

# Primer on Construction Contract Administration of Special Provisions Section 76 – Wells

This document was developed to assist Structure Construction field staff unfamiliar with the construction contract administration of Section 76, *Wells*, of the [Contract Specifications](#). The intended purpose is to provide basic understanding of a project's construction scope of work as related to water wells. This can be accomplished with a review of the resources described herein.

Organization of the Caltrans *Standard Special Provisions* (SSPs):

SSP, Section 76-1, *Wells – General*.

This section is applicable to all section 76 well work.

SSP, Section 76-2, *Wells – Water Wells*.

Water wells are typically production wells at locations to which local water agencies do not service. In some remote areas, water wells are used to supply water at highway roadside rest areas. New water wells include drilling, construction, testing, and disinfection of the new wells.

SSP, Section 76-3, *Wells – Exploration Holes*.

Exploration wells are used to determine the ultimate location of “production” water wells and are typically needed where there are no existing wells nearby or records of existing wells. They are exploratory in nature and used to characterize underlying soil conditions, water table, and reliability of water supply.

SSP, Section 76-4, *Wells – Monitor Wells*.

As defined in SSP 76-4, monitoring wells are installed to monitor fluctuations in groundwater level, groundwater quality, and concentration of contaminants in groundwater. For example, a local Regional Water Quality Control Board may require installation of monitoring wells upstream and downstream of sewage disposal fields to monitor potential groundwater contamination; e.g., roadside rest areas in remote locations using leach field for sewage disposal.

SSP, Section 76-5, *Wells – Rehabilitate Existing Water Wells*.

Well rehab work uses Section 76-5 rather than the Section 76-2. Modification of existing water wells can include upgrading, cleaning, test pumping, and disinfecting existing wells. As such, there are many similarities between Section 76-2, *Wells – Water Wells*, and Section 76-5 work.

Well rehab may include removal of and salvaging of mechanical (e.g., existing well pumps and controls) and non-mechanical items. Thoroughly check for additional salvaging requirements in contract *Special Provisions* (SP) Division 15

*Existing Structures, and Division XII Building Construction (Section 99 Building Construction).*

SSP, Section 76-6, *Wells – Destroy Wells.*

This section is used for wells to be abandoned as described in Section 76-1, *Wells – General*, Section 76-2, *Wells – Water Wells* and Section 76-3, *Wells – Exploration Holes.*

1. *Project Plans and Special Provisions (SP).*
2. Project Report. A quick review of the project report will enable the reader to understand of the nature of project-specific Section 76, *Wells*, work.
3. [Building Construction Manual](#), Division 2, *Site Work*, Subsection, *Water Wells*.
4. ANSI/AWWA A100, *Water Wells*. The organization of this standard is provided in [Attachment 1](#) for reference only. Request a current version of this standard as applicable to each project from the Electrical, Mechanical, Water and Wastewater Engineering (EMWW) designer.
  - a. Correlations between sections of the *Special Provisions* and ANSI/AWWA A100 where different nomenclatures are used:

**Table 1. Correlation between the *Special Provisions* and the ANSI/AWWA A100**

<b><i>Special Provisions</i></b>	<b>ANSI/AWWA A100</b>
Section 76-3, <i>Exploration Holes</i>	4.2 <i>Investigation of Geologic and Hydrologic Conditions and Groundwater Quality</i>
Section 76-6, <i>Destroy Wells</i>	4.10 <i>Decommissioning of Test Holes, Partially Completed Wells, and Abandoned Wells</i>

- b. At a minimum, ANSI/AWWA A100, *Water Wells*, Section 1 through Section 5, listed below should be reviewed prior to construction. Identify subsections of this standard applicable to the project and discuss any questions with EMWW designer ahead of time or during the internal preconstruction meeting.

Section 1, *General*  
Section 2, *References*  
Section 3, *Definitions*  
Section 4, *Requirements*  
Section 5, *Verification*

5. To review documents from a project that has wells, to follow are links for documents for an example project: EA 01-0C450 Moss Cove, Irvine Lodge & Empire Camp SRRA's:

- a. EA 01-0C450 [VISION](#) Project Information page
- b. EA 01-0C450 [Project Plans and Special Provisions](#)
- c. EA 01-0C450 [Final Project Report](#).