



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
ONE WINTER STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108 617-292-5500

ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI
Governor

JANE SWIFT
Lieutenant Governor

BOB DURAND
Secretary

LAUREN A. LISS
Commissioner

Bureau Of Resource Protection
Division Of Water Supply (DEP/BRP/DWS) Policy 92-05
Procedure for Determining The Activity Type And Status of A Drinking Water Source
(Year 2000 Printing)

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Program Applicability
Supersedes Policy, SOP or Guidance #:
Approved by: Arleen O'Donnell

Policy, SOP or Guideline # 92-05

Background and Rationale

This policy is designed to provide guidance in interpreting the source activity type, availability code in the Water Quality Testing System (WQTS), monitoring requirements and special permit requirements of public drinking water sources as defined in 310 CMR 22.02.

Policy

The Division of Water Supply defines public water supplies, their testing and permit requirements as follows:

SOURCE TYPE(S)	AVAILABILITY (WQTS)	MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	SPECIAL PERMIT REQUIREMENTS
Primary Back-up Standby Seasonal	Active ¹ (Former WQTS Codes: Permanent, Backup, Seasonal, Interim, Provisional)	As required by 310 CMR 22.00 and DEP Approval And DEP Approval Letters	None
Inactive (Off-line)	Inactive (Former WQTS Codes: Other, Contaminated)	None ²	Source may not be brought on-line without DEP approval
Emergency ³	Emergency	As specified by DEP at time of request for emergency use 4.	Emergency Declaration regulation applies MGL 21G § 15, 16, 17 and DWS Policy 87-05
Abandoned Declassified	Abandoned (Former WQTS Codes: Other)	None	Requires DEP approval to either declassify or abandon (in accordance with 310 CMR 22.25 and appropriate guidelines)

1. If the well has not been on line it must be sampled after stabilization occurs. It must be pumped at a rate approaching the production rate for 20 minutes. After 20 minutes begin taking and recording temperature readings at 5 minute intervals. The well water quality is considered to be stabilized when three consecutive temperature readings do not vary more than 5%. (Example: reading #1 = 50 °F; reading #2 = 51 °F; reading #3 = 5x2.5 ° F. Stabilization has occurred because the variation between readings #1 and #3 = 2.5 ° or 5%).

Surface water sources may be sampled at the disinfection station.

2. This category will include both sources deliberately taken off-line (example: for scheduled maintenance) and sources which unexpectedly go off-line. PWSs must notify DEP when a source goes off-line if it is expected to miss any scheduled sampling. This notification should occur soon after the source goes off-line but prior to missing any scheduled sampling.
3. An emergency source may be any source that could be used during an emergency.
4. If a public water supply designates a source as an active (or maintained) emergency source, it must develop and submit to DEP a maintenance plan and a protocol for its use. This information must be included in its emergency response plan. The wellhead and watershed area must be maintained and periodic sanitary surveys done. However, it may only be connected into the system with DEP permission.

DWS must retain all public drinking water sources in its inventory according to their activity status.

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Arleen O'Donnell, Assistant Commissioner
Bureau of Resource Protection