

Automobiles—Licenses.

An automobile truck upon which a well drilling outfit is permanently affixed and which is used to furnish the power for the drilling machine and to move the rig from one place to another constitutes a drilling rig and is not such a motor vehicle as is used primarily for purposes of traveling upon the

highways as contemplated by our statute and does not require an automobile or truck license.

Mr. K. W. MacPherson,
County Attorney,
Deer Lodge, Montana.

June 24, 1931.

My dear Mr. MacPherson:

You have requested my opinion whether a well drilling rig permanently fixed and mounted upon an old truck chassis in such a way that when it is necessary to move the rig from one drilling location to another the truck with the rig permanently attached is operated under its own power, the truck being used for no other purpose than for transporting the rig from one location to another, is the rig required to have a motor vehicle license on the truck?

You state that it is your opinion that such an outfit is in the same category as a steam shovel or traction engine, or any other construction machinery which moves under its own power, and is not such a motor vehicle as contemplated by our statute.

I agree with you in this connection as it is very evident from the facts stated that this is a drilling rig and not a motor truck, and is therefore not such a motor vehicle as is used primarily for purposes of traveling upon the highway.

Very truly yours,
L. A. FOOT,
Attorney General.