FAQ continued

Q: What if my pumping capacity exceeds 70 GPM, but I only pump about 10,000 gallons per day? Do I still need to register?

A: Yes. The requirement for registration is based on the capacity of the pump, not the amount of water withdrawn. If the capacity of the pump meets or exceeds the 100,000 gallons per day capacity threshold, the facility must be registered as a SWWF.

Q: Besides registering as a SWWF, are there any additional permitting requirements for my facility?

A: SWWFs located within the Great Lakes Basin are subject to permitting of withdrawals in excess of thresholds established under Indiana’s implementation of the Great Lakes Compact. Information regarding the Compact can be found at: IN.gov/dnr/water/5216.htm. Also, for permanent intake structures constructed within a floodway, a permit may be required. Questions regarding construction in a floodway may be directed to the Technical Services section of the Division of Water at 317-232-4160 (option #1).

Q: How do I report my water use once I have registered?

A: Water use can be reported each year on forms provided by the DNR or online. The report of water use (either by paper or online) must be submitted to the DNR by March 31st of each subsequent year.
In accordance with Section 15 of IC 14-25-7-15, any ground water well or surface water intake that either individually or in aggregate is capable of pumping over 100,000 gallons of water per day (approximately 70 gallons per minute (GPM)) must be registered with the DNR as a Significant Water Withdrawal Facility (SWWF) and report water use on an annual basis. The DNR has collected water use data from registered SWWFs since 1985. The last three years of reported water use data is available on the Significant Water Withdrawal Facility Data page on the Division of Water website at the following link: IN.gov/dnr/water/4841.htm

**SWWF Program FAQs**

**Q: How do I register my well or surface water intake as a SWWF?**

A: The registration form is available for download on the Division of Water’s website IN.gov/dnr/water under the ‘Forms’ section. Or you can contact the Water Rights Section of the Division of Water at 317-234-1087 and a form can be provided.

**Q: How long do I have after I install a high-capacity well or surface water pump before I must register?**

A: A SWWF must be registered within three (3) months after the facility is completed.

**Q: Is there a limit on how much water I can withdraw?**

A: Generally, there is no limit on how much water a SWWF may pump. In the event of a severe drought, Indiana’s Water Shortage Plan provides a mechanism for voluntary and mandatory reductions of water use from registered SWWFs. Indiana’s Ground Water Rights Law also authorizes the IDNR to restrict ground water pumping by SWWFs if withdrawals are believed to exceed the recharge capability of the water resource. More information on Indiana’s Water Shortage Plan and the Ground Water Rights Law can be found at IN.gov/dnr/water/3124.htm and IN.gov/dnr/water/4849.htm, respectively.

**SWWF Locations**

Also available on the website is an interactive map showing the locations of currently registered facilities and their associated withdrawal sources. All points are color-coded based on the major water use code for the facility. The map allows the user to:

- zoom to a location to view SWWFs in an area
- ‘click’ on the points to view information about the facility (owner, pump capacity, etc.)
- view all wells and intakes registered on each

Map available at: http://www.in.gov/dnr/water/4841.htm

**Water Use Reporting**

Owners or operators of a SWWF are required to submit to the Division of Water an annual report of water withdrawn by the facility, due by March 31st of each subsequent year. The report may be submitted via a paper report form (provided by Division of Water) or online at the following link:

IN.gov/apps/dnr/dowos/Main.aspx