

0125.000 EVALUATING DRINKING WATER EXEMPTIONS FROM PLAN REVIEW AND CONSTRUCTION APPROVAL PROCESS

Level Three **Drinking Water Section**
 Water Quality Division

Originator: **Bill Shafer, Drinking Water Section**

Contact for
Information: **Bill Shafer**

Issue Date: **April 2, 1997**

PURPOSE

This policy describes the information that ADEQ staff must review to determine an existing system's eligibility for exemption from ADEQ approvals for making modifications or extensions to an existing regulated public or semi-public drinking water system. Note: These exemptions do not apply to new water systems.

AUTHORITY

A.R.S. Section 49-353.A.2.d and e. Note: A.A.C. R 18-4-505(B) is superseded by statutory revisions effective July 1, 1996.

POLICY

ADEQ must review and approve by issuance of an "Approval to Construct" the design of additions, modifications, or extensions to an existing system. The actual construction must also be approved by ADEQ, by an "Approval of Construction." However, A.R.S. 49-353.A.2.d provides for certain exemptions for existing systems from the plan review process. Upon completion of construction, the system must certify to ADEQ that the project complies with the conditions for the exemption, must describe the work completed, and provide the fair market value of the total project cost. ADEQ shall review the certification and confirm that the system was in substantial compliance status at the time of the construction.

RESPONSIBILITY

ADEQ Drinking Water Technical Engineering and Field Engineering/Inspection Unit staff are responsible for adhering to this policy.

PROCEDURES

ADEQ shall verify that the information required for each category listed below is included in the certification:

- A. Exemptions applicable to additions, modifications or extensions for which the project costs (including costs

associated with source approval) are \$12,500 or less:

1. a description of the work completed including project location and dates of construction;
 2. the total project cost based upon fair market value.
- B. Exemptions applicable to water line extensions with a project cost greater than \$12,500 but less than \$50,000:
1. a description of the work completed including the project location and dates of construction;
 2. the total project cost based upon fair market value;
 3. verify that the project design engineer is registered in Arizona;
 4. a statement from the project review engineer, registered in Arizona, indicating that the construction was completed as designed, and that the line extension was not for a subdivision.

ADEQ staff shall:

- A. Accept certifications which meet these requirements and update ADEQ records as needed;
- B. Find systems which are on a compliance schedule as being in substantial compliance and eligible for the exemption;
- C. Verify fair market value in the project area based on:
 1. commercial value for the work determined by competitive bids for all project components, or
 2. cost estimates based on local conditions, or
 3. estimates for project costs based on established indices (such as Engineering News Record);
- D. Return incomplete or nonqualifying certifications to the system's submitter with an explanation of the deficiencies, and provide an opportunity to either resubmit the certification for the exemption within a reasonable period of time or to submit as-built plans and specifications for review.

A system denied an exemption because it did not meet any of the above requirements, may resubmit their certification with supplemental information that addresses the issues that caused the denial. After receipt of the resubmitted request, ADEQ shall

review the request following the above procedures.

Systems which fail to submit the certification, or have had the submittal returned to them by ADEQ and fail to re-submit, or fail to submit the as-built plans and specifications shall be considered to be in noncompliance.

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APPROVED

Level Three
Drinking Water Section
Water Quality Division:

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Karen J. Heidel, Ph.D. Date
Acting Division Director
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Robert L. Munari 7/11/97
Robert L. Munari Date
Section Manager
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The Policy Review Committee has posted, reviewed, and accepted
this policy by motion as of April 2, 1997.

Susan Bentley-Johnston - 7.10.97
Susan Bentley-Johnston Date
Policy Management System Administrator