

**BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO**

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED)
CREATION OF A WEST ADA AREA OF)
DRILLING CONCERN) **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
_____)

The Director (“Director”) of the Idaho Department of Water Resources (“Department”) may designate, as he determines necessary, Areas of Drilling Concern (“ADC”) on an aquifer-by-aquifer basis to protect public health and to prevent waste or contamination of ground or surface water. Idaho Code § 42-238(15) authorizes the Director to designate an ADC.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-238, that the Department will conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed designation of the West Ada Area of Drilling Concern (“WAADC”):

PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED CREATION OF THE WAADC

**Wednesday, June 1, 2016
6:30 PM
Mountain View High School Auditorium
2000 South Millennium Way
Meridian, Idaho**

The Department is considering designation of the WAADC based on a petition it received from the City of Meridian (“Meridian”). Meridian has completed a detailed ground investigation resulting in the following conclusions:

1. Some aquifers underlying the Meridian area are contaminated by naturally occurring arsenic and uranium, as well as anthropogenic contamination including nitrate, pesticides, herbicides, chlorinated solvents, bacteria and other pathogens.
2. Current well industry practices are insufficient to protect the ground water quality. Specific drilling and well construction methods and well sealing requirements are necessary to protect ground water resources.
3. The designation of the ADC is necessary to protect the deeper aquifers used for municipal water supplies.

Wells drilled or modified in a designated ADC may be subject to specific bonding and well construction requirements.

The Department will present information at the hearing regarding statutory authority for designation of an ADC and requirements for drilling or modifying wells within an ADC. The City of Meridian will present information concerning the proposed boundaries of the WAADC, existing contamination, potential for spreading contamination between aquifers and recommendations for constructing wells to prevent spreading contaminants to the deeper aquifers. The hearing will be held in accordance with the Department’s Rules of Procedures (IDAPA 37.01.01). These rules may be viewed at the Idaho Department of Administration’s website as follows: <http://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/37/0101.pdf>

Information regarding the proposed WAADC, including a map showing the boundaries, the City of Meridian petition for the WAADC and the Department Staff Memorandum evaluation of the petition can be viewed on the Department's website at: (<http://idwr.idaho.gov/wells/areas-of-drilling-concern.html>)

Information and testimony presented at the hearing on June 1, 2016, will create a record upon which the Director will rely to determine whether designation of the WAADC is appropriate. It is important that well drillers, realtors, well owners and the general public understand the proposed action and participate in the hearing process. Jeff Peppersack, Department Water Allocation Bureau Chief, will serve as the hearing officer. Persons attending the hearing will be provided an opportunity to make an oral presentation regarding the proposed action. Written comments may be submitted to the hearing officer at the hearing or at any time prior to the close of the written comment period on June 15, 2016. Written comments not presented at the hearing should be sent to the Director, Department of Water Resources, PO Box 83720, Boise, Idaho, 83720-0098.

The hearing will be conducted in a facility that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Should you require special accommodations in order to attend, participate in or understand the hearing, please contact the Department at least five days prior to the hearing.

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to the Department's state office at (208) 287-4800 or Regional office at (208) 334-2190.

DATED this 9th day of May, 2016



Gary Spackman
Director