DEO	OFFICE OF DRINKING WATER AND MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE POLICY AND PROCEDURE		DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Original Effective Date:	Subject:		Category:
February 1, 1996	Water Supply System Upgrading		Internal/Administrative
	Program Name:		External/Non-Interpretive
Revised Date:	Well Construction Program		External/Interpretive
	Number:	Page:	Туре:
Reformatted Date:	ODWMA-368-127-003	1 of 2	Policy
April 1, 2015			Procedure
			Policy and Procedure

A Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Policy and Procedure cannot establish regulatory requirements for parties outside of the DEQ. This document provides direction to DEQ staff regarding the implementation of rules and laws administered by the DEQ. It is merely explanatory; does not affect the rights of, or procedures and practices available to, the public; and does not have the force and effect of law.

## **INTRODUCTION:**

When extensive changes or repairs are made to a water supply system, upgrading of the entire system is required, according to Part 127, Water Supply and Sewer Systems, of the Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, as amended, or administrative rules adopted thereunder, being R 325.1611 and R 325.1613 of the Michigan Administrative Code (Code).

## AUTHORITY:

Part 127, Water Supply and Sewer Systems, of the Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, as amended, being Section 333.12701 *et seq.*, of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

#### **STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT:**

None documented; however, the February 1, 1996, memo stated that a Michigan Department of Public Health interpretation of the rule was requested. The interpretive memo was sent to water well contractors and local health departments (LHD). That memo was also copied to the Ground Water Advisory Committee and to the Michigan Ground Water Association.

#### **DEFINITION:**

Extensive Change – A change to the water supply system that includes replacing the entire casing, removing a casing from the ground, or changing aquifers.

# POLICY:

Extensive changes or repairs made to the well (those that typically require a well construction permit) require that the existing pressure tank (including sample tap, pressure relief valve, etc.) shall be brought into compliance with the Code unless a deviation is issued. When drilling a replacement well, the existing pressure tank and associated appurtenances shall be in an approved location as described in R 325.1656.

Replacing only a pressure tank is a minor repair and does not require upgrading. If the defective pressure tank is located in a well pit, the contractor should recommend to the owner that the replacement tank be moved to a location approved under R 325.1656.

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## **PROCEDURES:**

Step	Who	Does What
1	Registered Water Well Drilling Contractor	Upgrade the water well system according to R 325.1611 and R 325.1613.
2	LHDs	Ensure compliance with R 325.1611 and R 325.1613 by requiring upgrading of the water well system to current code when extensive changes are made to the water supply.

Compliance with Part 127 shall be based on the statute and rules promulgated under Part 127. Nothing in this policy and procedure shall be used in an enforcement action brought against a Registered Water Well Drilling Contractor or Pump Installer. This policy and procedure shall expire on December 31, 2016, unless superseded before that date.

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