

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 23

BY RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO DRILLING PERMITS; AMENDING SECTION 42-235, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE  
2 FEE PROVISIONS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE USE OF CERTAIN PERMIT FEES, TO AUTHO-  
3 RIZE THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES TO PROVIDE BLAN-  
4 KET DRILLING PERMITS FOR CLOSED LOOP HEAT EXCHANGE WELLS AND TO PROVIDE  
5 THAT THE APPLICATIONS FOR BLANKET PERMITS FOR SITE SPECIFIC MONITORING  
6 PROGRAMS SHALL INCLUDE SPECIFIED DESIGN PROPOSALS.  
7

8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

9 SECTION 1. That Section 42-235, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 42-235. DRILLING PERMITS. Prior to beginning construction of any  
12 well, or changing the construction of any well, the driller or well owner  
13 shall obtain a permit from the director of the department of water resources  
14 to protect the public health, safety and welfare and the environment, and  
15 to prevent the waste of water or mixture of water from different aquifers.  
16 ~~There shall be a seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) charge for the permit if the~~  
17 ~~well is to be used for domestic or monitoring purposes. If the well is to be~~  
18 ~~used for other than domestic or monitoring purposes, t~~The charge for the per-  
19 mit after July 1, 2011, shall be two hundred dollars (\$200). Fifty percent  
20 (50%) of the total permit fees shall be utilized for visual well inspections  
21 during the construction of the well to improve protection of the ground water  
22 resource. All moneys received pursuant to this section shall be credited  
23 to the water administration account. The director may provide a blanket  
24 drilling permit for closed loop heat exchange wells and for site specific  
25 monitoring programs which will determine the quality, quantity, temper-  
26 ature, pressure or other attributes of aquifers. The application for a  
27 blanket permit for site specific monitoring programs shall include a design  
28 proposal prepared by a licensed engineer or licensed geologist which shall  
29 describe the overall drilling program and all relevant technical features of  
30 the wells to the satisfaction of the director. Progress reports, completion  
31 and other data may be required as provided by rule. The fee for the any blan-  
32 ket permit shall be one two hundred dollars (\$1200) plus an additional fifty  
33 dollars (\$50.00) per well. A driller or well owner violating any provision  
34 of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall also be subject to  
35 the enforcement procedures of section 42-1701B, Idaho Code.