

ORDINANCE NO. 373

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa do ordain as follows:

SECTION I - Well Standards

DEFINITIONS:

A. Abandoned Well is any well whose original purpose and use has been permanently discontinued or which is in^{such} a state of dis-repair that it cannot be used for its original purpose.

B. Annular Seal is the grout between the conductor casing and the casing, or between the bore and the conductor casing or casing.

C. Cathodic Protection Well means any artificial excavation in excess of fifty (50) feet deep constructed by any means for the purpose of installing equipment or facilities for the protection electrically of metallic equipment in contact with the ground (commonly referred to as cathodic protection).

D. Contamination means an impairment of the quality of the waters by waste to a degree which creates a hazard to the public health through poisoning or through the spread of disease. Contamination is also, by definition, a pollution.

E. Cross-connection means any unprotected connection between any part of a water system used or intended to supply water for domestic purposes and any source or system containing water or other substance that is not or cannot be approved as safe, pure, wholesome, and potable for human consumption.

F. Destruction of Wells means to restore as nearly as practicable those conditions which existed prior to the construction of the well.

1 DEFINITIONS (cont.)

2 G. Disposal Well means a hole dug, bored, or drilled
3 into any known aquifer in which are deposited matters or substan-
4 ces, which, by reason of temperatures or content, may be deleter-
5 ious to ground water.

6 H. Geophysical Well means a well used for testing or
7 logging strata or to obtain data from the underground.

8 I. Health Officer shall mean the director of health,
9 health officer, and any duly authorized deputy, sanitarian, or
10 other agent of the County Health Department.

11 J. Individual Domestic Deep Water Well is any water
12 well that produces water from or below an impervious material,
13 and does not include a "shallow well", used to supply water for
14 the needs of an individual residence or duplex.

15 K. Injection Well is any well constructed to introduce
16 water into the underground as a means of replenishing ground
17 water basins. An injection well is also known as a recharge
18 well.

19 L. Person means any natural person, individual, firm,
20 partnership company, corporation, association, joint venture,
21 joint stock company, organization, club, business trust, leasee,
22 agent, servant, officer, employee, unincorporated association
23 or representative of same.

24 M. Purveyor is any person that furnishes or supplies
25 domestic water to users from any source. As described in the
26 California State Laws and Standards relating to Domestic Water
27 Supply.

28 N. Pollution means an alteration of the quality of the

1 DEFINITIONS (cont.)

2 waters by waste to a degree which unreasonably affects: (1)
3 the value of such water for beneficial uses, or (2) Facilities
4 which serve such beneficial uses. Pollution may include Contam-
5 ination.

6 O. Public Domestic Water Supply Well means any water
7 well used to supply domestic water to more than one (1) individ-
8 ual parcel of property or any water supply which services any
9 premise which contains a temporary or permanent resort, hotel,
10 apartment house, triplex, motel, institution, labor camp, trailer
11 park, gas station, cafe, school, subdivision or any commercial
12 establishment.

13 P. Pump Contractor means any person or company licensed
14 by the State Contractors License Law, as provided in Division 3,
15 Chapter 7, of the Business and Professions Code, to install,
16 service or repair a pump.

17 Q. Shallow Well is any well, spring, infiltration gal-
18 lery or similar device designed to supply surface water or
19 surface water located above an impervious material.

20
21 R. Source Facility includes all components of the
22 facilities used in the production, treatment, storage, and de-
23 livery of water to the distribution system.

24 S. User means any person using water for domestic pur-
25 poses, except any person processing water or selling, serving,
26 furnishing, or supplying water to the public in any manner.

27 T. Utility System includes the source facilities,
28 treatment facilities and the distribution system, and shall

1 DEFINITIONS (cont.)

2 include all other facilities of the water system under the com-
3 plete control of the utility, up to the point where the custom-
4 er's system begins.

5 U. Water Quality is a term used to describe the
6 chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water in
7 respect to its suitability for a particular purpose. The same
8 water may be of good quality for one purpose or use, and bad or
9 poor for another, depending upon its characteristics and the
10 requirements for the particular use.

11 aa. Water System includes the utility system and the
12 customer system.

13 bb. Well or Water Well means any artificial excavation
14 constructed by any method for the purpose of extracting or re-
15 charging ground water or testing or logging of stratum to obtain
16 data from the underground. This definition shall not include:
17 a) oil and gas wells, or geothermal wells constructed under jur-
18 isdiction of the Department of Conservation, State of California,
19 except those wells converted to use as water wells; b) wells
20 used for the purpose of stabilizing hillsides or earth embank-
21 ments; or c) shallow excavations in seepage areas used for the
22 watering of livestock.

23 cc. Well Contractor means any person or company licen-
24 sed by the State Contractors License Law, as provided in Division
25 3, Chapter 9, of the Business and Professions Code.

26 SECTION II - SETBACK REQUIREMENTS AND REPORTS

27 1. Required setbacks. All wells shall be located no closer
28 than the indicated horizontal distances to the following:

1 SECTION II - SETBACK REQUIREMENTS AND REPORTS (cont.)

2		Deep Drilled Well	Shallow Well
3	Septic Tank	50	100
4	Sewer Line (solid)	50	100
5	Seepage Pit	100	200
6	Leach Lines	100	200
7	Animals or Fowl are kept		50

8 When a septic tank is placed closer than the minimum distance
9 indicated for a leach line or seepage pit the connection from
10 the septic tank to the leach line or pit shall be of solid, im-
11 pervious pipe with sealed, water proof joints or connection. All
12 sewer pipes must be of approved materials.

13 2. Well Drillers Report. Any person who has drilled, dug,
14 bored or deepened a well shall, within thirty (30) calendar days
15 after completion of the work, furnish the Health Officer with a
16 complete log of the well. The log shall contain the following
17 information:

18 A. A description of the Strata encountered.

19 B. The depth of the well.

20 C. Depth of first water encountered and the depth of the
21 water level after development of the well.

22 D. Depth of casing or casings including type and location
23 of perforations.

24 3. Emergency Repairs. When emergency repairs include the
25 construction of a new well or deepening of an existing deep well
26 a copy of the log of the well will be required as in Sec. 2.

27 All work done under emergency conditions shall comply with the
28 requirements of this chapter.

1 SECTION III - WELL DRILLING REQUIREMENTS

2 1. Casing Perforations. The casing of new deep wells shall
3 not be perforated within fifty (50) feet of the ground surface
4 unless an impervious soil stratum separates the perforated ca-
5 sing from surface waters.

6 2. Casing Depth For New Domestic Deep Wells. Domestic
7 water supply wells shall be cased with a solid, water tight ca-
8 sing to a depth of not less than fifty (50) feet from the ground
9 surface or at least two (2) feet into an impervious material,
10 whichever is shallower.

11 3. Surface Seal. All domestic and public domestic water
12 wells hereafter drilled, dug, or bored, other than springs boxed
13 in with concrete, shall be provided with a water tight rein-
14 forced concrete base monolithically poured on thoroughly compact-
15 ed earth. The base shall extend horizontally at least three (3)
16 feet from the outside of the well casing in all directions, the
17 concrete base shall adequately slope so as to drain water away
18 from the well casing to the edge of the base. Where deviation
19 from this pattern of construction would serve a practical pur-
20 pose without lessening well protection, the Health Officer may
21 approve this variance.

22 4. Sample Spigot. Public domestic wells shall be provided
23 with a sample spigot on the pump discharge line as close to the
24 pump as practical and on the pump side of the check valve.

25 5. Check Valve. All wells constructed after the effective
26 date of this chapter and all public domestic water wells construc-
27 ted prior to the effective date of this chapter shall be provided
28 with a double check valve on the pump discharge line to effective-

1 SECTION III - WELL DRILLING REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

2 ly prevent water from the discharge line flowing into the well.

3 6. Access and Air Vent Pipe. All new individual domestic
4 wells shall be provided with a pipe or other effective means by
5 which disinfectants can be introduced to the well. The pipe,
6 if provided, shall be extended to a height of twelve (12) inches
7 above the surrounding ground level and shall be kept sealed and
8 shall be provided with a threaded cap. All public domestic
9 water wells shall be provided with an air relief vent which ex-
10 tends from the well casing to a height of not less than twelve
11 (12) inches from the surrounding ground level. The air relief
12 valve shall terminate downward and be covered with 16 per inch
13 or finer wire mesh screen and shall be protected against the
14 possibility of contaminating material entering the vent.

15 7. Disinfection of Wells. All domestic water wells drilled,
16 dug, bored, reconstructed, or repaired, before being placed into
17 service, shall be thoroughly cleaned of all foreign substances.
18 The well, the pump and all portions of equipment coming in con-
19 tact with well water shall be disinfected with a solution con-
20 taining at least fifty (50) parts per million available chlorine,
21 which shall remain in the well for a period or not less than
22 twenty-four (24) hours or by an equivalent method of disinfection
23 satisfactory to the Health Officer, and such procedure shall be
24 repeated as necessary to produce water meeting bacteriological
25 standards as set forth in the United States Public Health Service
26 Drinking Water Standards.

27 8. Approval by the Health Officer. No water from a new or
28 reconstructed public domestic water well shall be used for

1 SECTION III - WELL DRILLING REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

2 domestic purposes until the well is given final approval by the
3 Health Officer.

4 9. Pump Installation. Pumps and pump motors installed di-
5 rectly over the casing of any well shall be provided with a
6 sanitary seal between the pump base and the casing. Installations
7 with submersible pumps or pumps offset from the casing shall
8 have a steel plate installed over the top of the casing with a
9 water tight seal between the plate and the casing and between
10 the casing and any pipes or conduits which enter the well through
11 the steel plate. No pipe or conduit shall enter the casing from
12 the side except access or air vent pipes as required by this
13 chapter.

14 10. Other types of Wells. The Health Officer may establish
15 requirements for the construction of all wells, other than water
16 wells, which he deems necessary for the protection of the waters
17 of the county. All such requirements shall be subject to ap-
18 proval of the Board of Supervisors.

19 11. The Health Officer may establish requirements for
20 spring development, shallow wells, infiltration galleries, and
21 other "surface" water supplies when such requirements are deemed
22 necessary for the protection of health or the underground water
23 supply. All such requirements shall be subject to the approval
24 of the Board of Supervisors.

25 SECTION IV - DESTRUCTION OF WELLS

26 1. Out of Service Wells. Any out-of-service well for which
27 the owner has declared an intent to use at a later date shall be
28 maintained by the owner in a manner in which no defects will

1 SECTION IV - DESTRUCTION OF WELLS (cont.)

2 impair the quality of the water or water bearing formations.
3 All such wells shall be capped with a water tight seal and shall
4 be marked so as to be easily seen and shall otherwise meet the
5 the requirements of this article.

6 2. Abandoned Wells. Any well which has been abandoned, has
7 fallen into a state of disrepair which may result in the impair--
8 ment of the quality of the ground water, or constitutes a safety
9 hazard must be sealed.

10 3. Sealing of Abandoned Wells. Prior to the sealing of any
11 abandoned well, the interior of the casing shall be cleaned out
12 to remove any obstructions which might interfere with the install-
13 ation of an effective seal. The open well shall then be filled
14 from the bottom up to fifty (50) feet below the ground surface
15 with clay, bentonite clay, neat cement or other approved material.
16 From fifty (50) feet below the ground surface to six (6) feet
17 below the ground surface the casing may be filled with clean
18 sand or other approved inorganic material.

19 4. Capping Abandoned Wells. After sealing any abandoned
20 well a hole at least one (1) foot greater in diameter than the
21 original drilled, dug, or bored hole shall be excavated around
22 the outside of the well casing to a depth of not less than three
23 (3) feet below the ground surface. The well casing shall then
24 be cut off six (6) inches above the bottom of the excavated hole.
25 The top three (3) feet of the remaining casing shall then be
26 filled with cement grout in a manner which will allow the grout
27 to spill over into the excavation and fill it to a thickness of
28 one (1) foot. The excavation shall then be filled to ground

1 SECTION IV - DESTRUCTION OF WELLS (cont.)

2 level with earth.

3 5. Uses Prohibited. No abandoned well shall at any time
4 be used for the disposal of any liquid or solid waste.

5 6. Stop Order. Whenever any well construction, destruction,
6 or repair work is being done contrary to the requirements of
7 this chapter, the Health Officer shall order the work stopped
8 by posting a notice to do so at the well site. No further work
9 shall be done after such notice has been posted.


10 SECTION V - INJECTION AND DISPOSAL WELLS

11 1. Injection and disposal Wells shall not be permitted.


12 SECTION VI. This Ordinance shall go into effect thirty (30)
13 days after the date of its' adoption, and before the expiration
14 of fifteen (15) days after its passage, shall be published
15 once with the names of the supervisors voting for and against
16 the same in the GAZETTE, a newspaper of general circulation
17 published in the County of Mariposa.

18 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County
19 of Mariposa, State of California, this 18th day of September,
20 1973 by the following vote:

21 AYES: Davis, Hurlbert, Long, Moffitt, Richardson
22 NOES: None
23 NOT VOTING: None
24 ABSENT: None

25 
26 Tom D. Richardson
27 Chairman of the Board

28 ATTEST:

26 
27 Cecelia P. Ritter
28 Co. Clerk and ex-officio Clerk
of the Board