

## **Water Drilling Control Law, 1955**

(Summary)

The Water Drilling Control Law was enacted during the 1950's, to regulate and control exploration for water.

\* A drilling license, issued by the Water Commissioner, is required for the drilling of, or alteration to, any well.

\* The Water Commissioner may refuse to grant a drilling license, cancel a license, or set conditions for the license "in order to prevent the depletion or salination of the water source or in order to ensure a supply of water for household purposes...."

\* The Water Commissioner must publish a notice of application for drilling license. Any person opposing the granting of a license must state his objections in writing to the Commissioner.

\* Persons aggrieved by the Water Commissioner's decision may appeal to the Water Tribunal.

\* The Water Commissioner is empowered to have any well inspected in order to supervise compliance with the law and regulations promulgated by the Minister of Agriculture.

\* The Magistrate, upon application by the Commissioner, may order an unlicensed well or a well not meeting with the conditions of a license to be capped.

\* Implementation of this law and the enactment of regulations pertaining to the drilling or capping of wells are the responsibilities of the Minister of Agriculture.