

WATER WELL DESTRUCTIONS

Water wells that are no longer in use (abandoned) or are no longer producing adequate supplies of water are required by state law and county ordinance to be destroyed according to established procedures.

Abandoned water wells can act as conduits for surface and subsurface pollution to enter groundwater supplies. Once polluted, groundwater is no longer drinkable.

Abandoned wells can also be illegally used for the disposal of liquid and solid wastes, causing further degradation of the groundwater quality.

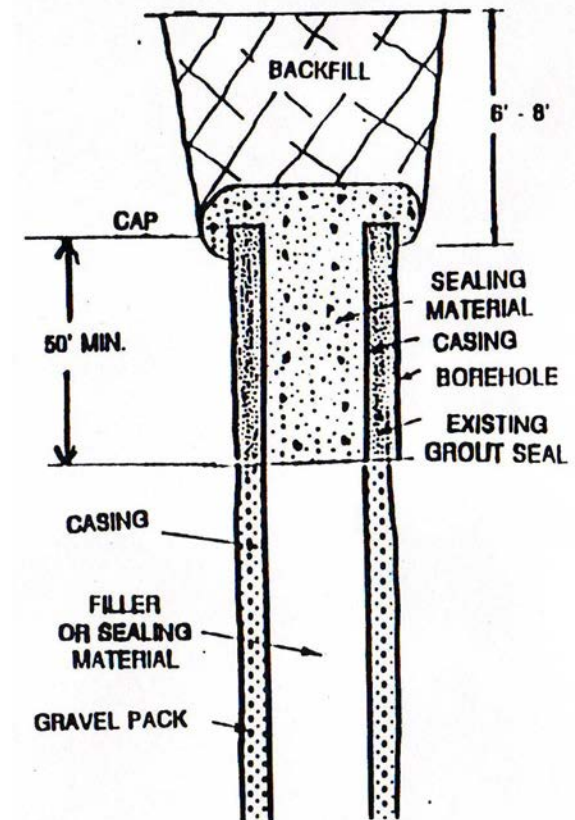
The following guidelines will enable you to destroy your well in compliance with those regulations:

1. An application for a permit to destroy the well must be submitted to the Kern County Public Health Services Department,

Environmental Health Division, for review prior to the well destruction.

2. The contractor submitting an application must have a C-57 license and be registered with the Department.
3. A fee at the rate of \$100 per hour will be charged for the travel and inspection time.
4. Cut off casing six to eight feet (6'-8') below grade in an urban area.
5. Sealing material shall consist of neat cement, sand cement, concrete, bentonite or other approved material. Cuttings from drilling, or drilling mud, shall not be used for any part of the sealing material.
6. With an aid of a tremie pipe, cement, concrete, or sand-cement grout in top 50 feet, spilling over to form a mushroom cap.
7. Placement of the 50-foot cement seal must be witnessed by a representative of this Division.

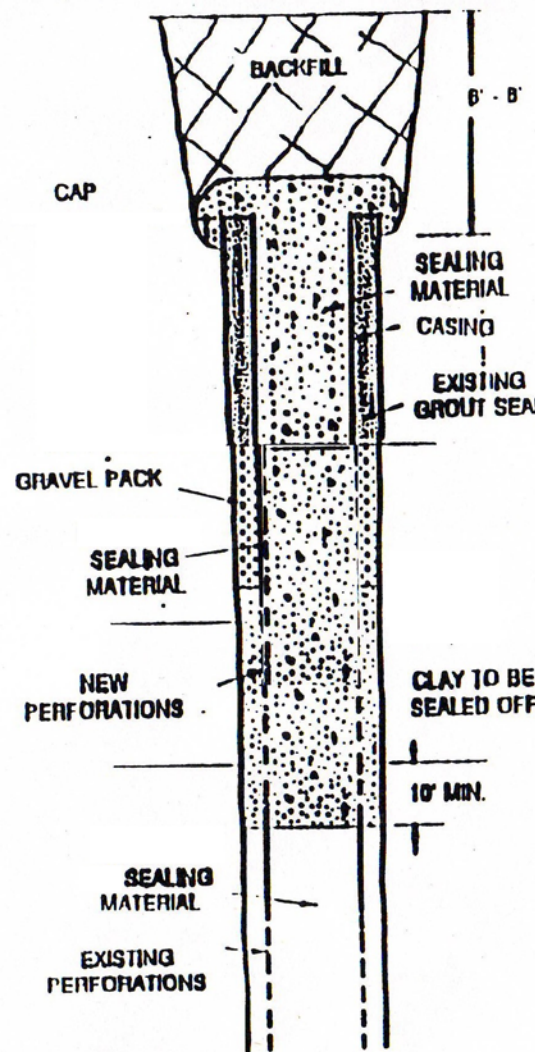
WELL DESTRUCTION



DESTRUCTION OF WELL WITH REGIONAL CONFINING CLAY

For wells that penetrate a regional confining clay, additional requirements are as follows:

1. Depth of the annular seal will be determined at the time the application is submitted or after the application is submitted to the Kern County Water Agency for review.
2. Casing may be required to be perforated across the regional confining clay with a mills knife or wire line casing shot.
3. The casing is to be immediately pumped full of approved sealing material with the aid of a tremie pipe from 10' below the regional confining clay to the top of the well casing.
4. The destruction procedures for the upper seal are the same as for the shallow well destruction.



WELL DESTRUCTION PROCEDURES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
HEALTH SERVICES,
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
2700 M STREET, SUITE 300
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301

(661) 862-8700

October 2006