Well Construction Exception Checklist

Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code (30 TAC) §290.41(c)(3) requires the construction, disinfection, protection, and testing of a Public Water System (PWS) well meet certain regulatory conditions. If a PWS well does not meet these conditions and cannot be modified to comply with the requirements of the regulations, or if details regarding the construction of the well cannot be determined, a Well Construction Exception may be required. Please indicate below which Well Construction Exception(s) is (are) being requested.

Commonly Requested Types of Well Construction Exceptions

* Well casing material must be new carbon steel, high-strength low alloy steel, stainless steel, or plastic complying with American Water Works Association (AWWA) standards (41(c)(3)(B))
* Casing extends at least to the depth of the shallowest water layer to be developed (41(c)(3)(B))
* Casing extends a minimum of 18-inches above the elevation of the pump room floor or natural ground (41(c)(3)(B))
* Casing extends a minimum of 1-inch above any provided sealing block or motor foundation block (41(c)(3)(B))Methods in AWWA Standard A100-06 Appendix C Section C.2, C.3, C.4 or C.5 utilized to pressure cement well (41(c)(3)(C))
* Below ground-level pump room or pump pits (41(c)(3)(H))
* Well pump drainage, packing gland leakage and floor drainage flow away from well (41(c)(3)(I))
* Positive (uphill) slope site grading/ well not located in topographic low spot (41(c)(3)(I))
* Concrete sealing block size, thickness or slope (41(c)(3)(J))
* Well casing vent construction (41(c)(3)(K))
* Well casing vent screening (41(c)(3)(K))
* Wellhead and pump base sealing method (41(c)(3)(K))
* Blow-off line terminates in a downward direction and above flood waters (41(c)(3)(L))
* Sampling cock on discharge pipe (41(c)(3)(M))
* Flow measuring device installed (41(c)(3)(N))

A Well Construction Exception may be requested by correspondence to the following address:

Technical Review and Oversight Team (MC-159)

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

P.O. Box 13087

Austin, TX 78711-3087

**Please provide as much of the documentation below as possible:**

* State of Texas Well Report (Driller’s Log)[[1]](#footnote-1),[[2]](#footnote-2)
* Driller’s Geological Log1,2,[[3]](#footnote-3)
* Cementing Certificate (cement type and any additives used, number of sacks, and volume pumped)123
* Casing depth and material1,2,3
* Legible, official copy of recorded sanitary control easement(s) for all property not owned by the PWS, within 150 feet of the well.[[4]](#footnote-4)

If you do not have a copy of the State of Texas Well Report (driller’s log), it may be available in one of the searchable resources for well logs:

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/SWAP/wells.html>

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/groundwater/data/drillersdb.asp>

https://tceq.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=aed10178f0434f2781daff19eb326fe2

**Additionally, the following information must accompany the exception request:**

* A general location map and a detailed site map (include a scale and north arrow) or plat of the well site and surrounding affected properties identifying:
  1. Location and coordinates of the well.
  2. The area within a 150-foot radius around the well.
  3. Property boundaries for all properties within 150 feet of the well. Identify the property by the name of the property owner and by legal description.

Information about property owners, legal descriptions of properties, and boundaries may be found at the appropriate county appraisal district (CAD) website by performing an internet search using the county name and “CAD” as search terms. You may also use the following website:

<http://www.texascad.com/>

* A legible, official copy of recorded deed or deeds of all real property owned by the PWS within 150 feet of the well.
* A statement confirming the actual or suspected presence, or absence of the following hazards. **Note that if a hazard is present or suspected to be present, an exception to the well setback rule will be needed.**

Any of the following within **50** feet of the well:

* Sanitary sewer[[5]](#footnote-5)
* Septic tank other tanks used to hold or treat sewage or sewerage appurtenance
* Storm sewer5
* Cemetery
* Livestock in pastures

Any of the following within **150** feet of the well:

* Septic tank perforated drainfield
* Areas irrigated by low dosage, low-angle-spray on-site sewage facilities
* Absorption and/or evapotranspiration bed
* Improperly constructed water well[[6]](#footnote-6)
* Underground petroleum and chemical storage tank
* Liquid petroleum or chemical transmission pipeline

Any of the following within **300** feet of the well:

* Sewage wet well
* Sewage pumping station
* Drainage ditch which contains industrial waste discharges or wastes from sewage treatment systems

Any of the following within **500** feet of the well:

* Sewage treatment plant
* Animal feed lots
* Solid waste disposal sites
* Lands on which sewage plant or septic tank sludge is applied
* Lands irrigated by sewage plant effluent

Any pollution hazards within **0.25-miles** of the well **including but not limited to**:

* Known abandoned or inoperative wells
* Landfills
* Dumpsites
* Animal feed lots
* Military facilities
* Industrial facilities
* Wood-treatment facilities
* Liquid petroleum and petrochemical production, storage and transmission facilities
* Class 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 injection wells
* Pesticide storage and mixing facilities

For assistance in completing an exception request, you may call 512-239-4691 and ask to speak to a member of the Technical Review and Oversight Team.

1. Lack of this information may require the submittal of a Well Completion Data and/or Record Keeping Exception request. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Lack of this information may require the submittal of a Pressure Cementing Exception request. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. This information may be included on Well Driller’s Log or as a separate document. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Lack of this information may require submittal of a Sanitary Control Easement Exception request. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Sanitary or storm sewers constructed of ductile iron or PVC pipe with a working pressure of at least 150 pounds per square inch and meeting American Water Works Association standards, and with pressure type joints may be located at a distance of less than 50 feet, but no closer than 10 feet to the well. Note that structure drain lines must comply with this setback requirement. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. An improperly constructed well includes all wells not constructed to public water well standards (e.g. residential wells, industrial wells, agricultural wells). [↑](#footnote-ref-6)