

NDOM and NDWR Project Permitting Guide

Dissolved Mineral Wells and Water Rights					
Activity	Agency Lead	Paperwork Required	Timeframe	Required Action	Approval Required
Application for Approval of Notice of Intent to Drill Exploration Borehole	NDOM	DMRE Borehole or Exploration Permit Application	Must be abandoned 60 days after completion	Submit Notice	Yes, if application is complete, NDOM accepts it, no fee
Well Driller drills DMRE Borehole	NDOM	DMRE Borehole or Well Driller's Plugging Report	30 Days after Plugging	Submit Report to NDOM	No
Application for Permit to Drill a DMRE Exploration Well	NDOM	DMRE Borehole or Exploration Permit Application	Well is allowed to remain open for 2 years after completion with possibility of one 2 year extension. Well must transferred to NDWR or P&A after maximum of 4 years	Complete application including all needed data, bond and fee payment	Yes, Fee \$1,000
Extension for Exploration Well	NDOM	Written notice to the Administrator	60 days before permit expires	NDOM with good cause	Application for Permit to Drill an Exploration Well
Well Driller Completes DMRE Exploration Well	NDOM	DMRE Well Driller's Report	30 Days after Completion	Submit Report to NDOM	No
Well Driller Plugs DMRE Exploration Well	NDOM	DMRE Borehole or Well Driller's Plugging Report	30 Days after Plugging	Submit Report to NDOM	No
Operator has active or idle DMRE Exploration Well	NDOM	Quarterly Flow Report for DMRE Well	Once every quarter	Submit Report to NDOM regardless if there is zero production	No
Pump testing for brine not more than 5 acre/ft	NDOM	Quarterly Flow Report for DMRE Well	Once every quarter	Submit Report to NDOM regardless if there is zero production	No
Project to utilize more than 5 acre-feet of water for the exploration project or project starts consumptively using water	NDWR	Water Right Application	Minimum of 3 Months, DWR cannot review application until publication notice and protest period are complete as required by statute	Submit application and water right map to Division for review	Yes, required prior to drilling well in designated basin or using any water for the proposed use on the application.
Use of water for mineral exploration. This is only for drill water for the drilling of the exploration wells	NDWR	Mining and Milling (MM) Waiver	None provided by regulation or statute	Submit Mining and Milling (MM) Waiver request for NDWR review	Yes, prior to submitting NOI to drill a new well or prior to using water from an existing well
Drill or plug production well	NDWR	Notice of Intent to Drill	3 working days prior to drilling	Licensed Well driller submits a Notice of Intent to the Division for review	Yes required prior to drilling or plugging well
Licensed Well Driller completes well	NDWR	Well Log Form	Within 30 days after completion of well	Well driller submits Well Driller's Report (Well Log) to the Division within 30 days of completing the well	No
Consumptively using water under the terms of water right Permit.	NDWR		Up to 10 years	Comply with terms of permit including any filing of proofs or submission of data.	Yes, for certain filings.