



725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem, Oregon 97301-1271  
(503) 986-0900  
www.oregon.gov/OWRD

## Abandonment of Ground Water Registrations

- **Groundwater Registration\* Abandonment** **Generally, ORS 537.585-695**  
The request to give up a portion of a Groundwater Registration needs to be submitted on an affidavit to abandon a ground water right certificate of registration. *[A groundwater registration certificate is not subject "cancellation" procedures per se. Registrations are for uses that haven't yet been adjudicated (determined by a court), so they don't have a confirmed water right certificate. Only confirmed water rights are subject to cancellation.]*

### Process:

- (1) An affidavit for the full or partial abandonment of a groundwater registration certificate is submitted to the Department along with a (1) a deed which lists the landowners and includes a legal description of affected lands, (2) a copy of the groundwater registration map, or a tax lot map with the abandoned groundwater appropriation clearly drawn and identified, and (3) if acting as an authorized agent, a copy of the power of attorney or other documents granting authority to act on behalf of legal owners.
- (2) Upon review, if the Department determines the groundwater registration certificate is properly subject to abandonment by the affiant(s), the agency will send a confirmation letter to the affiant(s) stating a copy (of all) affidavit(s) and all supporting documentation will be filed with the original request for registration and made available at the time of adjudication under ORS 537.670 to 537.695.

\*Note: A certificate of groundwater registration may not be construed as a final determination of any matter stated in the certificate of registration. Such a determination will occur in adjudication proceeding under ORS 537.670 to 537.695, and is not final or conclusive until so determined and a ground water right certificate issued. A right to appropriate ground water under a certificate of registration has a tentative priority from the date when the construction of the well was begun. See ORS 537.610

FORMS: (2) AFFIDAVIT TO ABANDON AN ENTIRE GROUND WATER RIGHT CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION  
AFFIDAVIT TO ABANDON PART OF A GROUND WATER RIGHT CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION