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Issue: Use of Submersible Well Pumps in Bodies of Water

Background:

The 2016 Idaho Legislature enacted House Bill 634, and the Governor signed that bill on Tuesday, April 5, which changes the regulatory backdrop for the installation of submersible well pumps in lakes and other bodies of water in Idaho.

Policy:

Pending the results of negotiated rulemaking mandated in House Bill 643, the following interim provisions shall apply to installations of submersible well pumps in lakes, rivers, ponds, and streams in the state of Idaho, and shall supplement the requirements traditionally imposed on such installations:

Submersible well pumps may continue to be installed and utilized in the lakes, rivers, streams and ponds of Idaho subject to the following restrictions:

1. All submersible well pumps must be labeled and listed in compliance with UL778 or another approved standard.
2. Ground Fault Circuit Interruption or Ground Fault Protection for Equipment must be provided for the pump and wiring from the disconnecting means to the pump. GFCI protection shall be provided at the lowest practicable milliamp level and in no case shall that level exceed 30 milliamps.