



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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USACE officials to enforce removal of electric submersible pumps at Belton Lake

FORT WORTH, Texas – USACE representatives from the Belton/Stillhouse Hollow Lake Offices have started notifying known waterline permit holders by letter requiring them to immediately de-energize any electric submersible pumps and completely remove them within 30 days of being notified.

“The safety of everyone who visits our lakes is one of our top priorities,” said Col. Calvin C. Hudson II, commander of the Fort Worth District. We appreciate those who have complied with our notifications to find alternative systems to pump water.” The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fort Worth District issued a 20 Jan 2010 policy banning the use of electric submersible pumps for the purpose of withdrawing water at Fort Worth District Lakes.

This policy is part of a nationwide initiative to remove a known danger from public recreational areas. Electric submersible pumps have been linked to electrocutions and even deaths around the United States. Underwriters Laboratories do not rate these electric submersible pumps for use in marine environments where swimmers and waders may be present, therefore the USACE banned their use.

The Corps would like to thank those individuals that have already complied with this policy, and have installed an acceptable alternative pump system. The Corps lake staff will work with the remaining electric submersible pump owners to find acceptable alternatives that will help ensure the safety of lake visitors.

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About the Fort Worth District: The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was established in 1950. The District is responsible for water resources development in two-thirds of Texas, and design and construction at military installations in Texas and parts of Louisiana and New Mexico. Visit the Fort Worth District Web site at: www.swf.usace.army.mil and SWF Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/usacefortworth/>

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – FORT WORTH DISTRICT
819 TAYLOR STREET
FORT WORTH, TX 76102
WWW.SWF.USACE.ARMY.MIL

POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES TO ELECTRIC SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS

1. Drill a water well located on private property
2. Connect a sprinkler to a water hose
3. Have water delivered by truck to a storage tank
4. Purchase water from a rural or municipal water supply company
5. Install a rainwater collection system
6. Install a mechanically driven pump (such as windmill technology or cable driven pump)
7. Install an electric centrifugal pump with all electrical components located off of Federal (Corps) property
8. Install a jet pump with all electrical components located off of Federal (Corps) property
9. Install an automatic air-powered internal cycling pump
10. Install a pneumatic powered simplex pump
11. Install an air powered bubbler pump
12. Install a pneumatic powered diaphragm pump

Removers:

- Irrigation Supply irrigationsupplyinc.com, 602 E Loop 121, Belton, TX 76513, (254) 933-3340
- Southerland Irrigation, 6546 Tollbridge Rd, Belton, TX 76513, (254) 939-8481
- Heart of Texas Landscape & Irrigation Co., Inc. hotlandscape.com, 3341 Fm 439 # 301, Belton, TX 76513, (254) 939-6795
- J & K Irrigation & Landscaping, 7450 Nolan Bluff Rd, Belton, TX 76513, (254) 534-3004
- Kwik-Kutz, Lawn, tree, irrigation system, 254-295-6988

Installers:

- Ramm's Pump and Water Well Service 254-939-1588
- Tommy Lovelace Water Well Service 254-939-5073
- Brasada Windmills (experienced in jet pump installations) 888-796-8665

Suppliers:

- Bubbler pumps :
 - Groundwater Innovations (groundwaterinnovations.com) 800-467-5170
 - Brumby Pumps (brumbypumps.com)
 - Stauffer Pumps (airlifetech.com)
- Simplex pumps
 - CI Solar Supplies (John Clothier-jclothi@attglobal.net) 909-628-6440
- Internal cycling pumps
 - QED (submersiblepumpguide.com) 800-624-2026
- Diaphragm Pump & Air compressor:
 - WW Grainger Co. (grainger.com) 800-323-0620
 - TX Process Equipment (Roger Mack) 214-850-8377
- Jet Pumps:
 - Water Pumps Direct (www.waterpumpsdirect.com/pumps/convertible-jet-pumps.html)
 - Smith Pump Company 254-776-0377

****NOTICE: IT MUST BE UNDERSTOOD THAT EACH OF THE MENTIONED ALTERNATIVES HAS ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES, AND IN SOME CASES PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS PROVIDED THIS LIST AS A RECOMMENDATION ONLY; NOT AS AN ENDORSEMENT. THIS LIST OF ALTERNATIVES, REMOVERS, INSTALLERS, AND SUPPLIERS IS PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND IN NO WAY IMPLIES THAT ANY ALTERNATIVE OR CONTRACTOR WILL PROVIDE A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION IN EVERY SITUATION.**



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
Belton & Stillhouse Hollow Lake Office
3740 FM 1670, Belton, Tx 76513

31 August 2016

Belton Lake Project Office

Mr. Pump Owner
Address
City, State Zip

Dear Sir or Madam Pump Owner:

You are receiving this letter because you have been identified as a current or prior owner/operator of a water line, electric line, and/or non-Underwriters Laboratories (UL) approved electric submersible pump on Federal property at Belton Lake. Current U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) policy prohibits the use of non-UL approved electric submersible pumps to withdraw water for individual use in marine environments where swimmers may be present.

The safety of Lake Belton's residents and visitors is the top concern of the USACE. Understanding the cost and inconvenience of upgrading or replacing pumps, we have worked with Rep. John Carter and community leaders following initial USACE concerns about pumps in 2010 to grant lake residents a multi-year window to address outstanding pump safety issues. While many residents resolved these matters within that extended time frame, many unsafe pumps remain and further action is necessary.

If you are utilizing a non-UL approved electric submersible pump you are hereby required to cut the power to the pump by physically removing any breakers and permanently locking out any energy to the system within 24 hours of receipt of this letter. Pump owners must replace their existing pump system with an approved alternative or completely remove the existing system within 30 days of receipt of this letter. The Belton Lake staff is glad to offer assistance or suggestions of acceptable alternatives.

If you intend to continue to utilize a water line on Federal Property, please adhere to the following instructions:

1. Remove all non-UL approved electric submersible pumps and associated electrical components from Federal property within 30 days of receiving this notice
2. Obtain a permit from the Brazos River Authority which is required to legally withdraw waters of the State of Texas from Lake Belton, and provide proof of the permit to the USACE.
3. Submit a written request to the Belton Lake Office address shown in the letterhead with a map showing the location of the new proposed pump, water line, and all electrical equipment in relation to the flowage easement line and Government property line. This is required to obtain an easement from the USACE to legally cross Federal property with the pumping apparatus. The application information for this process is located on the Lake Belton website at <http://www.swf-wc.usace.army.mil> in the Real Estate/Adjacent Landowners section.

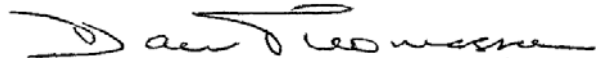
A compliance inspection will be performed to ensure the new policy guidelines are followed and to verify that the non-approved pumps and lines have been removed from Federal property. To notify the Lake Office of the current status of your non-UL approved electric submersible pump or to schedule a compliance inspection, please contact:

Bradley Ellis, Lead Park Ranger
Or James Chambers, Community Resource Coordinator
Office Number: (254) 939-6488
E-Mail: Bradley.D.Ellis@usace.army.mil or James.D.Chambers@usace.army.mil

Please understand that some delay may be experienced due to the number of customers that will need to convert to an acceptable pumping system. All requests will be answered in the order in which they are received.

While it is the desire of the USACE to work with each and every pump owner one on one to resolve this issue in the best possible way, we understand that replacing or removing existing pumps may be an inconvenience. However, the immediate shutdown/replacement of non-UL approved electric submersible pumps is of the utmost importance due to their classification as a public safety hazard. We look forward to working with you to ensure Lake Belton remains safe for residents and visitors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel E. Thomasson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Daniel E. Thomasson
Operations Project Manager
Capital Region Office