

**Well Driller's Meeting Minutes**  
**Date: Wednesday, February 13, 2013**  
**Location: 286 Water Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**

**Attendees:** David Braley, Senior Geologist, Maine CDC and Prevention  
Joe Gallant, Master Driller, Stanley E. Hillock Well Co  
Frank Hegarty, Master Pump Installer, Hegarty Plumbing & Heating, Inc.  
Tom Weddle, Hydrogeologist, Maine Geological Survey  
Donald Robbins, Certified Geologist, A.E. Hodsdon Consulting Engineers  
Deanna White, Assistant Attorney General – Office of the Attorney General  
Paul Gauvreau, Deputy Attorney General – Office of the Attorney General  
Dwight Doughty, Jr. Division Manager, Maine DOT  
Ike Goodwin, Master Driller, Goodwin Well & Water Inc.

**Guest(s):** Mr. Delwin Philbrick, Well Driller  
\*The complainant was invited but did not attend.

**Minutes prepared by:** Doris Poirier, Commission Clerk

**PROCEEDINGS:**

**Donald Robbins** - Meeting called to order at 9:12 a.m.

Don Robbins suggested that the Commission step out of sequence with the agenda items and begin today's meeting with discussion on the Mora Camenga/Delwin Philbrick complaint. It was agreed by all to do so.

**TOPIC: CURRENT COMPLAINTS – Ms. Mora Camenga, Complainant / Mr. Delwin Philbrick, Well Driller**

**DISCUSSION (1):** The discussion resulted in the following '*finding-of-fact*' items;

- a) the well driller did not encounter bedrock;
- b) the well driller covered the top of the casing with native soils;
- c) 30' casing was installed and left in place; casing was broken due to the large number of boulders;
- d) bore-hole was drilled to approximately 70' and did not encounter bedrock;
- e) running/heavy sands filled the hole to within 10' ground level;
- f) remaining void in casing was filled in with native material/soil by the driller;
- g) no risk for contamination because the driller never reached bedrock, and
- h) because the well was not drilled into bedrock, and because it is completely in overburden, that having 'parent' material inside the casing is adequate material for the purposes of this well abandonment, i.e. it doesn't need to be grouted.

**Motion:** Ike motioned to accept the findings of fact.

**2<sup>nd</sup> by:** Joe Gallant.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

**Action:** None at this time.

**Follow-up:** In the spring.

**DISCUSSION (2):** Regarding 702.1

**702.1 Determining significant threats to public health:** A finding by the commission that a water or geothermal heat exchange well has been contaminated by any chemical or microbe identified by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency or the State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, as an acute contaminant shall support a Commission determination that the condition constitutes a significant threat to public health for the purposes of section 501.1

**Motion:** David Braley moved that there was no significant threat to public health to ground water contamination based on the methods used to abandon the borehole as described by Mr. Philbrick.

**2<sup>ND</sup> By:** Ike Goodwin.

**Vote:** 7 to 0; Unanimous.

**Action:** No action required at this time

**Follow-up:** It was suggested to contact the homeowner and advise the homeowner to stake and tape off the area until we can access the site in the spring.

**DISCUSSION (3):** Regarding 704.1

**704.1 General standards:** Abandoned wells or boreholes shall be sealed in a manner appropriate to prevent the entry of contaminants and from the mixing of waters from separate water bearing zones. Neat cement, high solids (greater than or equal to 20%) bentonite grout or bentonite chips using the manufacturer's instructions or methods for placement described in the "Manual of Water Well Construction Practices, Second Edition", published in 1998, or other materials or methods of placement approved by the Commission are recommended.

**Motion #1:** Ike Goodwin moved to find no violation of 704.1, which would require abandonment by cement or grout (not needed) because the borehole did not penetrate bedrock (and not needed because of the native soils per Don Robbins).

**2<sup>ND</sup> By:** David Braley

**Vote:** 6 to 1 (Frank Hegarty disagreed).

**Action:** No action required

**Follow-up:** Not applicable to this item

**Motion #2:** David Braley moved to table further action and inspection on the well pending weather cooperation.

**2<sup>nd</sup> By:** Frank Hegarty

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Action:** Table until spring. Notify Mr. Philbrick in the spring. Notify the complainant of today's action via phone call, via follow-up letter and determine who owns the property (Ms. Mora Camenga or boyfriend).

**Follow-up:** As noted above.

**DISCUSSION (4):** Regarding 704.3

**704.3 Open borehole filling:** Open boreholes shall be filled in a manner appropriate to prevent the possibility of personal injury, contamination of groundwater or future collapse of the area around the borehole.

Based on information given, it was determined that abandonment of well with cement was not necessary.

**Follow-up:** due to the recent blizzard, wait until spring to make an assessment when the well can visually be observed.

**TOPIC: APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2013 MINUTES**

**DISCUSSION:** The Commission provided Doris with updates

**Motion:** Dwight Doughty motioned to discuss the January minutes.

**2<sup>nd</sup> by:** Tom Weddle.

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Action:** Doris to make updates to the January minutes and distribute to Commission members.

**Follow-up:** (N/A)

**TOPIC: SPECIALTY WELL APPLICATIONS (SWP)** – none at this time.

**TOPIC: NEW BUSINESS - NEW COMPLAINT(S)** – none at this time.

**TOPIC: PUBLIC COMMENTS:** - none at this time.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Dwight Doughty motioned to adjourn: **11:00;** 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Braley.