

**Water Quality Testing Requirements with
Regard to Mitigation and Aquifer Recharge**

**Water Policy Interim Committee
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Tom Reid

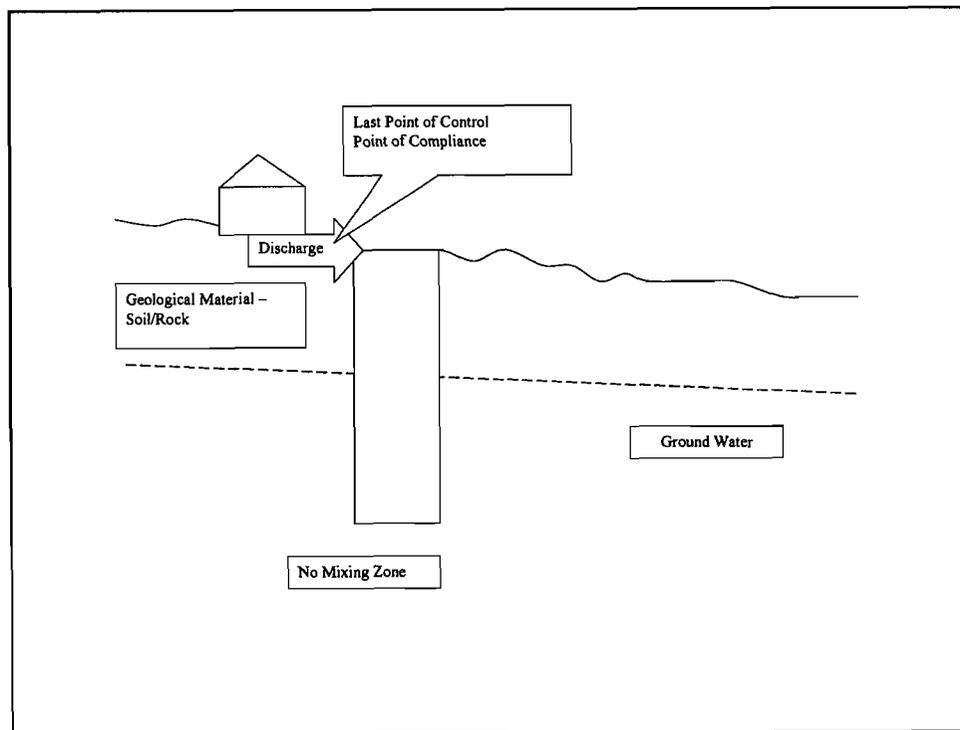
**Water Protection Bureau
Permitting & Compliance Division
Department of Environmental Quality**

Definitions:

- *Aquifer Recharge* means either controlled substance addition of water directly to the aquifer or controlled application of *water* to the ground surface for the purpose of replenishing the aquifer to offset adverse effects resulting from net depletion of surface water. (HB831 Definition, Title 82, Chapter 2)
- *Mitigation* means the reallocation of **surface water or ground water** through a change in appropriation right or other means that does not result in surface water being introduced into an aquifer through aquifer recharge to offset adverse effects resulting from net depletion of surface water.

HB 831- New Section 19

- Aquifer Injection means the use of a well to inject water directly into an aquifer system without filtration through the geological material overlying the aquifer system for the purpose of *aquifer recharge* or for an *aquifer storage and recovery project*. (HB831, New Section 19, Title 75, Chapter 5).
- “Water Well” means an excavation that is drilled, cored, bored, washed, driven, dug, jetted, or otherwise constructed and intended for the location, diversion, artificial recharge, or acquisition of ground water (75-5-103(36), MCA).



Requirements for Aquifer Injection Wells (HB831)

1. Obtain a discharge permit (MPDES or GWPCS)
2. Minimum Treatment Requirements
40 CFR 133, and Level II Treatment
3. Meet Effluent Limits Imposed by HB831
Primary Drinking Water Standards (Title 75, Chapter 6), or
Nondegradation Requirements (75-5-303, MCA),
at the point of discharge (no mixing zone)

Secondary Treatment 40 CFR 133

Parameter	30-day Average (mg/L)	7-day Average (mg/L)	Percent Removal (%)
Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)	30	45	85
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	30	45	85
pH	6 to 9 S.U.		

Level II Treatment

Means a SWTS (subsurface wastewater treatment system) that: removes at least 60% of the total nitrogen as measured from the raw swage load to the system; or discharges a total nitrogen effluent concentration of 24 mg/L or less.

Effluent Limitations

Primary Drinking Water Standards, or
Nondegradation Requirements *at the point of discharge.*

Refer to Handout