

**SUBCHAPTER M: REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING WELLS USED FOR
DEVELOPMENT OF CLASS III UIC WELL APPLICATIONS**

§§331.220 - 331.225

Effective March 12, 2009

§331.220. Applicability.

The requirements of this subchapter apply to wells used to obtain information for the development of an application for a Class III injection well area permit for in situ mining of uranium.

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§331.221. Registration of Wells.

(a) All wells described in §331.220 of this title (relating to Applicability) that are completed prior to submission of an application for a Class III injection well area permit must be registered with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality within 30 days of completion of casing and development of the well and prior to submission of such an application. All wells described in §331.220 of this title that are completed after submission of such an application must be registered within 30 days of well completion.

(b) Registration of wells described in §331.220 of this title shall be completed on forms provided by the executive director. The owner or operator of any well to be registered shall provide the following information for each well:

- (1) a unique, site-specific, designation for the well;
- (2) the location of the well on a map;
- (3) latitude and longitude of the well, with datum specified;
- (4) the depth of the well;
- (5) construction, completion and casing information on the well;
- (6) the identification of the operator of the well;
- (7) the identification of the landowner for the property on which the well is located;
- (8) water level data; and
- (9) identification of the groundwater conservation district in which the well is located, if applicable.

(c) The owner or operator of a well registered under this subchapter must maintain mechanical integrity of the well. A well registered under this subchapter shall be cased and cemented so as to not cause or allow the movement of fluid that would result in the pollution of an underground source of drinking water or fresh water. No injection may be authorized into a well registered under this subchapter.

(d) Any well, registered in accordance with the requirements of this subchapter, that is not subsequently authorized under a Class III injection well area permit in accordance with §331.222 of this title (relating to Conversion of Registered Wells to Class III Wells), shall be plugged and abandoned in a manner that prohibits the movement of fluids into underground sources of drinking water or fresh water. Within 30 days of permit issuance, the permittee shall submit a certification to the executive director that the well has been plugged and abandoned in accordance with the requirements of this subsection. A permittee may submit a request to the executive director for an extension of time for completion of plugging and abandonment required under this subsection. Any request for an extension under this subsection must provide reasonable justification for the extension.

(e) The registration of a well under this subchapter is not subject to the commission permitting, public notice, and hearing requirements, until such time as it is converted to a Class III well in accordance with §331.222 of this title.

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§331.222. Conversion of Registered Wells to Class III Wells.

If a well registered under this subchapter is authorized under a Class III injection well area permit, the registration status for the well ceases and the well is subject to all applicable commission rules, including those regarding permitting, public notice, and hearing requirements. At such time a registered well is authorized under a Class III injection well area permit, the permittee shall submit a request to the executive director that the well be removed from the list of registered wells.

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§331.223. Sharing of Data.

(a) After a person developing an application for a Class III injection well area permit has identified a permit boundary, that person shall determine if the permit boundary is within the area of a groundwater conservation district. If the proposed permit boundary is within the area of a groundwater conservation district, either wholly or in part, the person shall provide to the district:

(1) information regarding wells not recorded in the public record when such wells are encountered by that person during the development of the permit application. Information to be provided to the groundwater conservation district shall include the location and ownership of the well, and any other available information for the well, including but not limited to depth, completion method, completion interval, water quality information, and lift method;

(2) a map with the locations of all wells that are recorded in the public record and that are inside the proposed permit area and within one-quarter mile of the proposed permit area;

(3) pre-mining water quality information collected from wells registered in accordance with §331.221 of this title (relating to Registration of Wells);

(4) the amount of water produced each month from each registered well; and

(5) a record of strata as described in §331.224 of this title (relating to Record of Strata) for each registered well, except for information considered confidential in accordance with Natural Resource Code, §131.048.

(b) After receipt of the final information described by subsection (a) of this section to perform standard quality and assurance procedures, the owner or operator of a registered well may not take more than 90 days to submit the information to the groundwater conservation district.

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§331.224. Record of Strata.

The executive director may require a person receiving a Class III well permit or production area authorization to maintain and provide, upon request, complete and accurate records of the depth, thickness, and character of the strata penetrated in drilling an injection well, monitoring well, or production well.

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§331.225. Geophysical or Drilling Log.

If an existing well is to be converted to an injection well, monitoring well, or production well, the commission may require the applicant to provide a geophysical log or a drilling log of the existing well.

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