

By: Fraser

S.B. No. 714

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the requirements applicable to a water well located in a groundwater conservation district and used in connection with certain oil or gas well operations.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 36.117, Water Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e-1) to read as follows:

(e-1) A person drilling or operating a water well exempted under Subsection (b)(2) shall report monthly to the district the total amount of water withdrawn during the preceding month. Notwithstanding the exemption provided by Subsection (b)(2), a district may require a well exempted under that subsection that does not comply with the district's spacing requirements to comply with the district's well plugging requirements:

(1) at the time of well closure; or

(2) before using water from the well for any other purpose.

SECTION 2. Section 36.117(e-1), Water Code, as added by this Act, applies only to a water well closed on or after the effective date of this Act. A water well closed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date of closure, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.