

# State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH)

## Questions and Answers About Groundwater Level Monitoring and Reporting Form

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### **Q1. Why Are We Doing the Groundwater Level Monitoring? What Are We Trying to Achieve with This Monitoring?**

According to RCSA Sec.19-13-B102(n)(4), any water company with a ground water source in an unconsolidated, unconfined aquifer shall submit the readings required on the form to the DPH. While such data is fundamental to assessing groundwater availability for domestic use during drought and non-drought periods, it also helps in evaluating the response of aquifers to groundwater pumping and assists in the diagnosis of well production issues state-wide.

### **Q2. Are All PWSs Bound to Submit This Form?**

This form for the time being is for active wells operated by water companies serving more than 1000 people.

### **Q3. Where in The Regulations Is This Given as A Requirement?**

RCSA Section 19-13-B102(n)(4).

### **Q4. Where Do I Find the Forms?**

The GW Monitoring and Reporting Form can be found by following the Forms / Application link located on the left side of the DPH Drinking Water Section webpage. Once on the Forms and Application webpage, the link to the form can be found in the Water Supply Capacity Reporting section. The form can also be found by clicking on the Drought and Drinking Water Conservation link located in the Featured Links section of the DPH main webpage.

### **Q5. Can You Provide an Example of a Filled-Out Groundwater Reporting Form? No Matter What I Enter It Doesn't Seem to Show the Pumping Elevation. Also, the GW Measuring Tips Page Does Not Help with Understanding What Is Wanted in The Form, As Much of The Nomenclature Does Not Show on The Form.**

Click on [this link](#) to see an example of a filled-out form. Note that the GW Level Measuring Tips has two pages. The third paragraph on page 2 of the GW Measuring Tips provides information regarding required routine measurements. The form must be filled entirely and all the information that must be entered comes out in light blue font color, as you will see in the example. The protected Water Level Elevation columns (**in Section B**) automatically populates with calculated values. For Water Level Elevation columns to automatically calculate and populate, the TOC Elevation of this Well, The Original Reference Static Water Level and The Original Reference Pumping Water Level Elevations fields (**in Section A**) must all be entered.

### **Q6. The Form Is Confusing. I Don't Understand How to Complete It. Are There Instructions on How to Complete the Form?**

Yes! The GW Level Measuring Tips tab on the form provides completion instructions. Please open the form from the website and notice the 3 tabbed sheets at the bottom: GW Level Reporting Form, GW Level Measuring Tips, and Additional Comments.

### **Q7. Are We Submitting for Inactive Wells As Well?**

No. Submit for active wells only, for now.

### **Q8. I Don't Know How to Get the Original Reference Pumping Water Level. What Must I Do?**

Most Well Construction (Initial / Aquifer Test) reports may have information such as the TOC elevation, original reference static and pumping water levels, land surface elevation and / or depth to bottom of the well. Otherwise, use your first static and pumping water level elevation measurements done in or after February 2017 as the original reference level elevation.

**Q9. I Don't Have Records of Water Level Elevations from the Well Start Up. But, I also Think it Will Be an Inaccurate Reference Level to Use My First Water Level Elevation Measured After February 2017 Because a Rainy Season Reading May Be a Poor Reference Point. Am I Right?**

If you have previous or existing historical data of static and / or pumping water level elevation measurements of your well, use the average of such data as your original reference static and / or pumping water level elevation. Otherwise, use your first static and pumping water level elevation measurements done in or after February 2017 as the original reference level elevation, for a start, regardless of whether such measurement was done in the rainy or dry season.

**Q10. Does DPH Require an Actual Weekly Measurement of Static Water Level? This Will Require the Well to Be Shut Off for an Undetermined Amount of Time. The Water Level in Each Well Must Stabilize to Collect a Proper Reading and That Can Take Up to 24 Hours. My System Cannot Shut Down the Pump for Static Conditions. What Do I Do?**

Although the static water level elevation measurements are preferred (as it best represents aquifer characteristics), we acknowledge the fact that it may not be feasible for some water systems. Such water system should take and report pumping water level elevations, as provided for in the form.

**Q11. Our Well Doesn't Have a Casing but a Tube, So How Can I Measure From TOC?**

If there is a measuring tube, use the top of measuring tube as the reference point and future measurements should be taken from the same spot. In this case, TOC will refer to Top of Measuring Tube.

**Q12. When I Entered My DTW from TOC Measurement Values, the Water Level Elevations Did Not Automatically Calculate. Why?**

When you enter the DTW from TOC readings (in Section B), it is important to note that the TOC Elevation of this well, The Original Reference Static Water Level and The Original Reference Pumping Water Level Elevations (all in Section A) are constants and must all be entered for Water Level Elevations (in Section B) to automatically calculate. Note: When filling Section B of the form, start from the left and proceed to the right.

**Q13. I Don't Know What You Mean by The Term "DTW from TOC". What Is It?**

Put simply, it is the distance from the top of the well casing to the water in the well. Refer to page 1 of the GW Level Measuring Tips for additional information and click on the links on page 2 to learn more.

**Q14. What is the Frequency That I Must Take These Measurements and How Do I Submit My Completed Form?**

Measurements are taken on a weekly basis but reporting to DPH must be done monthly. Thus, we expect all reports for the month of April, 2017 measurements to be submitted to DPH by the 9<sup>th</sup> of May, 2017.

**Q15. I Have Many Wells. Can I Submit One Document for All the Wells.**

Yes, so long as separate forms are used to report measurements for each well.

**Q16. Can I Just Mail My Completed Forms To You Guys?**

No! Printed and filled paper reporting forms that are mailed or scanned and emailed are not acceptable. Remember, you must fill your form online and completed reports must be sent electronically via the DWS website to [DWDCompliance@ct.gov](mailto:DWDCompliance@ct.gov).

**Q17. For How Long Will We Have to Do This Monitoring?**

The Drinking Water Section may review the frequency of monitoring and reporting as and when it deems necessary.

**Q18. Why Not Include Measurements For Well Specific Capacity, Which Gives Better Information About the Well Performance?**

This current GW Monitoring and Reporting Form is subject to future review which may consider such measurements as and when necessary. This current form strictly adheres to the requirements as given in RCESA Section 19-13-B102(n)(4).

**Q19. The Weekly Pumping Rate and Monthly Pumping Rates are Basically the Same Measurement. Why Measure Both?**

The two measurements are different. The weekly instantaneous pumping rates in gpm is the instantaneous reading of the “flow rate” of the pump, read on a weekly basis while the monthly pumping rates in gal is the total volume of water pumped in a month.

**Q20. How do I determine if my Well Status Is Rising or Falling?**

You may take more than one DTW from TOC measurements and use the average as your measurement value for the day. When such two or more measurements are all the same value, the well may be considered to be under static conditions. If the first measurement is larger than the second measurement, the well may be rising. Conversely, if the first measurement is smaller than the second measurement, the well water level may be falling.

**Q21. This Is My First Time Doing This Measurement. How Can I Determine the Monthly Pumping Rate in Gallons in the First Week of The Month Measurements?**

If there are no previous month’s readings, leave the Monthly Pumping Rate blank until a month (4 weeks) has passed.

**Q22. Why Are Some of The Fields Showing as NA?**

The well status cannot be static and pumping at the same time. Hence, if you select ‘No’ under Static, meaning your well is not static, it implies the well is pumping (that is “Yes” under Pumping). This means only pumping water level elevation can be computed. Hence, Static Water Level Elevation will show as NA. It is important to begin filling the Section B part of the form from left to right.