ORDINANCE NO. 399

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa do ordain as follows:

SECTION 1 - Well Standards

DEFINITIONS:

A. **Annular Seal** is the grout between the conductor casing, or between the bore and the conductor casing or casing.

B. **Cathodic Protection Well** means any artificial excavation in excess of fifty (50) feet deep constructed by any means for the purpose of installing equipment or facilities for the protection electrically of metallic equipment in contact with the ground (commonly referred to as cathodic protection).

C. **Contamination** means an impairment of the quality of the waters by waste to a degree which creates a hazard to the public health through poisoning or through the spread of disease. **Contamination** is also, by definition, a pollution.

D. **Cross-connection** means any unprotected connection between any part of a water system used or intended to supply water for domestic purposes and any source or system containing water or other substance that is not or cannot be approved as safe, pure, wholesome, and potable for human consumption.

E. **Deep Water Well** is any water well that produces water from or below any impervious material, and does not include a "shallow well" as defined in this ordinance.

F. **Destruction of Wells** means to restore as nearly as practicable those conditions which existed prior to the construction of the well.
G. **Disposal Well** means a hole dug, bored, or drilled into any known aquifer in which are deposited matters or substances, which, by reason of temperatures or content, may be deleterious to ground water.

H. **Geophysical Well** means a well used for testing or logging strata or to obtain data from the underground.

I. **Health Officer** shall mean the director of health, health officer, and any duly authorized deputy, sanitarian, or other agent of the County Health Department.

J. **Individual Water Well** is any water well used to supply domestic water for the needs of an individual residence or duplex.

K. **Injection Well** is any well constructed to introduce water into the underground as a means of replenishing ground water basins. An injection well is also known as a recharge well.

L. **Person** means any natural person, individual, firm, partnership company, corporation, association, joint venture, joint stock company, organization, club, business trust, leasee, agent, servant, officer, employee, unincorporated association or representative of same.

M. **Purveyor** is any person that furnishes or supplies domestic water to users from any source, as described in the California State Laws and Standards relating to Domestic Water Supply.

N. **Pollution** means an alteration of the quality of the waters by waste to a degree which unreasonably affects: (1) the value of such water for beneficial uses, or (2) Facilities which serve such beneficial uses. Pollution may include Contamination.
O. **Community Water Supply Well** means any water well used to supply domestic water to more than one (1) individual parcel of property or any water supply which services any premise which contains a temporary or permanent resort, hotel, apartment house, triplex, motel, institution, labor camp, trailer park, gas station, cafe, school, subdivision or any commercial establishment.

P. **Pump Contractor** means any person or company licensed by the State Contractors License Law, as provided in Division 3, Chapter 9, of the Business and Professions Code, to install, service or repair a pump.

Q. **Shallow Well** is any well, spring, infiltration gallery or similar device designed to supply surface water or surface water located above an impervious material.

R. **Source Facility** includes all components of the facilities used in the production, treatment, storage, and delivery of water to the distribution system.

S. **User** means any person using water for domestic purposes, except any person processing water or selling, serving, furnishing, or supplying water to the public in any manner.

T. **Utility System** includes the source facilities, treatment facilities and the distribution system, and shall include all other facilities of the water system under the complete control of the utility, up to the point where the customer's system begins.

U. **Water Quality** is a term used to describe the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water in respect to its suitability for a particular purpose. The same water may be of good quality for one purpose or use, and bad or poor for another, depending upon its characteristics and the requirements for the particular use.
W. **Well or Water Well** means any artificial excavation constructed by any method for the purpose of extracting or re-charging ground water or testing or logging of stratum to obtain data from the underground. This definition shall not include:
a) oil and gas wells, or geothermal wells constructed under jurisdiction of the Department of Conservation, State of California, except those wells converted to use as water wells; b) wells used for the purpose of stabilizing hillsides or earth embankments; or c) shallow excavations in seepage areas used for the watering of livestock.

X. **Well Contractor** means any person or company licensed by the State Contractors License Law, as provided in Division 3, Chapter 9, of the Business and Professions Code.

**SECTION 2 - Permits, Setback Requirements and Reports**

A. Permit: Prior to drilling, digging, boring, or otherwise construction or reconstructing any well, the property owner, his authorized agent, or the well contractor shall secure a permit from the County Health Department. Application shall be made on the form provided. Emergency repairs, as described in Rule 4 of this section, may be performed without first applying for a permit, however, said permit application form must be filled out completely no later than the end of the Health Department working day on the last working day of the week following the performance of the emergency repairs.

B. Required setbacks. All wells shall be located no closer than the indicated horizontal distances to the following: ///
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deep Drilled Well</th>
<th>Shallow Well</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Community</td>
<td>Individual Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Septic Tank</td>
<td>50 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewer Line (solid)</td>
<td>50 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seepage Pit</td>
<td>100-150 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leach Lines</td>
<td>100 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animals or Fowl are kept</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

When a septic tank is placed closer than the minimum distance indicated for a leach line or seepage pit the connection from the septic tank to the leach line or pit shall be of solid, impervious pipe with sealed, water proof joints or connection. All sewer pipes must be of approved materials.

C. Well Drillers Report. Any person who has drilled, dug, bored or deepened a well shall, within thirty (30) calendar days after completion of the work, furnish the Health Officer with a complete log of the well. The log shall contain the following information:

1. A description of the Strata encountered.
2. The depth of the well.
3. Depth of first water encountered and the depth of the water level after development of the well.
4. Depth of casing or casings including type and location of perforations.

D. Emergency Repairs. When emergency repairs include the construction of a new well or deepening of an existing deep well a copy of the log of the well will be required as in section C. All work done under emergency conditions shall comply with the requirements of this chapter.
SECTION 3 - Well Drilling Requirements

A. Casing Perforations. The casing of new deep water wells shall not be perforated within fifty (50) feet of the ground surface unless an impervious soil stratum separates the perforated casing from surface waters.

B. Casing Depth for New Deep Water Wells. Deep water supply wells shall be cased with a solid, water tight casing to a depth of not less than fifty (50) feet from the ground surface or at least two (2) feet into an impervious material, whichever is shallower.

C. Surface Seal. All individual and community water wells hereafter drilled, dug, or bored, other than springs boxed in with concrete, shall be provided with a water tight reinforced concrete base monolithically poured on thoroughly compacted earth. The base shall extend horizontally at least three (3) feet from the outside of the well casing in all directions, the concrete base shall adequately slope so as to drain water away from the well casing to the edge of the base. Where deviation from this pattern of construction would serve a practical purpose without lessening well protection, the Health Officer may approve this variance.

D. Sample Spigot. Community Water Supply wells shall be provided with a sample spigot on the pump discharge line as close to the pump as practical and on the pump side of the check valve.

E. Check Valve. All wells constructed after the effective date of this chapter and all Community Water Supply wells constructed prior to the effective date of this chapter shall be
provided with a double check valve on the pump discharge line to effectively prevent water from the discharge line flowing into the well.

F. **Access and Air Vent Pipe.** All new individual water supply wells shall be provided with a pipe or other effective means by which disinfectants can be introduced to the well. The pipe, if provided, shall be extended to a height of twelve (12) inches above the surrounding ground level and shall be kept sealed and shall be provided with a threaded cap. All community water wells shall be provided with an air relief vent which extends from the well casing to a height of not less than twelve (12) inches from the surrounding ground level. The air relief valve shall terminate downward and be covered with 16 per inch or finer wire mesh screen and shall be protected against the possibility of contaminating material entering the vent.

G. **Disinfection of Wells.** All water supply wells drilled, dug, bored, reconstructed, or repaired, before being placed into service, shall be thoroughly cleaned of all foreign substances. The well, the pump and all portions of equipment coming in contact with well water shall be disinfected with a solution containing at least fifty (50) parts per million available chlorine, which shall remain in the well for a period of not less than twenty-four (24) hours or by an equivalent method of disinfection satisfactory to the Health Officer, and such procedure shall be repeated as necessary to produce water meeting bacteriological standards as set forth in the United States Public Health Service Drinking Water Standards.

H. **Approval by the Health Officer.** No water from a new
or reconstructed community water well shall be used for domestic purposes until the well is given final approval by the Health Officer.

I. Pump Installation. Pumps and pump motors installed directly over the casing of any well shall be provided with a sanitary seal between the pump base and the casing. Installations with submersible pumps or pumps offset from the casing shall have a steel plate installed over the top of the casing with a water tight seal between the plate and the casing and between the casing and any pipes or conduits which enter the well through the steel plate. No pipe or conduit shall enter the casing from the side except access or air vent pipes as required by this chapter.

J. Other types of Wells. The Health Officer may establish requirements for the construction of all wells, other than water wells, (including Cathodic Protection Wells) which he deems necessary for the protection of the waters of the county. All such requirements shall be subject to approval of the Board of Supervisors.

K. The Health Officer may establish requirements for spring development, shallow wells, infiltration galleries, and other "surface" water supplies when such requirements are deemed necessary for the protection of health or the underground water supply. All such requirements shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Supervisors.

SECTION 4 - Destruction of Wells

A. Out of Service Wells. Is any well that is not being
used for the purpose of furnishing water but which may be used at a later date. Any out of service well for which the owner has declared an intent to use at a later date shall be maintained by the owner in a manner in which no defects will impair the quality of the water or water bearing formations. All such wells shall be capped with a water tight seal and shall be marked so as to be easily seen and shall otherwise meet the requirements of this article.

B. Defective Wells. Any well which has fallen into a state of disrepair which may result in the impairment of the quality of the ground water or which constitutes a safety hazard must be reconstructed or destroyed.

C. Destruction of Wells. Prior to destroying any well, the interior of the casing shall be cleaned out to remove any obstructions which might interfere with the installation of an effective seal. The open well shall then be filled from the bottom up to 6 feet below the ground surface with clay, bentonite clay, neat cement or other approved material.

D. Capping Destroyed Wells. After filling any well a hole at least one (1) foot greater in diameter than the original drilled, dug, or bored hole shall be excavated around the outside of the well casing to a depth of not less than three (3) feet below the ground surface. The well casing shall then be cut off six (6) inches above the bottom of the excavated hole. The top three (3) feet of the remaining casing shall then be filled with cement grout in a manner which will allow the grout to spill over into the excavation and fill it to a thickness of one (1) foot. The excavation shall then be filled to ground level with earth.
F. Uses Prohibited. No well shall at any time be used for the disposal of any liquid or solid waste.

G. Stop Order. Whenever any well construction, destruction, or repair work is being done contrary to the requirements of this chapter, the Health Officer shall order the work stopped by posting a notice to do so at the well site. No further work shall be done after such notice has been posted.

SECTION 5 - Injection and Disposal Wells

A. Injection and disposal wells shall not be permitted.

SECTION 6 - Violation

A. Violations of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be infractions. Persons convicted of a violation of a provision of this Ordinance shall be fined not more than Fifty Dollars ($50.00).

Mariposa County Ordinance No. 373 is hereby repealed.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa this 15th day of April, 1975, by the following vote:

AYES: Clark, Hurlbert, Long, Moffitt, Richardson
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
NOT VOTING: None

HARRY F. HURLBERT, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

ELLEN BRONSON, County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board