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 the rulemaking process mandated in House Bill 643 the following interim provisions shall apply to the installations of submersible well pumps employed in lakes, rivers, ponds, and streams in 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 provisions of article 682 shall apply to bodies of water where swimming and marine activities do not take place.
2. In bodies of water where swimming or marine activities take place all provisions of 682 excluding 682.10 relating to the specific use of pumps shall apply.
3. Submersible well pumps located in Idaho’s swimming and marine areas shall be considered directly connected.
4. In bodies of water where swimming or marine activities take place submersible well pumps shall be installed or repaired in accordance with, The Permanent Installation of Directly Connected Submersible Well Pumps in Bodies of Water, policy submitted to the Idaho Electrical board by a collaborative effort, dated 6/30/2016.