



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

William R. Snodgrass - Tennessee Tower
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 11th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1102

December 18, 2023

Certified Letter
7020 3160 0001 2284 7168

Dewey Giles, Septic Installer Permit # 13153
4221 Cosby Highway
Cosby, TN 37722

Re: **PLEASE BE ADVISED (Case #129752)**
Suspected Unlicensed Maintenance/Installation of Water Well Pump and Pumping Equipment
128 Luna Way, Parrottsville, Cocke County

Dear Mr. Giles:

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Water Resources (Division) mailed you a PBA letter on October 16, 2023, which advised you that in order to be in the business of installing and/or maintaining water well pump systems in the State of Tennessee, you had to have a license. You received this letter on October 25, 2023. The Division received a phone call from you on December 8, 2023, requesting a driller report for a well located at 128 Luna Way, Parrottsville, TN. We believe you are requesting driller reports so that you can perform maintenance on, or installation of, water well pumps.

If you are performing installations and/or maintenance of water well pump and pressure systems within the State of Tennessee, you must immediately cease. You may not continue this practice until you obtain the proper license(s).

T.C.A 69-10-102 WELL DRILLER and INSTALLER LICENSE REQUIRED

(d) It is unlawful, except if it is done by a licensed individual:

- (1) To engage in the business of installing, removing or repairing geothermal wells or **water well pumps** or drop lines in geothermal wells or water wells; or*
- (2) To engage in the business **of repairing, servicing or installing filters and water treatment devices** on geothermal wells or water wells.*

Rule 0400-45-09-.01 DEFINITIONS

"Installation of pumps" means the procedure employed in the placement and preparation for operation of pumps and pumping equipment in water wells, including all construction involved in making entrances to the well and establishing seals.

*"Repair" means work involved in deepening, reaming, sealing, installing, or changing casing depths, perforating, screening, or cleaning, acidizing, or redevelopment of a well excavation, or any other work which results in **breaking or opening a well seal.***

“Well seal” means an approved arrangement or device used to cap a well or to establish and maintain a junction between the casing of a well and the piping or equipment installed therein, the purpose or function of which is to prevent pollutants from entering the well at the upper terminal.

Please be advised that every person who intends to engage in the business of installing or repairing water well pumps for use in withdrawing or obtaining groundwater within the State of Tennessee must annually obtain an Installer’s License from the Division.

T.C.A. 69-10-110 Violations – Enforcement – Penalties

(d) Any person who violates or fails to comply with provisions of this chapter, any order of the commissioner issued pursuant to this chapter, or any rule, regulation, or standard adopted pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) per day for each day of violation. Each day such violation continues is a separate violation. In addition, such person shall also be liable for any damages to the state resulting from the violation, without regard to whether any civil penalty is assessed.

For your convenience, we sent you an application form for a license in our last letter to you and there is also a link below to the digital application form for a license. Please submit this application either via email or to the address above if you choose to apply for licensure. If you have any questions regarding the licensure process or this correspondence, please contact Ashby Barnes at Ashby.Barnes@tn.gov or (615) 532-0176 or Richard Rogers at Richard.Rogers@tn.gov or (615) 218-7781.

TDEC Water Well Licensure Web Page:

<https://www.tn.gov/environment/permit-permits/water-permits1/well-driller-or-installer-license.html>

Sincerely,



Ashby Barnes, P.G.
TDEC, Division of Water Resources
Drinking Water Unit

cc: Anna Sartors, Drinking Water Unit Manager
Jessica Murphy, Compliance and Enforcement Unit, Water Resources NCO
Knoxville EFO – Chris Maner, Michael Caudill