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Department of Environmental Protection

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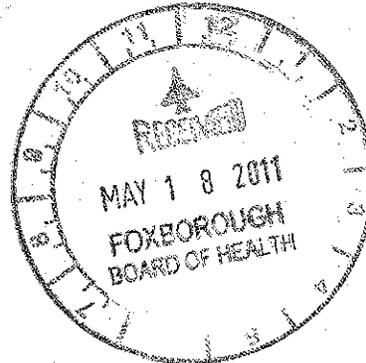
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TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
Lieutenant Governor

RICHARD K. SULLIVAN JR.
Secretary

KENNETH L. KIMMELL
Commissioner

George W. Young, RS, CHO, Agent
40 South Street
Foxborough, MA 02035



May 16, 2011

Dear Board of Health Agent:

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) administers the Well Driller Program established by MGL C. 21G, §. 14 & 20. It has come to our attention that drillers who are not currently certified with the Commonwealth are applying for and receiving permits for well drilling by some Boards of Health. In an effort to ensure that all wells drilled in the Commonwealth conform to the requirements set forth in the Well Driller Regulations (310 CMR 46.00), anyone engaged in the business of well drilling in the Commonwealth must possess a valid well driller certification. To ensure that wells are drilled by Massachusetts certified well drillers, we highly recommend that prior issuing well drilling permits, you require proof that a driller possesses a valid certification. The certification status of any well driller can be verified by accessing the list of Certified Well Drillers on MassDEP's website, <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/welldrill.htm>. Through the cooperative efforts of all parties, we can assure that wells in Massachusetts are properly installed and our water resources are protected.

Please be aware that in addition to drilling, any deepening, decommissioning, hydrofracturing, repair or replacement of a well must also be performed by a certified well driller. Massachusetts defines a well as "any hole or shaft constructed into the ground for the purpose of injecting or extracting water and other fluids, or to monitor groundwater levels and water quality. Not included are wells used on a temporary basis for the purpose of dewatering excavations, stabilizing hillsides or earth embankments, sampling soil vapors, or sampling groundwater if the installation tool is left in the ground less than 48 hours."

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact the Well Driller Program Manager, Steve Hallem by phone at 617.292.5681 or via email at stephen.hallem@state.ma.us or the Technical Services/Source Protection Program Manager, Paul Blain, by phone at 617.292.5948 or via email at paul.blain@state.ma.us. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Steve Hallem
Well Driller Program Manager
Bureau of Resource Protection