



**BEFORE THE
OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

October 13, 2015

**Public Notice: Draft Revisions Governing Rules for Well
Standards and Public Water System Plan Approval**

Notice is hereby given that the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters (DDAGW) revised draft rules in Chapters 3745-9 and 3745-91 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). These revisions replace the draft rules previously made available for public comment, August 29 to September 30, 2014.

Revisions made to the previous drafts in Chapter 3745-9 did not change the intent, which included the following:

- Clarifying non-potable well requirements and add a guidance document on nonpotable wells as a rule by reference.
- Adding and revising definitions.
- Evaluating conditions under which public water system (PWS) well variances may be granted.
- Clarifying conditions requiring use of alternate cement types.
- Updating American Water Works Association (AWWA) standard C654, *Disinfection of Wells* from the 2003 to 2013 version. Major changes to this edition include updating the format to match AWWA's standard style and the definition of 'parties' was revised.
- Revising step drawdown and constant rate testing requirements to ensure accurate evaluation of well productivity.
- Revising the requirement for disinfection of a dry hole prior to sealing.
- Updating technical documents that are rule by reference.

Major revisions made to the rules and technical documents since September 30, 2014 include removing the requirements for hydrogeological investigations, specifications on step drawdown and constant rate testing, withdrawing the policy, *When the Constant Rate Pumping Test Should Exceed 24 Hours*, and adding a rule by reference, *Nonpotable Well Standard Guidance*.

In addition, the intent of draft revisions to rules in Chapter 3745-91 governing plan approval of PWSs did not change. Revisions to these rules include adding plan approval exemptions for hauled water systems, and for small ground water systems installing ion exchange water softeners and cartridge filters. The draft rules also incorporate the current *Recommended Standards for Water Works*, also known as the

“10 State Standards” and revisions to DDAGW’s *Guidelines for Design of Small Ground Water Systems*, which is a rule by reference. A revision was made to these guidelines since the first round of interested party review regarding the requirement for dual wells. The existing provision requires all new community water systems and those with a consumption exceeding 50,000 gallons per day or a population of 500 or greater to have dual wells. The proposed revisions extend this requirement to existing community water systems and new noncommunity water systems, when their existing well collapses or cannot substantially meet peak demand, unless they have an emergency connection to another public water system with adequate capacity to meet peak demand.

As part of the rule-making process, the Agency is required by Section 121.39 of the Ohio Revised Code to consult with organizations that represent political subdivisions, environmental interests, business interests, and others affected by the rule. Additionally, the Agency is working with the Common Sense Initiative (CSI) Office to identify impact to businesses. The Agency is offering you and your organization another opportunity to comment on the draft rules before the division formally proposes them.

The draft rules will be available on the Ohio EPA web page under the heading, “Interested Party Review” until its adoption or withdrawal. The address is: epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/rules.aspx. Questions concerning the draft rules and guidelines may be addressed to Susan Kramer at (614) 644-2752.

To obtain a copy of the draft rules and the proposed guideline revisions, call Susan Kramer at Ohio EPA at (614) 644-2752 or send an email to "Susan.Kramer@epa.ohio.gov". Please request the "draft amendments to wells standards and more" and be sure to include your name, telephone number, and complete mailing address. There is no charge to receive copies of the rules.

Comments can be submitted in hard copy to the following address: "Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, P.O. Box 1049, Lazarus Government Center, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049, Attn: Susan Kramer" or by email to "ddagw_rulecomments@epa.ohio.gov". Comments should be received at the above address by close of business, **Oct. 28, 2015**.