ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE REGULATION AND CONTROL OF WATER WELL CONTRACTORS (DRILLERS) IN LOUISIANA

Meeting Summary
November 4, 2025
11:00 A.M.

Prepared by:
The Department of Conservation & Energy
Office of Permitting & Compliance
Geology Division

Advisory Committee members in attendance:
Commissioner of Conservation, Driller at Large – Scott Bergeron
Appointed by Governor, Irrigation Driller, Nom of LGWA – Herschel Bourque
Ex-O; C&E – Jonathan Rice
Appointed by the Secretary of C&E – Patrick Courreges
Appointed by Commissioner of Conservation, Driller At-Large – Gary Hill
LGWA, Domestic Driller – Terry Suire
President of the Louisiana Engineering Society, designee – David Kozan
Appointed by the Secretary of DHH – Johan Forsman

Call to Order
Meeting was called to order at **11:00 a.m**. by **Herschel Bourque**. The roll was called and a quorum was established.

Public Comments
No public comments made.

Delinquent License Renewals
Water well drillers with licenses that were expired in excess of 1 year came before the board to explain their failure to renew and to request permission to renew.

1. **Tommy Clark** came before the board to explain that failure to renew his license was an oversight on his part. He maintained his Continuing Education Credits (CEUS). **Herschel Bourque** stated that he does not think Mr. Clark needs to retake the exam. **Gary Hill** made the motion for him to be allowed to renew without having to apply as a new applicant. **Terry Suire** seconded.
2. **Clint McDowell** came before the board to explain his failure to renew his license. He states that he missed the emails to renew, but he maintained his CEUs. **Scott Bergeron** made the motion for him to be allowed to renew without having to apply as a new applicant. **Gary Hill** seconded.
3. **David Hammett** came before the board to explain his failure to renew his license. He states that his packet was lost, but that renewal fee check was cashed. **Terry Suire** explained that the packet Mr. Hammett referenced seems to have been mailed to the former LGWA director. **Gary Hill** made the motion for him to be allowed to renew without having to apply as a new applicant. **Scott Bergeron/Terry Suire** seconded.

All three drillers were allowed to renew their license without having to re-apply as new applicants or re-take the licensing exam(s).

Review of New Applicants for Louisiana Driller's License

1. The committee reviewed the water well driller application for **Scott Guichard**. **Terry Suire** made the motion to accept the application and allow the applicant to take the test; seconded by **Scott Bergeron.** The motion passed unanimously.
2. The committee reviewed the water well driller application for **Robert Wiener**. **Gary Hill**

made the motion to accept the application and allow the applicant to take the test; seconded by **Terry Suire**. The motion passed unanimously.

3. The committee reviewed the water well driller application for **Eric Wiener**. **Gary Hill** made the motion to accept the application and allow the applicant to take the test; seconded by **Scott Bergeron**. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **Mark Hammett** was called an applicant, but he was not present at the meeting.
5. The committee reviewed the water well driller application for **Ewart Quick**. **Scott Bergeron** made the motion to accept the application and allow the applicant to take the test; seconded by **Terry Suire**. The motion passed unanimously.
6. The committee reviewed the water well driller application for **Shawn Maloney**. **Scott Bergeron** made the motion to accept the application and allow the applicant to take the test; seconded by **David Kozan**. The motion passed unanimously.

Adoption of the August 2025 Meeting Summary

Scott Bergeron made a motion to accept the meeting summary. **Johan Forsman** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Water Well Driller Compliance Review

Nicholas Kien provided an update and explanation with a Quarterly update on frequent issues the Department is having with registrations, compliance issues, & violations of regulations. The Department is seeing less late registration submittals and less form rejections for missing information. Most problems are relating to improper well construction. There were also a few instances of unlicensed individuals drilling.

New Business

Nicholas Kien gave a brief update on the LDENR Reorganization. As of October 1, 2025, LDENR became C&E. Changes are being made to the website, but the old website is archived and can still be accessed. The Groundwater Division moved to the Office of Permitting and Compliance – Geology Division – Groundwater Resources. **Dr. Thomas Van Biersel** will be the Interim Director for the Office. **Jamie Love** has moved with the Legacy Group. **Zachary Burch** has moved to the Office of Enforcement. **Melissa Ashour** will be the Enforcement group Supervisor.

Date for the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 3,** 2026, at 11:00 a.m. in the Griffon Room on the 1st floor of the LaSalle Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by **Scott Bergeron**, seconded by **Terry Suire**. The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:08 p.m.