

TEST BORING, TEST WELLS AND MONITORING WELLS

It is common water supply industry practice to install a “test/ monitoring well” to determine if groundwater is present in a sufficient quantity or quality before investing in a production well intended to serve as a source of public water supply. Although no permit is required, test/ monitoring wells that are installed must comply with the requirement for such wells described in Section 920. 170 of the Illinois Water Well Construction Code (77 Ill. Adm. Code 920).

In addition, if the test/monitoring well shows no promise for supplying an adequate source of drinking water, then the monitoring wells are required to be properly abandoned in a way that protects the aquifer, unless the test/monitoring well continues to be used for that purpose.

Test/monitoring wells are required to be properly abandoned pursuant to the requirements provided in Section 920.120 of the Illinois Water Well Construction Code (77 Ill. Adm. Code 920).

A test boring that that is not converted to a permanent monitoring/test well or water supply production well must also be properly abandoned.

These rules are available at the Illinois Department of Public Health’s web site at:

<http://www.illinois.gov/government/agency.cfm>.