



House Bill 2145 Overview & Effective Dates

Background:

Oregon passed House Bill (HB) 2145 during the 2021 legislative session to (a) modernize and increase efficiency within the well construction program to prevent well deficiencies that can lead to contamination or waste of groundwater; (b) better protect groundwater resources for Oregonians; and (c) give the well construction industry timely assurance that their work is being performed in a manner consistent with State requirements. The Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) is implementing HB 2145 in phases, beginning January 1, 2022, and extending through July 1, 2024.

Effective Dates:

Well Construction Continuing Education Committee: 1/1/2022

Water Well Abandonment Repair Replacement Fund: 1/1/2022

Licensing

- 7/1/2023: Requires proof of welding ability for new license.

Changes to Start Card

- 1/1/2022: Start Card fee increases to \$350.
- 7/1/2023: Start Card notice requirements increase (requiring more info on Start Card and changing when Start Card can be submitted and notice requirements of starting work and seal placement).
- 7/1/2024: Start Cards can only be E-filed unless OWRD authorizes a different means.

Changes to Well Reports and Groundwater Registration Use Map & Fee

- 1/1/2022: Exempt use map and fee to be submitted at the same time as the well log for a new water supply well by the driller or a landowner with a landowner permit.
- 7/1/2023: Requires GPS location of well to be recorded on the well log and names of anyone who assisted w/ the construction of the well.
- 7/1/2024: Well Logs can only be E-filed unless OWRD authorizes a different means.

Technical Well Report Review

- 7/1/2022: Start of OWRD requirement to review 100% of all well logs submitted. Report to drillers every 120 days of well logs reviewed.
- 1/31/2023 & 1/31/2025: Reports due to legislature on review of well logs and inspection of wells.

Injunctive Authority

- 7/1/2023: Allows OWRD to apply to a court for an injunction if a person has engaged or is engaging in an activity that violates well construction laws.