



MINNESOTA WATER WELL ASSOCIATION

Representing Minnesota's Water Well Drilling Industry

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Well Rig and Pump Hoist Licensing

All water well drilling rigs and pump hoists are registered with the Minnesota Department of Health – Well Management Unit as opposed to being licensed through the Minnesota Driver and Vehicle Services. Under Minnesota State Law presented in 2000 and signed in 2001 (Section 169.781, Subdivision 5) stipulates that registration be done through the MDH.

Further, **MN Statute 168.012, (VEHICLES EXEMPT FROM TAX OR LICENSE FEES)**

Subd. 3. Special mobile equipment, snowmobile. Special mobile equipment and snowmobiles shall not be taxed as motor vehicles using the public streets and highways and shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter. By definition, **MN Statute 168.002 Subd. 31** states: Special mobile equipment. (a) "Special mobile equipment" means every vehicle not designed or used for the transportation of persons or property and only incidentally operated or moved over a highway, except vehicles described in paragraph (b). Special mobile equipment includes but is not limited to: ditch-digging apparatuses, pump hoists and other water well-drilling equipment registered and licensed under chapter 103I, other road construction or road maintenance machinery, aggregate processing and conveying equipment, truck-mounted log loaders that are used exclusively for commercial logging, and self-propelled cranes.

(b) "Special mobile equipment" does not include:

(1) machinery that has been temporarily or permanently mounted on a commercial motor vehicle chassis that is used only to provide a service and is not able to haul goods for resale; or

(2) dump trucks.

It was later amended to require that these vehicles display a yearly inspection sticker, as well as the license number and sticker.

Well drilling machines and pump hoists are the only pieces of equipment affected. Proof of insurance is still required by the MDH and as stated there is no need for registration nor a license plate from the DVS.

It is always highly recommended that anyone owning a vehicle licensed by the MDH have a copy of this Statute in these vehicles (these can be obtained from the MWWA). It is also recommended to have the registration "card" issued by the MDH within the vehicle at all times as well. These two items may expedite any stop or inspection by law enforcement.

Please contact the Minnesota Water Well Association if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Schulenberg", with a horizontal line underneath.

Dave Schulenberg – MWWA Executive Director