Mussey Township Geothermal Drainage Ordinance Ordinance Number 15

An ordinance to regulate the drainage of water occasioned by the installation of geothermal heating pumps.

Mussey Township Ordains:

Section 1. Intent

It is recognized that certain structures in the Township are being equipped with geothermal heat pumps. It is further recognized that geothermal heat pumps use groundwater which, if not properly drained, can cause excess wetness or flooding, resulting in undesirable conditions. It is the intent of this ordinance to regulate the design, installation and operation of these systems and provide standards for the location and management of water drainage caused by their operation.

Section 2, Sub Surface Drainage System (Closed Systems)

1. Owners of structures within the Township equipped with geothermal heat pumps must have a Closed System to properly maintain the water occasioned by the operation of the heat pumps.

2. A Closed System is defined as a system which relies on the contained circulation of fluids through an underground pipe circuit.

Section 3. Applications, Submittal and Review Procedures

1. All proposed geothermal heat pump systems shall be reviewed and approved in conformance with this ordinance and all applicable codes

2. The building inspector shall review all plans for geothermal heat pump systems in conjunction with the review and approval of building permits. All geothermal heat pump systems require a building permit.

3. Applications for sub-surface (closed loop) geothermal systems shall be accompanied by a site plan which details the design and location of the proposed system, including anticipated flow rates and infiltration rates.

Section 4. Liability

Owners of geothermal heat pump systems shall be liable for any damage caused by drainage of water from their systems.

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Section 5. Penalty.

Violation of this Ordinance shall be a misdemeanor which shall be punished upon conviction thereof by a fine not to exceed Five Hundred (\$500) Dollars and/or imprisonment not to exceed ninety (90) days.

Section 6. Effective Date, Adoption

1. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective on 4 - 18 - 97

2. Adoption. This Ordinance was adopted by the Mussey Township Board at meeting thereof held pts March 12, 1997.

Supervisor - Township of Mussey

Certification of Township Clerk

I, Sheila McDonald, Mussey Township Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Township Board at a regular meeting held on March 12, 1997 by the following vote:

Motion by Lauwers, Supported by Downey

Ayes: Randy Schultz, Sheila McDonald, Michael Lauwers, bruce Downey Nays: Absent: Barbara Ide

Motion carried.

Sheila McDonald - Mussey Township Clerk

Township Board ordered notice of adoption and summary to be published one time in the newspaper on 3/19,1997. A true and complete copy of the above ordinance may be purchased or inspected at the offices of the Township Clerk during regular Township business hours.