2004 was a very productive year. We licensed 20 new firms and approved 47 new operators. We now have over 90,000 well logs in the well log database and statistics indicate that a total of 4141 well logs have been received since January 1, 2004. A breakdown of the individual well types per quarter for the year is shown below.

After conducting several meetings with the Well Drillers and Pump Installers Advisory Council, the OWRB is proposing some minor rule changes this year. We appreciate assistance the Council provided during the revision period. The final public hearing will be held at the OWRB offices on February 4, 2005. Please feel free to contact me or attend this hearing if you have any questions or comments regarding the proposed changes. You can view the proposed changes on our website at: www.ogwa.biz/news.html

I would like to encourage everyone to attend one of the many scheduled workshops this spring and summer to obtain your required continuing education credits.

OGWA ANNOUNCES SPRING CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW

The Oklahoma Ground Water Association (OGWA) will host the 3rd annual, Spring Conference and Trade Show on March 10 - 11, 2005, at Francis Tuttle Technology Center, 12777 North Rockwell Avenue, Oklahoma City.

Registration and opening of the Exhibition Hall will begin at 7:00 a.m. on March 10, and the welcome and introductions will commence at 8:30 a.m. Concurrent educational sessions will begin at 9:00 a.m. The Exhibit Hall will again be open on Friday, March 11 with additional educational sessions held that day. A total of 16 hours of continuing education credits is available at this conference. For more information, contact:

Beth Vannoy, Executive Secretary
Oklahoma Ground Water Association
P.O. Box 58130
Oklahoma City, OK 73157
(888) 884-6492
exec.sec@ogwa.biz
OWRB PROPOSES RULE CHANGES FOR 2005

After receiving recommendations from the Well Drillers and Pump Installers Advisory Council, the OWRB has filed a notice of rule making intent with the Secretary of State for proposed rule changes for the 2005 legislative session. The proposed rule changes are summarized below:

(1) Allow the use of high solids bentonite grout as a sealing material for the lower portion of the surface seal for water well construction;

(2) Remove the 20 foot maximum depth requirement for unsaturated zone monitoring wells;

(3) Define high solids bentonite grout as being comprised of a minimum 20% solids by weight;

(4) Clarify the overdrilling rule for plugging monitoring wells to allow the options of removing or drilling out the casing prior to overdrilling and grouting.

The final public hearing for comments will be held on February 4, 2005, at the Oklahoma City offices of the OWRB. For further information on rule changes, contact Kent Wilkins at (405) 530-8800 or (918) 429-3605.

2005 Continuing Education Schedule

The Oklahoma Water Resources Board and the Oklahoma Ground Water Association (OGWA) have scheduled the following continuing education classes for 2005:

March 10-11, 2005
OGWA Conference and Trade Show
Francis Tuttle Tech Center
12777 N. Rockwell Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK

April 5, 2005, 8:30-12:30
OWRB Workshop
Tulsa Tech Center- Riverside Campus
801 East 91st Street
Tulsa, OK

April 7, 2005, 8:30-12:30
OWRB Workshop
High Plains Tech Center
3921 34th Street
Woodward, OK

April 12, 2005, 9:00-1:00
OWRB Workshop
Great Plains Tech Center
4500 SW Lee Blvd
Lawton, Ok

April 20, 2005, 8:30-12:30
OWRB Workshop
Kiamichi Tech Center
Kiamichi Drive
McAlester, OK

June 3, 2005, 8:30-12:30
OWRB Workshop
3800 N. Classen
OKC, OK

All licensees and certified operators are now required to obtain 8 hours of continuing education credit for each two-year period of renewal. For information contact Kent Wilkins at (405) 530-8800 or (918) 429-3605.