

# The Driller's Digest

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*This newsletter is published as a service to certified well contractors and others in the groundwater industry. Suggestions for articles for publication in the newsletter are welcome.*

## Continuing Education Changes

By Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

Revisions to the Chap. 27 Well Contractor Certification Rules took effect May 1. The new rules have important changes to the continuing education requirements, including:

- **All continuing education must be pre-approved (by the Review Committee) at least 30 days prior to the course date.**

Courses that are currently pre-approved are listed online at [www.ncwelldriller.org](http://www.ncwelldriller.org) under "Continuing Education." The WCCC-Review Committee is the group that reviews and pre-approves courses. The list of WCCC-Review Committee meeting dates and related submittal deadlines may be found online under

"Meetings." Make sure your continuing education is submitted far enough in advance to be reviewed at the appropriate WCCC-Review Committee meeting.

The forms to request pre-approval of a course (WCC-8a), and also for submitting proof of attendance after taking a pre-approved course (WCC-8b), may be found online under "Continuing Education." Course pre-approval is for the specific course date or certification period (for online courses) the course is submitted for. So if you intend to take the same course again the following certification period, always remember to check online first to see if it has been pre-approved for that certification period/date. Well



*(Continued on page 4)*

## 2C.0200 Rule Changes Underway

by Thomas Slusser, L.G., DENR/DWQ/APS

The North Carolina well construction standards applicable to injection wells (15A NCAC 02C .0200) are being proposed for revision. These injection well regulations are based on the federal Underground Injection Control Program and the North Carolina Well Construction Act, and apply to wells that are used to emplace solids or fluids into the subsurface, such as are used for the following purposes:

- *In situ* groundwater remediation;
- Geothermal heating and cooling;
- Aquifer storage and recovery of potable water;
- Testing of aquifer hydraulic properties;
- Aquifer recharge;
- Subsidence control; and

- Prevention of saline water intrusion into freshwater aquifers.

The current injection well regulations were adopted in 1997. Since then there have been changes in injection well design technology and use, as well as applicable federal regulations, that need to be incorporated into the NC regulations. Stakeholder processes were conducted in 2010. The stakeholders received the proposed rule draft very well and even helped write language and provide technical expertise that greatly improved the proposed rule draft.

Major changes include reorganization of existing rule language to give each allowable injection well type its own unique rule so that all requirements for a single well type can be found in one place. Other changes include reduced reporting requirements, specific require-

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Summary of Civil Penalty Assessments

*Penalties for violations of NCGS Chapter 87, Article 7 & 7A vary depending upon the particular facts and circumstances present in each case. Note: only finalized uncontested cases or cases not seeking remission and at the collection stage are included in this list (payment of fines and corrections of violations may already have occurred).*

### Thomas Kindley

Randolph County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$500.

**Effective Date 5/23/11 Case # WCC 002-11**

### Greg Russell

Randolph County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$500.

**Effective Date 7/26/11 Case # WCC 003-11**

### Greg Russell

Randolph County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$500.

**Effective Date 7/26/11 Case # WCC 004-11**

### Steven DeWeese

Buncombe County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000.

**Effective Date 5/6/11 Case # WCC 005-11**

### James Cress, Jr.

Guilford County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000.

**Effective Date 5/4/11 Case # WCC 006-11**

### Steven DeWeese

Buncombe County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000.

**Effective Date 5/6/11 Case # WCC 007-11**

### Chris Meatyard

Mecklenburg County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000.

**Effective Date 8/16/11 Case # WCC 008-11**

### John Martinuzzi

Mecklenburg County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$4,000.

**Effective Date 7/20/11 Case # WCC 009-11**

### Kyle Jablonski

Wake County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$500.

**Effective Date 8/16/11 Case # WCC 010-11**

### Michael Ellison

Wake County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$500.

**Effective Date 8/9/11 Case # WCC 011-11**

### 2C.0200 Rule Changes Underway

*(Continued from page 1)*

ments for closed-loop “direct expansion” geothermal systems, permitting by rule all closed-loop geothermal systems, permitting by rule for certain groundwater remediation injection wells, requiring full borehole grouting of all closed-loop geothermal wells, and the ability to locate subsurface systems components of closed-loop geothermal systems.



The proposed revisions are expected to have significant net savings to the state and regulated community. Net savings of approximately \$700,000 are anticipated in the first year of implementation.

The public comment period began on October 17, 2011, and will run through January 13, 2012. Four public hearings were held as follows:

- November 30 – Morganton, Burke County
- December 1 – Raleigh, Wake County
- December 13 – Williamston, Martin County
- December 14 – Castle Hayne, New Hanover County

The proposed rules, economic analysis, dates of public hearings, and other information is available online at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/aps/gwpro/rules-statutes/rule-revisions>



## Commissioner Changes

By Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

Thomas Whitehead is our newest addition to the N.C. Well Contractors Certification Commission. He takes the Senate-appointed seat of certified well contractor engaged in well contractor activities, primarily involving non-water supply wells.



**Thomas Whitehead being sworn in by Susan Pope, Notary**

Thomas is currently employed with S&ME, Inc. as an environmental driller. He has over 21 years of experience in the environmental drilling and the environmental consulting business. Previous to S&ME, Thomas was employed by Mad Dawg, Inc. and McCall Brothers, Inc. which included environmental drilling, installation of residential and municipal wells. Thomas is installing monitoring wells and remediation wells on a daily basis in most counties throughout North Carolina.

At the Nov. 8 Commission meeting, fellow commissioners and staff bid farewell to Commissioners Thomas Ammons, Carl Parsons, and Commission counsel Phillip Reynolds.



**Thomas Ammons receives plaque honoring his service to the Commission**



**Nov. 8 meeting of the NC Well Contractors Certification Commission**

## Continuing Education Scholarships

By Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

The N.C. Well Contractors Certification Commission passed a motion at their Nov. 8 meeting to provide scholarships for currently N.C. certified well contractors to attend continuing education classes at the Jan. 27-28, 2012 N.C. Ground Water Association tradeshow in Greensboro and for the Oct. 16-18, 2012 On-Site Water Protection Conference in Hickory. Final departmental approval is now being sought for the scholarships.

The scholarship application form is available online at [www.ncwelldriller.org](http://www.ncwelldriller.org) on the "Forms" page. Submittal deadlines are listed on the form. The number of scholarships that may be awarded is limited so apply today.

## Electrical Contracting License Required

by Al Parris, State Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors

North Carolina law require that before any person, firm or corporation is entitled to install, maintain or repair wiring that is directly related to groundwater pump equipment, such person, firm or corporation must first qualify and hold an electrical contracting license issued by the State Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors.

A special restricted groundwater pump license (SP-WP) authorizes the licensee to install, maintain, or repair electric wiring only as an incident to the licensee's groundwater pump business. Furthermore, the license authorizes the licensee to install, maintain or repair only wiring that is directly related to a groundwater pump and that:

- Is restricted to circuits or parts of circuits that operate at voltages not exceeding 600 volts, phase-to-phase;
- Is electrically isolated from the building wiring system by an overcurrent protective isolating device that:
  - (A) has been installed, complete with line-side connections, by others;
  - (B) is permanently and legibly marked to identify the equipment served by the device; and
  - (C) is located adjacent to the controller for the specific groundwater pump equipment involved and within an enclosure intended solely for, and limited to, serving that equipment;
- Originates at the load-side terminals of the protective isolating device; and
- Is not installed in a location considered as hazardous under the National Electrical Code.

Any person interested in taking the qualifying examination for a special restricted groundwater pump electrical contracting license (SP-WP), please call 1-800-392-6102 to receive the necessary application packet or order online at the Board's Book Store at <https://www.ncbeec.org/modules/shop/> . You may view a copy of the Board's Examination Handbook under "Need a Form" at:

<https://www.ncbeec.org/uploads/File/Web-ExaminationInformationHandbook-October2010.pdf>

If you should have questions concerning the electrical contracting licensing laws and the scope of the SP

-WP license, you should contact the State Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors, PO Box 18727, Raleigh, North Carolina 27619-8727, Telephone (919) 733-9042 or [aparris@ncbeec.org](mailto:aparris@ncbeec.org) . You may also visit the Board's Web Site at [www.ncbeec.org](http://www.ncbeec.org).

The Board's website provides a source for those seeking information about the Board and its services. It allows any user to search the Board's database of active licensees, license number and listed qualified individuals including licensee address and telephone information. This data is updated daily to reflect new licensees, changes, etc.

Other information available on this site includes:

- Laws and Rules applicable to Electrical Contracting;
- Examinations information;
- Continuing education;
- Complaints;
- Fees and services;
- Downloadable forms;
- Board and Staff members information;
- Links to related sites; and
- Book Store.

The Board encourages use of this site. Please provide feedback to the Board office at Email address: [info@ncbeec.org](mailto:info@ncbeec.org) .

### *Continuing Education Changes (Continued from page 1)*

contractors or course providers may submit a course for pre-approval. Courses must be related to well contractor activities. If you know of a course coming up that you would like to attend but it is not yet listed as pre-approved, please submit it! If you need assistance or have questions WCCC staff is here to help.

- **60 minutes of contact time = 1 CEU**

This is actual instruction time and does not include lunch or breaks.

- **6 CEU now required**

This is down from the former 8 PDH that had been required, but remember the new CEU's do not include any time from breaks. Also, you can still stay ahead a full year with up to 6 CEU carry-over.

If you have any questions regarding continuing education, please contact Joanne Rutkofske at [joanne.rutkofske@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:joanne.rutkofske@dhhs.nc.gov) or by telephone at 919-715-9135.

## Commissioners Doing Stuff!

by Drew Morgan, WCC Staff

The 27th annual On Site Water Protection Conference was held Oct. 11-13 at the McKimmon Center on the campus of North Carolina State University. Classroom presentations regarding well construction were made by Commissioners Champion and Boyette. A field demonstration showcasing geotechnical drilling was conducted by Commissioner Ammons and his employees (see photos).



At the Nov. meeting of the North Carolina Well Contractors Certification Commission a motion was passed to provide funding in the form of Scholarships for North Carolina certified well contractors to attend this conference in 2012 to earn continuing education credit. The conference will be held Oct. 16-18 in Hickory. More information on the conference may be found on-line at [www.onsiteconferencenc.org](http://www.onsiteconferencenc.org).



Commissioner Ammons shown, second from right

## North Carolina Well Contractors Certification Commission

1653 Mail Service Center / Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1653  
 Telephone: (919) 715-9134 Fax: (919) 715-9433

### Commission Members

- John Boyette**, NCWC– Wilson
- Casey Champion**, REHS— Oxford
- Chris Dickey**, NCWC, **Vice Chairman** – Murphy
- John Nykamp**, REHS, NCWC, **Chairman** - Greensboro
- Paul Weller**, NCWC– Rougemont
- Thomas Whitehead**, NCWC– Wilmington

### WCC Staff

- Lora McKinney** (919) 715-9134 (payments, meetings)  
 Lora.McKinney@dhhs.nc.gov
- Drew Morgan**, REHS (919) 715-9136 (enforcement)  
 Andrew.Morgan@dhhs.nc.gov
- Joanne Rutkofske** (919) 715-9135 (CE, website)  
 Joanne.Rutkofske@dhhs.nc.gov
- Ted Lyon** (919) 715-3274 (Supervisor)  
 Ted.Lyon@dhhs.nc.gov

## Certification Today

Total number certified.....1193  
 Total number of applicants for certification.....54  
 Certifications currently suspended.....0

### NC Division of Water Quality Aquifer Protection Section (APS)

<http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/aps>

<u>Asheville</u>	<u>828-296-4500</u>
<u>Fayetteville</u>	<u>910-433-3300</u>
<u>Mooresville</u>	<u>704-663-1699</u>
<u>Raleigh</u>	<u>919-791-4200</u>
<u>Washington</u>	<u>252-946-6481</u>
<u>Wilmington</u>	<u>910-796-7215</u>
<u>Winston-Salem</u>	<u>336-771-5000</u>

### NC Department of Health and Human Services(DHHS) Division of Public Health Environmental Health Section

<http://www.deh.enr.state.nc.us>

*N.C. DHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider.*

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1653 Mail Service Center  
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Online at [www.ncwelldriller.org](http://www.ncwelldriller.org)

## Well Rehabilitation

by Eric G. Smith, Hydrogeologist, DENR/DWQ/APS

The North Carolina Division of Water Quality's Aquifer Protection Section needs your input!

As you are aware, rule 15A NCAC 02C .0112(g) states, "*Well rehabilitation by noncontinuous chemical treatment shall be conducted using methods and materials approved by the Department based on a demonstration that the materials and methods used will not create a violation of groundwater standards in 15A NCAC 02L or otherwise render the groundwater unsuitable for its intended best usage after completion of the rehabilitation.*"

We are currently in the process of formalizing a list of approved chemical products for well rehabilitation. Therefore, we would like to know which chemical products, other than hypochlorite, you use (or would like to use) to rehabilitate wells and want to see them on our approved list. When providing us your feedback, please make sure to include the generic name of the product, the main chemical(s) involved, and the name of the manufacturer.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to answer this question and we appreciate your assistance in this matter!

You can send your responses via email to Eric G. Smith at [eric.g.smith@ncdenr.gov](mailto:eric.g.smith@ncdenr.gov) or you may contact Eric by phone at (919) 715-6196. Please provide your responses by **Feb. 1, 2012**.

## Move to DHHS

by Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

Effective July 1, 2011, staff for the NC Well Contractors Certification Commission transferred from the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources (DENR) to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), under the Division of Public Health (DPH). The WCCC offices remain located at 2728 Capital Boulevard, Raleigh North Carolina.



Report Uncertified Well Contractors to the local health department or call (919) 715-9136