



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2011 Senate Bill 156

Senate Substitute Amendment 1

Memo published: March 14, 2012

Contact: Larry A. Konopacki, Senior Staff Attorney (267-0683)

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 to 2011 Senate Bill 156 does all of the following:

- Amends current law regulating well drillers, applying the regulations to businesses and individuals that engage in heat exchange drilling for the purpose of installing a geothermal closed loop heat exchange system.
- Provides that when the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issues a driller license, the DNR may specify that the license is limited to either engaging only in well drilling to obtain groundwater or engaging only in heat exchange drilling.
- Specifies that the DNR may not issue a driller license authorizing heat exchange drilling unless the applicant passes an examination administered by the DNR and has been a registered drilling rig operator for at least two out of the five years before applying for the license, has complied with applicable training and continuing education requirements, and has heat exchange drilling experience as required by DNR rule (except for experienced drillers, for whom the DNR must create alternative requirements).
- Authorizes the DNR to enter and inspect, at reasonable hours, heat exchange drillholes and equipment relating to the construction of heat exchange drillholes on private or public property and order necessary corrections and repairs or discontinuances of contaminated drillholes.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 was introduced by Senator Kedzie on March 7, 2012. The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Environment recommended adoption of the substitute amendment, and passage of Senate Bill 156, as amended, by votes of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0. On March 13, 2012, the Senate adopted Senate Substitute Amendment 1 and passed Senate Bill 156, as amended, by a vote of Ayes, 33; Noes, 0.

LAK:jb;ksm