or contact the Environmental Resources Department at (209) 525-6700 or via email (HMpermit@envres.org).