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issue*

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

CONCEPT PAPER FOR SURFACE WATER AND GROUND WATER SUBCOMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Global Positioning System (GPS) Identification for Wells

April 2007

Currently the Department receives GPS locations for new wells on approximately 60 percent of all wells registered. For existing water wells, some Natural Resources Districts have been obtaining GPS locations, and HHSS and DEQ do gather some of the information when they are working on projects or inspecting wells.

The concept is to require GPS locations be obtained for all water wells. Several ideas for completing such information have been:

1. Just require state agencies, NRDs, water well contractors and pump installers to obtain such information as they work on specific projects over time and be responsible to submit such information to the Department. Also require it on all new water well registrations.
2. To require individuals to obtain such information concerning any wells that they own that the Department does not show a GPS location for in its records and have the water well owner responsible for submitting the information to the Department.
3. Requiring NRDs to obtain such information for all wells in their district which are not located by such system in the records of the Department.