

PART III

WATER WELL MINIMUM CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

CHAPTER 1

PURPOSE

Section 1: Purpose and Scope.

(a) The State Engineer, having general supervision of the waters of the state, is authorized under Section 41-3-909 of the Wyoming Statutes to establish standards for construction of water wells to protect the use of the state's ground water resources. The enactment of federal and state environmental quality law and fostering of safe and clean water policy has prompted enhanced well head protection measures against contamination of ground water resources.

(b) Every well constructed or repaired with a withdrawal of well casing after the adoption of these standards must comply with them. Any deviation from these standards must be approved in writing by the State Engineer or his designee.

(c) It is the joint responsibility of the drilling and/or pump contractor(s) and well owners(s) to comply with these standards. Further, the well owner(s) must maintain a well in a condition so that it does not contribute to contamination (pollution) of the ground water supply.

(d) If compliance with these Water Well Minimum Construction Standards will not result in a well that is sufficiently sealed from either surface or subsurface contamination, then the drilling and/or pump contractor(s) and well owner(s) must use additional safeguards to protect the ground water supply and its users.

(e) Any waiver or variance to these Water Well Minimum Construction Standards can only be obtained by applying for the waiver or variance to the State Engineer in writing. The waiver or variance application shall state the nature of the waiver or variance and the reasons why the waiver or variance will not result in a well that will have a detrimental effect on the ground water resource.

(f) Other state and local regulations pertaining to well drilling and construction, ground water protection, and water quality regulations may exist that are either more stringent than these rules or that apply to a specific situation. It is the well driller's responsibility to understand and apply other regulations as applicable.

(g) Well owners and drillers are advised that local zoning ordinances or county board of health requirements may limit or restrict the actual well location, construction, and/or relationship to property/structure boundaries and existing or proposed concentrated sources of pollution or contamination such as septic tanks, drain fields, sewer lines, stock corrals, feed lots, etc., beyond the requirements of these standards.

PART III.

CHAPTER IV

CONSTRUCTION OF ALL WELLS

~~Section 1. Protection During Construction. During any well construction or modification, the well and surrounding area must be adequately protected to prevent any ground water contamination. Surface water must be diverted away from the construction area.~~

~~Section 2. Construction of Dug Wells Standard Type.~~

~~a. Every dug well, other than the buried slab type, shall be constructed with a substantial watertight surface curbing of concrete, brick, tile or metal, extending from the aquifer to above the ground surface. (See Figure 1A on page 15.) Concrete grout, at least 6 inches thick, shall be placed between the excavated hole and the curbing for a minimum depth of 10 feet or to the bottom of the hole, whichever is less.~~

~~b. The well lining in the producing zone shall readily admit water, and shall be structurally sound to withstand external pressures.~~

~~c. The well cover or platform shall be watertight reinforced concrete with a minimum thickness of 4 inches. The top of the platform shall be sloped to drain to all sides. The platform shall rest on and overlap the well curbing by at least 2 inches, or it may be cast with the curbing or with the concrete grout. Adequately sized pipe sleeve or sleeves shall be cast in place in the platform to accommodate the type of pump, pump piping or wiring proposed for the well. (See Figure 1A on page 15.)~~

~~Section 3. Construction of Dug Wells Buried Slab Type. A buried slab type of construction may be used if the dug well is greater than 10 feet deep. (See Figure 1B on page 15.) The well lining shall be terminated a minimum of 10 feet below the original ground surface. A steel reinforced concrete slab or platform, at least 4 inches thick, shall rest on and overlap the lining. A standard unperforated well casing shall extend from the concrete slab to at least 12 inches (1 foot) above the original ground surface. This casing shall be firmly embedded in the slab or connected to a pipe cast in the slab to insure that the connection is watertight. The excavation above the slab shall be back filled with a bentonite slurry or clean earth thoroughly tamped to minimize settling.~~

~~Section 4. Construction of Drilled, Driven, Jetted or Bored Wells.~~

~~a. A drilled well may be constructed through an existing dug well provided that unperforated casing extends to at least 12 inches (1 foot) above the original ground surface. A seal of concrete, at least 2 feet thick, shall be placed in the bottom of the dug well so as to prevent the direct movement of water from the dug well into the drilled well. The original dug well shall be adequately protected from contamination as described above. The drilled well shall be completed as described below.~~

PART III.

- ~~b. Every drilled, driven, jetted, or bored well shall have unperforated casing that extends from a minimum of 12 inches (1 foot) above ground surface to at least 10 inches below ground surface. In unconsolidated formations, this casing shall extend to the water table or below. (See Figure 2B on page 16.)~~
- ~~c. Casing, liners, and screens shall be of new or new like material, free of pits and breaks. Casing shall be adequate strength and durability to protect the well against structural failures during construction and against entrance of pollutants during the expected life of the well. Casing shall be corrosion resistant to water from inside and outside the casing. Used oil field casing is acceptable only if it is clean and in good condition. Plastic and other nonmetal casing may be used when it is of the nontoxic type and has the physical properties to withstand the torque and load to which it is subjected.~~
- ~~d. All joints connecting casing shall be watertight. Metal pipe must be welded or joined with threaded couplings. Plastic pipe may be glued using pipe couplers, provided that the seals are watertight and durable.~~
- ~~e. If a reduction in casing diameter is made, there shall be adequate overlap of the casing to prevent misalignment and to prevent the movement of unstable sediment into the well. Where needed to prevent the migration of mineralized, polluted, or otherwise inferior quality water, lead or neoprene packers shall be installed so as to seal the annular space between the casings.~~
- ~~f. Well casing shall be sealed to prevent the possible downward movement of polluted surface water or the upward movement of artesian water through the annular space around the well casing. Sealing also shall be used to prevent the movement of inferior quality water either upward or downward from zones that have been cased out of the well. (See Figures 2 and 4 on page 16 and 18.)~~
- ~~g. If a well drilled into an aquifer overlain by unconsolidated formations consisting of sand or sand and gravel, unperforated casing shall extend at least to the water table. The annular opening around the casing shall be filled with neat cement grout or concrete grout to a depth of at least 10 feet. All grout shall be flushed or tamped into place in such a manner as to minimize voids. (See Figure 2A on page 16.) Isolated stock water wells may be sealed with bentonite slurry or heavy drilling mud in place of cement grout or concrete.~~
- ~~h. Wells drilled into or through glacial materials in which the sealing procedure above will not adequately protect the well and the ground water supply from contamination, shall be completed by alternate methods that will insure the required protection.~~
- ~~i. In a well drilled into an aquifer overlain by unconsolidated~~

PART III.

~~formations containing appreciable watertight clay layers, unperforated casing shall extend to and be driven at least 5 feet into a clay layer overlying the aquifer. The annular space around the casing shall be filled with cement grout or concrete to the impervious zone or for 10 feet, whichever distance is greater. Isolated stock water wells may be sealed with bentonite slurry or heavy drilling mud in place of cement grout or concrete.~~

~~j. In a well drilled into an aquifer overlain by consolidated formations, unperforated casing shall be installed so that it extends into the consolidated formation or for 10 feet, whichever distance is greater. The bottom of the casing shall be sealed into the rock with neat cement or cement grout. (See Figure 2B on page 16.) Isolated stock water wells may be sealed with bentonite slurry or heavy drilling mud in place of cement grout or concrete.~~

~~k. Where a pitless adaptor unit is to be installed in a well, the concrete or cement grout must extend from a minimum of 10 feet below the ground surface to just below the base of the pitless adaptor. After installation of the pitless unit, the area around the casing shall be backfilled to ground level with clean earth, bentonite slurry, or cement grout.~~

~~Section 5. Water Level or Pressure Measuring Device Required. Every well greater than 4 inches in diameter shall be equipped with an access port, not less than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter, that will allow for the measurement of the depth to water surface; or in case of a flowing artesian well, with a pressure gauge that will indicate shut-in pressure. (See Figure 5 on page 19.) Nonflowing domestic and stock wells that are to be equipped with a sanitary well seal with a built-in access port, are exempt from this requirement. An air line is not a satisfactory substitution for an access port.~~

~~Section 6. Discharge Measuring Device Required. Every municipal, industrial, irrigation and miscellaneous well shall be equipped with at least one of the following types of measuring devices:~~

~~a. Open Discharge Systems.~~

~~(1) A meter capable of measuring total well discharge.~~

~~(2) An opening in the system where the total well discharge can be measured.~~

~~b. Pressurized Discharge Systems.~~

~~(1) A meter capable of measuring total well discharge.~~

~~(2) An access port readily accessible from the ground surface and located in such a manner that no constriction, elbows, etc., are present for a distance of at least eight (8) pipe diameters immediately before and also after the access port. (Example: A 6-inch diameter~~

PART III.

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PART III.

~~pipe would require 48 linear inches free from elbows, constrictions, etc., immediately before and after the point of installation). The construction of the access port shall be as follows:~~

- ~~———— (a) ——— Determine point of installation. NOTE: Remember distance requirements.~~
- ~~———— (b) ——— Weld or braze a ¾ inch internally threaded pipe coupling or other suitable fixture to the outside of the discharge pipe. The threads must be standard, tapered pipe threads.~~
- ~~———— (c) ——— The portion of the discharge pipe enclosed by the coupling or other fixture shall then be removed with an acetylene torch or some other appropriate device, in such a manner so as to allow the insertion of a ½ inch measuring device into the discharge pipe.~~
- ~~———— (d) ——— The access port shall then be closed with a ¾ inch removable, internal plug until such time as discharge measurements are made.~~

~~NOTE: Any questions regarding specifications for access port installations are to be directed to the Ground Water Section, State Engineer's Office, State Office Building, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002.~~

PART III.

CHAPTER 4

WELL COMPLETION AND MAINTENANCE

Section 1: Disinfection.

(a) Each person who repairs, modifies, works on, or otherwise affects the physical components of a well shall clean and disinfect the pump, electrical wiring and controls, drop pipe, and all other equipment each and every time the pump, electrical wiring and controls, drop pipe, and other equipment is placed into the well. In addition, each person (or crew) who performs the above tasks shall maintain at all times on every well site, adequate chlorine compounds to disinfect the well in accordance with the table found in Appendix A.

(b) The well driller shall:

(i) Clean all casing, tools, drilling equipment, and materials prior to beginning the drilling and construction of every well.

(ii) Clean all pumping equipment and well construction materials (including sand or gravel used in an artificial filter-packed well) before placing them in the well or borehole.

(iii) Ensure that only potable water is used for drilling and for mixing of sealing material.

(c) The pump installer shall:

(i) Clean all pumping, wiring, and other equipment prior to placement in the well.

(ii) Clean all materials that may come in contact with down-hole equipment.

(d) All wells used for drinking or sanitary use shall be disinfected after construction, reconditioning, or repair (e.g., submersible pump replacement) and before the well is placed into, or returned to, service.

(i) Following drilling:

(A) If calcium hypochlorite is used, it shall be slowly poured down the casing and at least 30 minutes shall pass to allow the tablets to fall through the water and dissolve.

(B) If sodium hypochlorite is used, the solution must reach all parts of the well. To accomplish this, a tube shall be suspended through the well casing so that it

PART III.

reaches the bottom of the well. After it reaches the well bottom, it shall be withdrawn as the sodium hypochlorite solution is pumped through the tube.

(C) After the chlorine has been applied, the well shall be surged at least three times to improve the mixing and induce contact of the chlorinated water with the adjacent aquifer.

(ii) Following pump installation:

(A) Chlorine shall be introduced so that an average chlorine residual of 100 mg/l is in the entire volume of water in the casing and all parts of the plumbing system (pump, drop-pipe, wiring, pitless assembly, etc.) for a minimum contact period of not less than two (2) hours (overnight is preferable) before flushing and ridding the chlorine solution from the well.

(iii) See Appendix A for mixing proportions. Chlorine compounds intended for home laundry use, pool, or fountain use should not be used if they contain additives such as antifungal agents, scents, etc.

Section 2: Spring Developments.

(a) “W.S. §41-3-902. **Spring waters; perfection of right to use; limitation.** All springs and spring waters where the yield does not exceed twenty-five (25) gallons per minute and where the use is for domestic or stock purposes only, shall be considered as groundwater. Perfection of the right to use spring water up to twenty-five (25) gallons per minute for domestic and stock use shall be made in accordance with the laws pertaining to groundwater”

(b) Developed spring flow that is 25 gallons per minute or less and is utilized for stock and/or domestic use is to be permitted with the State Engineer underground water permitting procedures. Developed spring flow in excess of 25 gallons per minute, or for uses other than domestic or stock watering, must be permitted under State Engineer’s Office surface water permitting procedures. For the purposes of water right permitting, springs or seeps shall be improved or perfected by some artificial means of collection and/or conveyance. Springs with no artificial means of collection and/or conveyance cannot be claimed nor permitted under State of Wyoming water laws. Accepted means of spring development can range from simple piping to an impoundment, to spring box collection and associated delivery systems. If the spring is a domestic source of drinking water, setback allowances from contaminant sources should be employed the same as for well siting and protection for entrance of animals or other foreign material shall be provided.

Section 3: Water Well Rehabilitation.

(a) When a water well is to be rehabilitated to increase efficiency, all equipment used shall be clean and as sterile as possible to prevent well to well or well to

PART III.

aquifer cross-contamination. All chemical or biological agents to be introduced into a well shall meet ASTM, API, NSF and/or AWWA standards approved for the application of well rehabilitation. Physical rehabilitation of the well including jetting, scrubbing, bailing, etc. shall be performed in a manner that does not compromise the integrity of the well casing materials, filter pack, and grout materials. When acidizing or flocculating agents are pumped or removed from a well, it may be necessary to obtain clearance from the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality – Water Quality Division (WDEQ-WQD) for the surface discharge of these agents.

(b) If, in the repair of a well, the old casing is withdrawn, the well shall be recased in conformance with these rules.

(c) If a liner is installed to prevent leakage of undesirable water into a well, the annular space between the casing and liner shall be completely sealed by packers, casing swedging, pressure grouting, or other methods which will prevent the movement of water between the casing and liner.

Section 4: Water Well Plugging and Abandonment.

(a) When a well is temporarily removed from service, it shall be kept in a state of good repair. The top of the well casing shall be sealed with a secure watertight cap that will prevent tampering and entrance of contaminants, animals, or debris.

(b) The well owner is responsible to ensure that any well (including any test well or replaced well) which is permanently abandoned or removed from service shall be entirely plugged to prevent contamination from the surface or any other source and to remove any further hazard potential that an unused well or abandoned drill hole might pose. All pumps, pipe, wiring, caps, and other obstructions/debris that may interfere with adequate plugging operations shall be removed from the well. Suitable cement-based mixtures or bentonite mixtures shall be used for grouting material. If a well is permitted under DEQ-WQD rules, those rules may be consulted for abandonment procedures. For all other wells, an abandoned well shall be plugged by one of the following methods in accordance with type of well completion and subsurface geologic and /or hydrostatic conditions:

(i) Dug wells or excavations [Type I Wells, see Section 6(a)(i)] exposing the shallow water table shall be filled to static water level with clean fill such as gravel or sand. The remaining hole is to be filled with bentonite to 2-feet below ground surface. The remaining 2 feet shall be filled with native soil and mounded slightly at the top to allow for settling.

(ii) If possible, casing shall be removed from Type II Wells [See Section 6(a)(ii)] prior to plugging procedures. Cased or uncased wells in unconsolidated formations shall be destroyed by placement of clean fill, such as gravel or sand, opposite the completed (screened, perforated interval) or water bearing zone and then grouting to the surface. The upper surface portion of the cased well must be cut off a minimum of 18

PART III.

inches below ground level and the area back-filled with enough clean soil material to allow for settling.

(iii) Type III, gravel pack wells [See Section 6(a)(iii)] shall be grouted from bottom to top in order to accomplish a complete seal. Grout slurries shall not be poured from the land surface through a column of water. In order to place the grout in wells with water columns, it shall be pumped via tremie pipe by positive displacement or similar method (pressure grouted) from the bottom of the well to a sufficient elevation such that an uninterrupted seal may be emplaced to the land surface. The upper surface portion of the cased well must be cut off a minimum of 18 inches below ground level and the area back-filled with enough clean soil material to allow for settling.

(iv) Plugging of open-hole completed wells [Type IV Wells, see Section 6(a)(iv)] shall consist of grouting the entire well. Necessary pressure grouting procedures shall be utilized to permanently seal off flow and/or pressure of the artesian aquifer such that surface or subsurface leakage will not occur.

(v) Type V Wells [see Section 6(a)(v)] shall be decommissioned in the same manner as that prescribed for Type III Wells.

(vi) Type I, II, or III wells may alternately be grouted from bottom to top with bentonite grout to create a complete seal.

(c) If there is any question of proper procedure for extraordinary plugging/abandonment conditions, the State Engineer's Office, Ground Water Division must be consulted for instruction before commencement of plugging activities.

(d) Upon completion of plugging and abandonment of a water well, the well owner shall report the date and method of abandonment to the State Engineer's Office, Ground Water Division with reference to the State Engineer permit number issued for the well and the well location.

Section 5: Water Quality.

(a) The State Engineer recommends that a water quality sample be collected after well construction and aquifer testing is complete. The sample should be collected in an acceptable manner and container and submitted to a qualified laboratory for chemical and/or biological analysis. Additionally, the State Engineer recommends that water quality samples be collected and analyzed at periodic intervals during the life of the well for both chemical constituents and biological materials.

(b) If the water well is to be developed for human consumption serving fifteen (15) or more service connections, or twenty-five (25) or more persons, for sixty (60) days or more a year, regulations developed under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act apply. Specific requirements of the Act are available from the Water Supply Section Region VIII, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1595 Wynkoop St. Denver, CO 80202.

PART III.

The provisions of Chapters 3, 11 and 12 of the Wyoming Water Quality Rules and Regulations also apply. You are advised that plans and specifications covering the proposed construction, installation, or modification of any public water supply system designed for this purpose are required to be submitted to and a permit to construct obtained prior to the start of construction from, the WDEQ-WQD, Herschler Building – 4W, Cheyenne, WY 82002; phone number: 307-777-7781.

PART III.

CHAPTER III.

LOCATION OF WELLS

~~Section 1. General Considerations. Every well shall be located with due consideration to the contour of the land, porosity and absorbency of the soil, distance to sources of potential pollution, local ground water conditions, and the uses of the water from the well. Every well shall be protected against surface wash and flooding.~~

~~Section 2. Relation to Sources of Pollution.~~

~~a. Every well shall be located the minimum lateral distance from any of the common sources of pollution listed below:~~

Source of Pollution	Minimum Distance to Well
Cast iron Sewer	20 feet
Other Sewer	50 feet
Septic Tank	50 feet
Disposal Field	100 feet
Seepage Pit	100 feet
Cesspool	100 feet

~~b. Although no specific minimum distances have been established from other possible sources of contamination, such as streams, refuse disposal sites, excavations, waste treatment facilities, buried oil and gasoline storage tanks, or improperly constructed wells and cisterns, their potential hazards should not be ignored.~~

~~Section 3. Relation to Buildings.~~

~~a. When a well is adjacent to a building, it shall be so located as to be accessible for such attention as may be necessary. The well shall be located so that the center line, extended vertically, will clear any projection from the building by not less than 3 feet, and well clear any power line by not less than 10 feet.~~

~~b. When a well is to be located inside a building, the top of the casing and any other well opening shall not terminate in the basement of the building, or in any pit or space that is below natural ground surface unless the well is completed with a properly protected submersible pump.~~

PART III.

~~Section 4. Relation to Property Lines. Every well shall be located at least 10 feet from any property line.~~ **CHAPTER 3**

WELL CONSTRUCTION

Section 1: Water Well Siting.

(a) General Considerations.

(i) All wells shall be sited and constructed in such a manner that the well does not act as a conduit for the transmission of contaminants from either above or below ground to the ground water resource. All restriction and setback distances contained in this section are intended for production wells and do not necessarily apply (but does not constitute exemption) to choice of location for monitor wells, test wells, dewatering wells, recovery wells, or oil and/or gas wells which produce by-product water.

(b) Relation to Land Surface.

(i) Water wells shall be located such that there is adequate surface drainage away from the well and situated such that the well is easily accessed for repairs, maintenance, and inspection. For all wells, the top of the casing shall extend at least 18 inches above the finished land surface grade. Well casing may not be terminated at or near the base of underground well vaults or placed in basements. In the special case of ground water monitor wells constructed flush with the land surface, the wells shall be capped with an impact-resistant and water-proof cap.

(c) Relation to Property Lines.

(i) Every well shall be located at least 10 lateral feet from any property line or boundary.

(d) Relation to Buildings, Structures and Overhead Obstructions.

(i) When a well is proposed to be located adjacent to a building or any other standing structure, it shall be placed to be as accessible as may be necessary. The well shall be placed such that the building or any overhead projection from the building will not be within a 10-foot radius of the surface casing. The well owner is responsible for maintaining adequate spacing and access following construction.

(ii) Where overhead utility lines or other overhead obstructions are present, minimum distances from all equipment shall be maintained in accordance with OSHA standards.

(e) Setback Distances from Contaminant Sources.

PART III.

(i) Water wells shall be located the minimum lateral distance from any

<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>MINIMUM DISTANCE TO WELL</u>
<u>Livestock Containment Pens</u>	<u>50 feet</u>
<u>Livestock Sewage Lagoons</u>	<u>50 feet</u>
<u>Sewer</u>	<u>50 feet</u>
<u>Septic Tank</u>	<u>50 feet</u>
<u>Disposal (Leach) Field</u>	<u>100 feet</u>

common pollutant sources listed below:

(ii) Beyond minimum distances, an attempt shall be made to locate the well upgradient from contaminant sources.

Section 2: Water Well Construction.

(a) The driller or person/entity engaged in construction of a water well shall have in their possession, at the well site, a copy of the approved permit or the permit number.

(b) Knowledge of the properties and depth of the producing aquifer zone, the nature of the overlying formations, and the proposed use of the well will dictate the type of construction required. The following described well types are established:

(i) Type I – Dug Wells – Dug wells are excavations that penetrate from the ground surface down to the first-encountered aquifer. Dug wells are usually simple pits, elongate trenches, or large diameter, lined shafts constructed by hand or using excavating machinery (e.g., a backhoe). A typical construction diagram for Type I wells is illustrated in Appendix C-1.

(ii) Type II – Natural Filter Wells – Natural Filter Wells are constructed to obtain water at various depths from unconsolidated alluvial/colluvial deposits or severely weathered rock material that can be effectively stabilized and developed after placement of perforated casing or well screen. Wells of this type are usually completed into an unconfined aquifer (confined, perched conditions may be encountered) and may be dug or constructed by jetting, boring, driving, drilling, or a combination of methods. Horizontal wells that drain water from very coarse sand and gravel-sized material and often located near streams are considered Natural Filter Wells. A typical construction diagram for Type II wells is illustrated in Appendix C-2.

PART III.

(iii) Type III - Artificial Filter Wells – Artificial Filter Wells are also referred to as “gravel pack,” “sand pack,” or “filter pack” wells. This type of well is designed to obtain water from unconsolidated to poorly consolidated deposits or bedrock formations by placing filter pack in the annulus, opposite the completion interval. The filter pack (or material contained in “channel pack” well screen) acts as a formation stabilizer, a filter to prevent fine-grained material from entering the well, and also serves to increase the yield of the well. This type of well is constructed by boring or drilling. A typical construction diagram for Type III wells is illustrated in Appendix C-3.

(iv) Type IV – Partially-Cased Open Borehole Wells – Partially-Cased Open Borehole Wells are also referred to as “open-hole” wells. This type of well is designed to obtain water from consolidated formations that are stable enough to preclude the need for perforated casing or well screen. Overlying formations, however, are cased and sealed to prevent caving and cross-connection of water from vertically separate aquifers. Flowing wells are commonly the result of this type of well construction when head elevation is greater than ground surface elevation. A typical construction diagram for Type IV wells is illustrated in Appendix C-4.

(v) Type V – Fully-Cased Wells – Fully-Cased Wells are drilled to produce water from an aquifer containing multiple water-bearing intervals. Water production is achieved by screening and/or perforating opposite one or more of the most viable water-producing aquifer zones. Overlying formations are cemented or grouted off to prevent caving and aquifer cross-connection. Wells of this type are usually drilled relatively deep and generally intercept aquifers under confined conditions. A typical construction diagram for Type IV wells is illustrated in Appendix C-5.

(vi) Type VI – Conversion of Existing Oil or Gas Wells, or Exploration Test Wells into Water Wells.

(A) Existing oil and gas wells, seismic test holes, or mineral exploration holes may be converted for use as water wells, provided that the wells can be completed to conform to minimum construction standards cited herein.

(B) Information on geologic conditions encountered in the well at the time of the original well drilling shall be used to determine what special construction standards shall be met in order to eliminate all movement of pollutants into the well or along the annular space. If no original geologic information is available, a specified borehole log suite may be required to supplement known information.

(C) A permit to appropriate ground water must be obtained from the State Engineer prior to commencing construction of the well.

(D) Before any oil or gas exploration hole or well is converted for use as a water well, the Wyoming Oil & Gas Conservation Commission should be contacted in order to comply with that Commission’s regulations.

PART III.

(c) Annulus.

(i) If a fill pipe for gravel is installed, the diameter of the well bore must be four (4) inches larger than the largest diameter of the casing plus the largest diameter of the fill pipe for gravel. A fill pipe for gravel or any other pipe to provide access to the interior of the well bore must be completely surrounded by the seal.

(ii) All wells shall be constructed with at least a 2-inch annular space surrounding the outermost casing and extending not less than 20-feet below ground surface.

(d) Casing.

(i) Casing, surface casing (conductor pipe), liners, and screens shall be of new or new-like contaminant-free material and free of pits, cracks, breaks, and corrosion. All pipe, casing, couplings, and screen must meet applicable ASTM, API, NSF, and/or AWWA standards. Casing shall be of adequate strength and durability to protect the well against structural failures during construction and use and protect against the entrance of contaminants during the expected life of the well.

(ii) All casing shall be selected in accordance with the design of the well, depth of the well, and conditions at the well site. The most common casing materials allowed for use are carbon-steel and thermoplastic (PVC). Less common casing materials such as pre-cast concrete, fiberglass, stainless steel, aluminum, various alloy and non-ferrous metal casing types are allowable where use/conditions dictate and steel or plastic cannot be used. Choice of casing material, diameter, and wall thickness shall be based on:

(A) Maximum Pumping Rate and Flow Capacity Over the Life of the Well: The production casing shall be greater than or equal to one nominal size larger than the down-hole pump assembly.

(B) Geology and Aquifer Conditions: Where multiple casings are warranted (surface casing, liners, screens, etc.), provisions shall be incorporated to prevent misalignment, to seal/secure the annulus between casings, and to prevent or secure from borehole caving.

(C) Installation Method: Difficulty in handling and load strength must be considered for various well designs, depths of drilling, specific geologic conditions, and grouting requirements. Re-entered wells (e.g., for liner placement or plugging back and completing abandoned oil and gas test wells) should be assessed for competency of the existing casing.

(D) Plumbness and Alignment: A well shall drift off plumb no more than one degree per 100 feet of borehole. The alignment shall allow a 40-foot long section of pipe, 1/2-inch less than the inside diameter of the casing, to pass freely from the top of the casing through anticipated pump setting depth.

PART III.

(E) Water Quality: The effects of formation waters that may cause corrosion, cross-connection of vertically separate aquifers, bacterial growth, surface water influx, etc., shall be avoided by proper casing selection and installation.

(F) Well Devices: Decisions on casing material and dimensions also depend on outfitting of the well which may include choice of pumps, motors, wiring, transducers, sampling tools, floats, adapters, airline, caps, seals, etc.

(iii) All casing types must achieve watertight connections according to directions from the manufacturer.

(A) Metal pipe must be welded or joined with threaded couplings. If the joints are welded, the weld shall be made using welding rods of equal quality to the most noble metal, shall be at least as thick as the wall thickness of the well casing, and shall be fully penetrating. Spot welding of joints is prohibited.

(B) PVC pipe may be glued, flush joint thread and coupled, or spline-lock coupled.

(C) All solvents, pipe dope, and glue must be NSF approved or an acceptable equivalent. Rivets or screws used in the casing joints shall not penetrate the inside of the casing.

(iv) Casing shall be installed in accordance with the drilling method used, borehole condition, formation characteristics, and comprehensive/tensile strength of the casing material. Only steel casing, equipped with proper drive shoe or drive point, can be used if the casing is to be installed by jacking or driving. PVC casing shall be installed only in an oversized drilled hole without driving. PVC casing shall conform to industry standards and shall be manufactured for the purpose of water well casing.

(v) Casing made of, or which has been exposed to, hazardous or potentially harmful materials, such as asbestos, shall not be used.

(e) Lost Circulation Material.

(i) The introduction of lost circulation materials (LCMs) shall be limited to those products which will not present a potential medium for bacterial growth or contamination. Only LCMs which are non-organic and can be safely broken down and removed from the borehole may be utilized. Cottonseed hulls, shredded newspaper, or cedar chips are examples of LCMs which are not allowed.

(f) Well Completion.

(i) Well completion refers to the method employed to allow water to enter the well from one aquifer. This is accomplished via perforations in the casing or well screens set adjacent to water-bearing intervals or by allowing water to enter the well

PART III.

through the open bottom of the casing. Multiple completions, or wells completed into two or more vertically separate aquifers, are not allowed

(A) The well driller shall:

(I) Install well screens constructed of material which is compatible with adjoining casing and is corrosion resistant.

(II) Install well screens or well intakes that prevent the continued production of sand, silt, or turbid water.

(III) Not install screen or perforated casing within the zone of maximum dynamic pumping level to prevent cascading water, except in the case of monitor wells, recovery wells or test wells.

(B) Type II and III wells shall be constructed with well screen (as defined in Chapter 2) commercially manufactured for the purpose of well construction and sized appropriately for the grain size of the aquifer materials to be developed by the well.

(g) Filter Pack.

Filter pack (or gravel pack) material shall consist of clean, well-rounded, chemically stable grains that are smooth and uniform. The filter material should not contain more than 2% by weight of thin, flat, or elongated pieces and should not contain organic impurities or contaminants of any kind. Type III Wells should be gravel (filter) packed opposite the perforated or screened zone(s) and no more than five (5) feet above the zone(s). The interval above the gravel pack must be sealed, as described in these rules, to prevent fluid cross-contamination from the surface or from a shallow aquifer.

(i) All filter material shall be placed using a method that through common usage has been shown to minimize bridging of the material between the borehole and the casing and excessive segregation of the material after it has been introduced into the annulus and before it settles into place.

(ii) It is not acceptable to place filter material by pouring from the ground surface unless proper sounding devices are utilized to measure dynamic filter depth, evaluate pour rate, and minimize bridging and formation of voids.

(h) Well Sealing/Grouting.

(i) Well casing shall be sealed to prevent vertical movement or leakage of fluid in the annular space between casing and borehole wall. Non-Slurry bentonite grouts must be in place before significant hydration occurs. Plans for well construction shall include allowances for maximum effective emplacement of grout as a seal to protect the

PART III.

source aquifer and/or assure structural integrity of the entire cased well. Well cuttings are not allowed to be used as grout, filler, or aggregate material for well sealing.

(ii) Selection of grouting material shall meet the technical requirements for making a proper seal. Grout products shall meet applicable ASTM, API, NSF, AWWA, or other recognized industry standards. Grout shall be prepared according to manufacturer's directions and shall be mixed as engineered for specific site requirements. Water wells permitted under the DEQ-WQD may alternately use any grout mixture specified by DEQ-WQD. For all other wells, the following are approved grout materials:

(A) Neat Cement Grout Slurry must consist of a mixture of Portland Cement and not more than 6 gallons of clean water per bag (1 cubic foot or 94 pounds) of cement.

(B) Sand Cement Grout Slurry must consist of a mixture of Portland Cement, sand, and water in the proportion of not more than 1 part by weight of sand to 1 part of cement with not more than 6 gallons of clean water per bag of cement (1 cubic foot or 94 pounds).

(C) Concrete Grout Slurry must consist of a mixture of Portland Cement, sand and gravel aggregate, and water in the proportion of at least 1 part by weight of aggregate to 1 part of cement with not more than 6 gallons of clean water per bag of cement.

(D) Nonslurry Bentonite Grout must consist of chipped or pelletized bentonite varieties that are hydrated to manufacturer's specifications.

(E) Cement/Bentonite Grout Slurry must consist of a mixture of cement and bentonite in the proportion of not more than 6.5 gallons of water and 3 to 5 pounds of powdered bentonite per 94-pound sack of Portland cement.

(F) Bentonite Grout Slurry means an inorganic mixture of a minimum 20% by weight solids bentonite, with polymers, water, or other additives for the yield/rate control, which forms a low permeability seal (not greater than 1×10^{-7} cm/sec), and is mixed to the manufacturer's specifications.

(iii) All wells shall have an annular surface seal of grout extending not less than 20 feet below ground surface or to useable water below ground surface. The surface seal must be placed in at least a 2-inch annular space. The completed surface seal must fully surround the outermost casing, be evenly distributed, and be free of voids.

(A) If a temporary surface casing is utilized, the surface casing shall be removed in conjunction with the placement of the seal. Alternatively, conductor casing may be sealed permanently in place to a depth of at least 20 feet with a minimum 2-inch annular seal between the largest outside diameter of the surface casing and borehole wall. If the temporary surface casing is to be removed, the surface casing shall

PART III.

be withdrawn as sealing material is placed between the outermost permanent well casing and borehole wall. The sealing material shall be kept at a sufficient height above the bottom of the temporary surface casing as it is withdrawn, to prevent caving of the borehole wall.

(iv) Type I wells, as defined in this section, (b)(i), shall be constructed with a watertight curbing extending, at a minimum, from 18 inches above the natural ground level to the static water level. The curbing shall consist of poured cement grout or casing surrounded by cement grout. Concrete block with cement grout and rock with cement grout may also be used. The poured cement grout shall not be less than 6-inches thick. If casing is to be used, the minimum annular space between the casing and the borehole shall be three inches. A typical construction diagram for Type I wells is illustrated in Appendix C-1.

(v) Type III Wells, as defined in this section, (b)(iii), shall be grouted from immediately above the gravel packed interval and shall terminate at the ground surface or at the base of a pitless adaptor. The seal shall close off all zones above the gravel-packed interval. If a gravel tube is installed, it shall be sealed with a water-tight cap. A typical construction diagram for Type III wells is illustrated in Appendix C-3.

(vi) Type IV Wells, as defined in this section, (b)(iv), shall have the entire production casing string grouted from bottom to top before well completion. The well shall be drilled and cased at least 10 feet into the upper portion of the target aquifer. If permeability factors or hydrostatic conditions in the target aquifer will jeopardize a successful grout job, then the well shall be drilled, cased and cemented into the first overlying formation which will provide for secure sealing and completion. According to W.S. §41-3-909 (a)(vii), flowing and non-flowing wells are required to be "...constructed and maintained as to prevent the waste of underground water either above or below the land surface." Grouting shall be accomplished by either one or several methods in which grout is pumped directly in the annulus (by tremie or grout pipe) or circulated to the annulus by positive displacement from inside the casing. Before grouting, clean water or other suitable drilling fluid mixture shall be circulated to clear the borehole and provide conditions for optimal bonding. Engineered grout volume calculations must include an excess allowance (e.g. 25%, 50%, 100%, etc.) for losses in the subsurface. It is allowed to introduce cement or concrete (e.g. Redi-Mix) from the land surface to finish a grout job so long as a complete seal is attained. A cement bond log of the well may be required to assure that an adequate seal was set in place. If leaks occur around the well casing or adjacent to the well, the driller shall complete the well with seals, packers, and/or grout to eliminate the leak. A typical construction diagram for Type IV wells is illustrated in Appendix C-4.

(vii) Type V Wells, as defined in this section, (b)(v), shall be grouted from the ground surface or the base of the pitless adaptor to the bottom of the casing. A typical construction diagram for Type IV wells is illustrated in Appendix C-5.

PART III.

(i) Well Development – Following construction, all wells shall be cleaned and developed to remove drilling fluids, drill cuttings, and other foreign materials. Proper well development functions to establish the best hydraulic connection between the well and the source aquifer. The well driller shall develop every new well until the produced water does not contain appreciable amounts of sand, silt, or turbidity. Chemicals used as development aids such as agents used in acid fracturing, carbon dioxide (CO₂) injection, formation deflocculation treatment, etc., are also allowed; however, notification to WDEQ-WQD is required prior to application or introduction of a foreign substance into a well that is a public water supply source.

Section 3: Water Well Equipping.

(a) All new and old wells (including hand-dug) shall be capped or sealed so that they do not present a hazard and to prevent the unintended entry of contaminant matter, surface water, animals, or foreign objects, by utilizing either a welded plate or a sanitary well cap. All vents installed in the well casing shall open downward and be screened to prevent the entrance of foreign material. Wells shall be equipped with a minimum ½-inch diameter access port for water level and drawdown measurement (unless a flowing well).

(b) Pitless Adapters.

(i) Pitless adapters must be designed and constructed to be water tight and to prevent contamination of the ground water resource and any potable water. Pitless adapters must be compatible with the casing material. The driller or pump installer shall ensure that the pump and column weight do not exceed the casing strength.

(ii) Where a pitless adapter is to be installed, the grout seal must extend from the pitless unit to at least 20-feet below the ground surface (or to useable water below ground surface). The area around the pitless unit and surface string may be filled with bentonite or clean earth to grade level.

(iii) The components of a pitless adapter must allow sufficient clearance for the insertion and removal of the down-hole pumping assembly.

(c) Pumps and Pumping Equipment.

(i) Special care must be exercised when replacing a pump because bacteria can easily contaminate what is pulled from the well (pump, drop pipe, electric wire) and it is difficult to disinfect portions of the electric wire and drop pipe that are above water level. When pulling a pump, the electric wire should not be allowed to touch the ground. This may be accomplished by laying plastic on the ground, utilizing a mechanical system that winds up the electric wire as it is withdrawn from the well, or other appropriate means. The drop pipe should be placed on pipe racks or other precautions should be taken to keep it from contacting the ground. If contamination does occur, special care must be taken to disinfect the contaminated areas.

PART III.

(ii) A flow meter with instantaneous flow rate and totalizing capability shall be installed on discharge lines of all water wells or well systems whenever the State Engineer permit conditions require a flow meter and subsequent reporting of volumetric use. The flow meter shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

(iii) All pumping systems shall be designed not to exceed the permitted pumping rate as established by the State Engineer permit, under normal operating conditions. All electrical and plumbing installations and connections shall be performed and maintained in accordance with the existing electrical and plumbing codes, and shall meet the equipment-manufacturer's specifications.

(iv) The pump and downhole assembly shall be at least one nominal size smaller in diameter than the production casing.

(v) Pumps shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and shall provide for proper cooling.

(d) Flowing wells are required, by W.S. §41-3-909(a)(vii), "...to be so capped or equipped [valved] that the flow of water can be stopped when the wells are not in use..." In addition, the flow shall be controlled in such a manner as not to exceed the flow rate as established by the State Engineer permit. Additional precautions may be necessary to prevent freezing of the wellhead or piping.

(e) Unless specifically designed as an injection well, directional flow controls shall be installed and maintained to prevent water from being forced or siphoned back into the well.

(f) For irrigation wells with in-line chemical injection systems or for other wells that are cross-connected with potential contaminant sources or water source(s) of lesser quality, a backflow prevention device (reduced pressure assembly, single/double check valve, etc., with vacuum relief) shall be installed to protect the wellhead from backpressure or back siphonage.

(g) For multiple wells which are connected by a common conveyance system, controls shall be maintained to ensure that one pump does not overpower another pump and allow water to be injected into one well bore.

(h) All electrical installations shall be performed and maintained in accordance with existing electrical codes. A properly licensed electrician must perform all electric wiring which impacts the operation of the pump or pumping system. This includes wiring from the pump to the control boxes to the main power supply such as the breaker box in a house. Licensed Water Well Pump Installation Contractors are advised that additional licensing requirements may be required by the Wyoming State Fire Marshal's Office. The electric wire should be adequately attached to the drop pipe for support and be installed in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.

PART III.

(i) All plumbing or water supply distribution from the well to the point of entry hookup shall be installed and maintained in accordance with existing plumbing codes.

PART III.

CHAPTER II.

APPLICATION OF THESE STANDARDS

~~Section 1. General Information. These Water Well minimum Construction Standards shall apply to any well commenced after June 30, 1971. It is the joint and several responsibility of the well owner and the well driller to see that these standards are met. These standards are retroactive when an existing ground water supply becomes polluted or becomes a health hazard. When extensive changes or repairs are made to an existing well, they shall conform as near as reasonably possible to these standards.~~

~~Section 2. Unusual Conditions.~~

~~a. If, in any given unique case, it appears that ground water can be protected against waste and contamination, both now and in the future, without complying with these Water Well Minimum Construction Standards, a waiver of some aspect of the standards may be requested by applying in writing to the State Engineer. The variance can only be authorized by written order of the State Engineer. In order to prevent undue delay in instances where time is essential, the State Engineer may grant a waiver orally, upon oral request, provided that his request is followed, within 5 days, by the above written procedure.~~

~~b. If compliance with these Water Well Minimum Construction Standards still will not result in a well free from pollution, or prevent a well from being a source of subsurface leakage or contamination of the ground water supply, the well driller must use his judgment in completing the well with any additional safeguards that he believes necessary to protect the ground water supply.~~

~~Section 3. Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division Water Supply Standards. Any well that is constructed to provide water to the public, either directly or indirectly, shall, in addition to meeting the standards set forth herein, meet all the requirements set forth by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division, Division of Health & Medical Services, minimum standards for private and semipublic water supplies. It is strongly urged that any individual domestic well also be constructed to meet the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division standards.~~

PART III.

CHAPTER 2

REQUIREMENTS AND DEFINITIONS

Section 1: Statutory Requirements.

(a) “Any person who intends to acquire the right to beneficial use of any underground water in the state of Wyoming, shall, before commencing construction of any well or other means of obtaining underground water or performing any work in connection with construction or proposed appropriation of underground water or any manner utilizing the water for beneficial purposes, file with the state engineer an application for a permit to make the appropriation and shall not proceed with any construction or work until a permit is granted by the state engineer...” (W.S. §41-3-930)

(b) “An appropriator of underground water may change the location of his well to a point within the same aquifer in the vicinity of the original location, without loss of priority, by securing approval of the state board of control if the groundwater right has been adjudicated or if the groundwater right has not been adjudicated but the water has been applied to beneficial use. In cases involving domestic or stock water wells which are not adjudicated but the water has been applied to beneficial use, the state engineer may approve a change of location. If the right is not adjudicated and the water has not been applied to beneficial use, approval for the change in location may be granted by the state engineer.” (see W.S. §41-3-917(a))

(c) “It shall be unlawful for any person to construct, alter or rehabilitate a water well or install pumping equipment in a water well without a license as provided by [W.S. §33-42-101 through 33-42-117] unless the activity is exempted from the licensing requirements of [W.S. §33-42-101 through 33-42-117].” (W.S. §33-42-103(f))

(d) “Any person who drills, digs or constructs any works for the securing of underground water without having obtained a permit is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished under W.S. §41-3-616.” (W.S. §41-3-938)

(e) “Any person who withdraws underground water or who fails to stop or reduce the flow of underground water in violation of any order of the state engineer made pursuant to this act, or any person who does not have a permit, certificate or vested right to appropriate underground water who shall withdraw underground water from any well other than a well for stock or domestic purposes as defined in W.S. §41-3-907, is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished under W.S. §41-3-616.” (W.S. §41-3-919)

(f) “[T]he state engineer is authorized and empowered on advice and consent of the board of control... [t]o require the abatement of any condition, or the sealing of any well, responsible for the admission of polluting materials into an underground water supply.” (W.S. §41-3-909(a))

PART III.

Section 2: Definitions. For the purposes of Part III of the Regulations and Instructions of the Wyoming State Engineer's Office – Ground Water Division, the following definitions apply:

(a) ACCESS PORT – An opening at the wellhead and/or within the discharge system where measuring devices or meters may be placed to measure water levels, pressure, or discharge.

(b) ACRE-FOOT – The volume of water required to cover one (1) acre to a depth of one (1) foot. One (1) acre-foot equals approximately 325,851 U.S. Gallons.

(c) AIR-HAMMER DRILLING – A system of drilling that employs a pneumatic bit that delivers percussion strikes to the formation while being slowly rotated. Cuttings are removed by the compressed air that drives the hammer bit.

(d) ALLUVIUM – Deposits resulting from the operations of rivers, streams, etc., thus including sediments laid down in riverbeds, flood plains, lakes, fans at the foot of mountain slopes, and estuaries.

(e) ANNULAR SPACE (ANNULUS) – The space between two cylindrical surfaces, one of which surrounds the other, e.g. concentrically; such as the space between the outer well casing and the borehole wall. An annular space also means the space between an inner well casing and outer well casing. The annular space is calculated as the difference in diameter of the borehole (D_b) and the outside diameter of the casing (D_c) divided by two $[(D_b - D_c)/2]$, or the difference in the inside diameter of a larger casing (D_l) and the outside diameter of a smaller casing (D_s) divided by 2 $[(D_l - D_s)/2]$.

(f) AQUIFER – “[A]ny underground geological structure or formation having boundaries that may be ascertained or reasonably inferred, in which water stands, flows or percolates.” (W.S. §41-3-901(a)(iii)). (Also see *Unconfined, Confined and Perched*)

(g) API – The American Petroleum Institute.

(h) ARTESIAN AQUIFER – See Confined Aquifer.

(i) ARTESIAN WELL – A well that derives its water from an artesian or confined aquifer where the hydrostatic pressure is greater than atmospheric pressure thereby raising the water level above the top of the aquifer. A flowing artesian well has a water level that is above the land surface.

(j) ASTM – American Society for Testing and Materials International.

(k) AWWA – The American Water Works Association.

(l) BENTONITE – Clay composed predominantly of the clay mineral montmorillonite and used commercially in drilling fluids and well sealing products.

PART III.

(m) BOREHOLE LOGS – Borehole logs measure and display the physical properties of the surrounding medium with a sensor located in a borehole. Some common borehole logging techniques are presented below:

(i) Acoustic (Sonic) Velocity – A borehole log in which the down-hole tooling has a sound transmitter at one end and two receivers spaced along it. The tool uses the difference in signal arrival time to calculate the sonic velocity through the strata.

(ii) Caliper – A borehole log which measures the size of the well bore. Used to measure the diameter of an uncased borehole in bedrock units. Can also be used to find the casing depth.

(iii) Cement Bond (Bond) – An acoustic log that measures and displays the return arrival time of an acoustic wave generated within the casing. When steel casing is strongly bonded to cement, most of the energy of the wave is carried through the casing; however, when the casing is not strongly bonded to the cement, most of the sound waves are carried along the casing and the arrival time will be much shorter.

(iv) Focused (Focus) – A borehole log wherein electrodes are designed to direct electrical current as a disk. This method can yield improved results in high resistivity strata.

(v) Formation Density (Density) – A borehole log which measures the rock density.

(vi) Gamma-Gamma Radiation – A borehole log in which a source of gamma radiation and a detector are lowered into the borehole. The log measures bulk density of the formation and fluids.

(vii) Gamma-Ray (or Gamma) – A borehole log which measures naturally occurring gamma radiation emitted by the surrounding strata.

(viii) Induction (or Dual Induction) – A borehole log which measures spontaneous potential, resistivity, and conductivity.

(ix) Neutron Porosity (Neutron) – A borehole log obtained by lowering a radioactive element, which is a source of neutrons, and a neutron detector into the well. The log measures the hydrogen atom density of the surrounding strata and provides an indication of the formation porosity.

(x) Resistivity – A borehole log which measures the resistivity between two current electrodes and two additional electrodes. Measures the electrical resistivity of the formation and contained fluids near the probe.

(xi) Spontaneous Potential (or Self Potential) (SP) – A borehole log made by measuring the natural electrical potential that develops between the formation and the

PART III.

borehole fluids. The SP log is commonly used to assess the permeability of the surrounding strata.

(n) CABLE-TOOL DRILLING – A drilling technique which is operated by repeatedly lifting and dropping a heavy drilling string and drilling bit which pulverizes the encountered material.

(o) CASCADING WATER – Ground water which trickles or pours through cracks (or other openings), down the cased or uncased borehole above the water level in the well.

(p) CASING – Any conduit or pipe placed in a well to prevent borehole wall caving, to protect the production string and pump, and to prevent pollution of the well. Casing material is most commonly steel, PVC, or concrete.

(q) CEMENT BASKET – A device firmly attached to the casing string that is designed to tightly fit against the borehole wall that is intended to hold cement above a desired zone.

(r) CENTRALIZER – A device attached to the outside of a casing or liner to center it within a borehole or casing.

(s) COLLUVIUM – Loose rock and soil at the base of a cliff or steep slope.

(t) CONFINED (ARTESIAN) AQUIFER – An aquifer bounded above and below by confining units (or beds) and in which water levels in wells rise above the top of the aquifer.

(u) CONFINING FORMATION (CONFINING UNIT) – A geologic bed which displays a significantly lower vertical hydraulic conductivity than an adjacent aquifer.

(v) CONSOLIDATED – Combined or cemented into a single or solid mass; or lithified (e.g. bedrock formation).

(w) CONSTRUCTION – “[I]ncludes boring, drilling, jetting, digging or excavating, and installing casing, pump and other devices withdrawing or facilitating the withdrawal of underground water, or measuring the depth to the water table or flow of the well.” (W.S. §41-3-901(a)(v)).

(x) CONTAMINANT – Any material responsible for or contributing to pollution. See POLLUTION.

(y) CUBIC FEET PER SECOND (CFS) – A rate of flow. One (1) cfs equals 448.8 gpm.

(z) DEVELOPMENT – Cleansing of the drilled hole and formation to remove cuttings, fine grained materials, infiltrated drilling fluids, and/or to enhance aquifer

PART III.

permeability. Development can be accomplished by surging, backwashing, jetting, airlifting, acid-fracture treatment, etc.

(aa) DRILLER – See WATER WELL DRILLING CONTRACTOR.

(bb) DRILLING MUD – A viscous liquid suspension, usually composed of water and a bentonite-based mixture, which is pumped through the drill stem to equalize formation pressures, lubricate and cool the drilling bit, and/or aid in removing drill cuttings to the surface.

(cc) DRILL PIPE (DRILL STEM) – Thick walled pipe used for drilling operations. Transmits rotation from the rotating mechanism on the drill rig to the bit. Drill collar, extremely heavy drill pipe, is usually placed in the drill pipe string just above the bit to provide extra weight and strength.

(dd) DRILLING RIG – The derrick, mast, or standing apparatus together with the power equipment, pumps, cable and tools used in well drilling. Usually truck-mounted or trailer mounted.

(ee) DRIVE POINT – A conical shaped point of steel placed at the bottom of a driven well's screen to aid in placing the screen at the desired depth.

(ff) DRIVE SHOE – A section of steel casing attached to the bottom of a driven casing. The drive shoe has a beveled edge and is designed for cutting through rock or other hard formations.

(gg) DRIVEN WELL – A well which is emplaced by forcefully driving a casing into the ground (usually deep soil or alluvial material). The leading end of the casing is usually fitted with a drive point.

(hh) DUG WELL – A large diameter well or trench constructed by digging down and intercepting the water table or shallowest water-bearing horizon.

(ii) FILTER (GRAVEL) PACK – Clean sand or gravel sized according to formation texture and emplaced in the annular space of a well between the perforated or screened interval(s) of the casing and the borehole wall in order to prohibit or decrease the entrance of formation material into the well, stabilize the borehole, and increase the efficiency of water production.

(jj) FLOWING WELL – An artesian well in which the water level stands above the land surface.

(kk) FORMATION – a body of rock or soil which has identifiable and distinctive lithic characteristics, is aerially extensive, can be mapped, and may be combined into groups or divided into members.

PART III.

(ll) GALLONS PER MINUTE (GPM) – Unit of measure used to describe a flow rate.

(mm) GEL – A jelly-like fluid and colloidal material (natural or synthetic) dispersion mixture used as a drilling fluid.

(nn) GROUND (UNDERGROUND) WATER – “[A]ny water, including hot water and geothermal steam, under the surface of the land or bed of any stream, lake, reservoir, or other body of surface water, including water that has been exposed to the surface by an excavation such as a pit.” (W.S. §41-3-901(a)(ii)).

(oo) GROUT – A fluid mixture of water plus a cement-based or bentonite-based material that is stable, has low permeability, and possesses minimum shrinking properties such that it is an optimal sealing material for well casing or for well plugging.

(pp) HEAT PUMP WELL – Any well constructed to utilize the heat exchange properties of either ground water or of geological material penetrated in the well.

(qq) HYDROSTATIC PRESSURE OR HEAD – Pressure of water (or other liquid) upon a unit area due to the height at which the surface of the water column stands above the point where the pressure is measured. Expressed as pounds per square inch (p.s.i.) or actual feet of head.

(rr) LINER – Pipe (steel or plastic), which is smaller in diameter than installed well casing, that is used to reconstruct (deepen) a well or strengthen unstable conditions encountered at depth in a well.

(ss) LINER HANGER – A device used to attach or hang liners from the internal wall of a larger, upper casing string.

(tt) LOST CIRCULATION – Subsurface escape of drilling fluid from a drill hole into a porous, fractured, or cavernous formation.

(uu) LCM (LOST CIRCULATION MATERIAL) – Material added to drilling fluid in order to reduce or stop lost circulation conditions.

(vv) MILLIGRAMS PER LITER – Abbreviated mg/l, means milligrams of solute per liter of solvent.

(ww) MONITORING WELL – A ground water level observation well or a well from which water samples are retrieved for water chemistry analysis.

(xx) NEAT CEMENT – Used for ground or borehole sealing. Commonly known as Portland cement of various ASTM designations (Type I through Type V, Type K, etc.). May be mixed with calcium chloride (CaCl₂) for rapid set time or bentonite for lower conductivity, lower curing temperature, and resistance to shrinking/cracking.

PART III.

(yy) NSF – NSF International, formerly National Sanitation Foundation.

(zz) NOMINAL SIZE – Used to describe standard sizes for pipe from 1/8 inch to 12 inches. The term “nominal” is used in designating the inside diameter of the pipe, because, in practice, the actual size varies somewhat.

(aaa) PACKER – A device used to seal or isolate. In the case of a telescoped casing and screen assembly, a packer is used to provide a sand-tight seal between the screened assembly and the casing. An inflatable packer is used to isolate zones of the casing or borehole for tests or casing repairs.

(bbb) PERCHED AQUIFER – Unconfined ground water which is bounded below by low-permeability material and separated from an underlying regional body of ground water by an unsaturated zone.

(ccc) PERFORATIONS – Puncturing, drilling, sawing, slotting, torchcutting, or other openings of a well casing emplaced in order to allow flow of water from the water-bearing interval(s) into a cased well. Perforations are typically installed with revolving wheel cutters, knives, or explosive charges and are created after the casing has been placed in the borehole.

(ddd) PERMEABILITY – A measure of the ability of a material to transmit fluids.

(eee) PERMIT – The record instrument on which the State Engineer grants permission to construct a well/spring and beneficially use the water for the purposes specified, together with any conditions and limitations attached.

(fff) PIEZOMETER – A nonpumping well, generally of small diameter, that is used to measure the pore pressures, water levels, or potentials. A piezometer generally has a short well screen through which water can enter.

(ggg) PITLESS ADAPTOR – A commercially manufactured, watertight unit or device designed for attachment to well casing which permits discharge from the well below the land surface to provide for a buried, frost-free discharge line.

(hhh) PLUGGED AND ABANDONED WELL (P&A) – Any well which has been filled or plugged so that it is rendered unproductive and prevents contamination of the ground water. A properly abandoned well will not produce water nor serve as a channel for movement of water or other material from the well or between water-bearing zones.

(iii) POLLUTION – “[A]ny impairment of the natural quality of such water, however caused, including impairment by salines, minerals, industrial wastes, domestic wastes or sewage, whether indrafted directly or through infiltration into the underground water supply.” (W.S. §41-3-901(a)(vi))

(jjj) POROSITY – The ratio of the volume of void spaces in a rock or sediment to the total volume of the rock or sediment. Effective Porosity – the volume of the void

PART III.

spaces through which water or other fluids can travel in a rock or sediment divided by the total volume of the rock or sediment. Primary porosity is the porosity that represents the original pore openings when a rock or sediment formed. Secondary porosity is the porosity that has been caused by fractures or weathering in a rock or sediment after it has been formed.

(kkk) POTENTIOMETRIC SURFACE – A surface that represents the level to which water will rise in tightly cased wells.

(lll) PRESSURE GROUTING – A process by which a grout is emplaced and confined within the borehole or casing of a well by the use of retaining plugs, packers, or a displacing fluid by which sufficient pressure is applied to drive the grout into and within the annular space or interval to be grouted.

(mmm)PUMP INSTALLER – See WATER WELL PUMP INSTALLATION CONTRACTOR.

(nnn) PUMP TEST – Pumping a well, usually at time of completion, to determine aquifer or well performance (e.g., drawdown, maximum efficient gpm, specific capacity, etc.).

(ooo) PUMPING WATER LEVEL – The water level achieved, during water well pumping, where the drawdown ceases or stabilizes.

(ppp) PVC CASING OR SCREEN – Polyvinyl chloride polymer (plastic) pipe.

(qqq) RECOVERY WELL – A well primarily designed to remove contaminants, groundwater, or both, usually in an attempt to contain contaminants or contaminated groundwater to an area already effected.

(rrr) REHABILITATION – Restoring a well to its most efficient condition. This may be accomplished by chemical and mechanical methods.

(sss) ROTARY DRILLING – Drilling technique which employs a rotating drill string through which drilling mud is pumped down hole to cool the drill bit and remove cuttings to the surface via the borehole outside the drill pipe. Compressed air is also used, in lieu of drilling fluid, to remove cuttings. Reverse circulation rotary drilling is a method in which drilling fluid flows from the ground surface down the borehole and is pumped back to the ground surface through the drill pipe. The reverse rotary method can be effective for drilling large diameter boreholes and for drilling in unstable material.

(ttt) SANITARY WELL CAP (SEAL) – A vented watertight wellhead cap that prevents the intrusion of foreign fluids (runoff, chemical liquids, animal waste, etc.) or debris.

(uuu) SATURATED – All voids are filled with water.

PART III.

(vvv) SHALE BASKET – A device firmly attached to the casing string designed to tightly fit against the borehole wall that is intended to prevent materials from falling into the intervals below the shale basket setting.

(www) SLIM HOLE – A small diameter exploration borehole drilled to obtain stratigraphic or structural information.

(xxx) SPRING – A point location where ground water emanates from bedrock or soil to the land surface.

(yyy) SQUEEZE JOB – Usually a secondary cementing or grouting process where the sealant is pumped into a borehole through the bottom of the casing or through perforations at key depths in the casing in order to obtain fluid or formation shut off.

(zzz) STATE ENGINEER – The State Engineer or his designee.

(aaaa) STATIC WATER LEVEL – (1) The elevation or level of the water in a well when the pump is not operating. Usually measured in depth below the land surface or from the top of the casing. (2) The level or elevation to which water would rise in a tube connected to an artesian aquifer when the well is shut in. Usually measured in psi or feet above ground level.

(bbbb) SURFACE (CONDUCTOR) CASING – Retaining pipe, usually large diameter steel, concrete or culvert material installed in the uppermost portion of the well between the borehole wall and the inner well casing.

(cccc) SURFACTANT – An agent that reduces the surface tension of the liquid in which it is dissolved. Used in air-based drilling to produce foam and during development to disaggregate clays.

(dddd) TREMIE PIPE (GROUT PIPE) – A small diameter conductor pipe, hose or tubing used in down hole placement of well construction material (cement, grout mixture, gravel pack, etc.).

(eeee) UNCONFINED (WATER TABLE) AQUIFER – An aquifer that has no overlying geologic unit preventing or restricting the vertical or upward movement of water.

(ffff) UNCONSOLIDATED – A loose aggregation or not combined nor cemented into a single or solid mass; or unconsolidated deposit (e.g., alluvium).

(gggg) WATER TABLE – The water surface of an unconfined aquifer.

(hhhh) WATER WELL DRILLING CONTRACTOR (DRILLER) – “[A]ny person responsible for or causing the construction, equipping, test pumping or development of any water well for compensation or otherwise as provided by [W.S. §33-42-101 through 33-42-117].” (W.S. §33-42-102 (a)(iii))

PART III.

(iiii) WATER WELL PUMP INSTALLATION CONTRACTOR (PUMP INSTALLER) – “[A]ny person who is in the business of installing pumping equipment in water wells for compensation or otherwise as provided by [W.S. §33-42-101 through 33-42-117].” (W.S. §33-42-102 (a)(iv))

(jjjj) WELL – “[A]ny artificial opening or excavation in the ground, however made, by which underground water is sought or through which it flows under natural pressure or is artificially withdrawn, and a series of wells developed as a unit and pumped collectively by a single pumping unit shall be considered as one (1) well.” W.S. §41-3-901(a)(iv) “[A]ny artificial opening in the ground for the production of groundwater or the disposal of water underground, including developed springs, test wells, monitoring wells, deep well ground beds (cathodic protection bores), geothermal or heat exchange wells, drive points and excavations for the purpose of artificial recharge to the groundwater bodies or disposal of wastes. The term "well" does not include excavations made for the dewatering of construction sites, mines or oil and gas wells, and the prospecting for and removal of mineral products, nor wells for the production of the media for secondary oil recovery.” (W.S. §33-42-102(a)(v))

For the purpose of this document, the following well types are described:

(i) Type I – Dug Wells

(ii) Type II – Natural Filter Wells

(iii) Type III - Artificial Filter Wells

(iv) Type IV – Partially-Cased Open Borehole Wells

(v) Type V – Fully-Cased Wells

(vi) Type VI – Conversion of Existing Oil or Gas Wells, or Exploration Test Wells into Water Wells

(kkkk) WELL (DRILL HOLE) CUTTINGS – Rock chips or particles cut by the action of the drill bit and removed from the hole. Cutting samples collected and identified at evenly spaced intervals provide a lithologic log (detailed description of rock material encountered in the drill hole).

(llll) WELL SCREEN – A commercially manufactured structurally supporting filter device that allows inflow, retains select material, and is the access for aquifer development and future aquifer maintenance. Screen may be continuous-slot wire-wrapped, pre-packed, louvered, or bridge-slotted or any other commercially manufactured product which is produced for the purpose of water well screening.

PART III.

PART III

WATER WELL MINIMUM CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

CHAPTER 1A.

PURPOSE ~~OF STANDARDS~~

~~Section 1. Duties of the State Engineer in regard to Ground Water. The ground waters of the State of Wyoming are the property of the State. The Wyoming State Engineer is charged with the administration of the rights to use this ground water. It is his responsibility to provide for the orderly development of the resource and to protect it against water and contamination.~~Section 1: Purpose and Scope.

(a) The State Engineer, having general supervision of the waters of the state, is authorized under Section 41-3-909 of the Wyoming Statutes to establish standards for construction of water wells to protect the use of the state's ground water resources. The enactment of federal and state environmental quality law and fostering of safe and clean water policy has prompted enhanced well head protection measures against contamination of ground water resources.

(b) Every well constructed or repaired with a withdrawal of well casing after the adoption of these standards must comply with them. Any deviation from these standards must be approved in writing by the State Engineer or his designee.

(c) It is the joint responsibility of the drilling and/or pump contractor(s) and well owners(s) to comply with these standards. Further, the well owner(s) must maintain a well in a condition so that it does not contribute to contamination (pollution) of the ground water supply.

(d) If compliance with these Water Well Minimum Construction Standards will not result in a well that is sufficiently sealed from either surface or subsurface contamination, then the drilling and/or pump contractor(s) and well owner(s) must use additional safeguards to protect the ground water supply and its users.

(e) Any waiver or variance to these Water Well Minimum Construction Standards can only be obtained by applying for the waiver or variance to the State Engineer in writing. The waiver or variance application shall state the nature of the waiver or variance and the reasons why the waiver or variance will not result in a well that will have a detrimental effect on the ground water resource.

(f) Other state and local regulations pertaining to well drilling and construction, ground water protection, and water quality regulations may exist that are either more

PART III.

stringent than these rules or that apply to a specific situation. It is the well driller's responsibility to understand and apply other regulations as applicable.

(g) Well owners and drillers are advised that local zoning ordinances or county board of health requirements may limit or restrict the actual well location, construction, and/or relationship to property/structure boundaries and existing or proposed concentrated sources of pollution or contamination such as septic tanks, drain fields, sewer lines, stock corrals, feed lots, etc., beyond the requirements of these standards.

(h) Well owners and drillers are advised that standards developed under Wyoming State Law, Title 37, Chapter 12, Article 3 (Damage to Underground Public Utility Facilities) apply.

(i) Well owners and drillers are advised that the State Engineer's Office maintains reporting requirements with regard to certain stages of well completion. These requirements are addressed in the Wyoming State Engineer's Office Part II Rules.

Section 2. Authority.

(a) The State Engineer has the authority to establish standards for the construction of wells. Pursuant to W.S. §41-3-909 (a)(vi) and the Wyoming Administrative Procedures Act; the State Engineer hereby adopts the following Water Well Minimum Construction Standards. Every well constructed after the adoption of these standards must be in compliance with these standards. Deviations from these standards must be approved by the State Engineer.

~~Statutory Requirements.~~

~~a. Any person who intends to acquire the right to the beneficial use of any ground water in the State of Wyoming shall file with the State Engineer, an application for a permit to make such appropriation. Construction of a well or other excavation for obtaining ground water shall not commence until a permit is granted by the State Engineer. If a well construction for any other purpose shall be found to be suitable for the withdrawal of ground water, an application must be filed and approved before such water is utilized. (Section 41-138, Wyoming Statutes 1957, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 213, Session Laws of Wyoming 1969.)~~

~~b. The location of a well may be changed (that is, the well may be replaced) without loss of priority, provided that the well is completed in the same aquifer as the original well and the original well is properly removed from service. A petition requesting a change of location must be approved by the State Engineer if the water right is not adjudicated or by the State Board of Control if the water right is adjudicated. (Section 41-134, Wyoming Statutes 1957, amended by Section 1, Chapter 137, Session Laws of Wyoming 1965.)~~

PART III.

~~_____ c. _____ All flowing wells, whenever practical, must be capped or equipped so that the flow of water can be stopped when the wells are not in use. Both flowing and nonflowing wells must be so constructed and maintained so as to prevent the waster of ground water either above or below the land surface. (Section 41-126(g), Wyoming Statutes 1957, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 213, Session Laws of Wyoming 1969.)~~

~~_____ d. _____ The State Engineer can require the abatement of any condition or the sealing of any well responsible for the admission of polluting materials into a ground water supply. (Section 41-126(h), Wyoming Statutes 1957, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 213, Session Laws of Wyoming 1969.)~~

~~_____ e. _____ The State Engineer has the authority to establish standards for the construction of wells. Pursuant to Section 41-126(f), Wyoming Statutes 1957, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 213, Session Laws of Wyoming 1969; and the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act (Section 9-276.19 through 9-276.33, Wyoming Statutes 1957, as enacted by Sections 1 through 18, Chapter 108, Session Laws of Wyoming 1965); the State Engineer hereby adopts the following Water Well Minimum Construction Standards. Every well constructed after the adoption of these standards must be in compli-~~

PART III.

~~ance with them. Deviation from these standards must be approved in writing by the State Engineer.~~

~~Section 3. — Definitions. The following definitions are provided for the sole purpose of proper interpretation of these Water Well Minimum Construction Standards.~~

~~—— a. — ANNULAR SPACE means the space between two cylindrical objects, one of which surrounds the other; such as the space between the walls of a drilled hole and a casing, or between a casing and a liner.~~

~~—— b. — AQUIFER means any underground geological structure of formation having boundaries that may be ascertained or reasonably inferred in which water stands, flows, or percolates.~~

~~—— c. — ARTESIAN WATER means any water confined in an aquifer under pressure so that the water will rise in the well bore above the bottom layer overlying the aquifer. The term includes water from flowing wells and water under pressure in nonflowing wells.~~

~~—— d. — CASING means any conduit placed in a well to prevent the walls from caving, to prevent pollution of the well, or to aid in increasing well yield. Casing includes, but is not limited to, unperforated or slotted pipe used wither for outer casing or for liners, and well screens.~~

~~—— e. — CONSOLIDATED FORMATIONS means naturally occurring geologic materials that have been lithified (turned to stone). Commonly, this type of material will stand at the edge of an open borehole without caving.~~

~~—— f. — CONSTRUCTION OF A WELL means any artificial method of seeking or obtaining ground water.~~

~~—— g. — CONTAMINATION — See POLLUTION~~

~~—— h. — GRAVEL PACKED WELL means any well in which gravel or sand is placed in the annular space outside the well casing.~~

~~—— i. — GROUND (UNDERGROUND) WATER means any water or geothermal steam available to wells under the surface of the land or the bed of any stream, lake, reservoir, or other body of surface water.~~

~~—— j. — GROUT means stable, impervious, minimum shrinkage bonding material that is capable of producing a watertight seal.~~

~~—— (1) — NEAT CEMENT GROUT (or CEMENT GROUT) consists of 1 bag of cement (94 pounds) to not more that 6 gallons of water.~~

PART III.

~~—————(2)———— CONCRETE GROUT (or CONCRETE) consists of cement, sand and water, in the proportions of 1 bag of cement (94 pounds), an equal volume of dry sand, and not more than 6 gallons of water.~~

~~—————k.———— INFERIOR QUALITY GROUND WATER means water this is mineralized~~

PART III.

~~or polluted that it should not be comingled (sic) with usable ground water supplies.~~

~~l. MINERALIZED GROUND WATER means any naturally occurring ground water that has an unusually large amount of chemical constituents (dissolved minerals) in it.~~

~~m. POLLUTION (CONTAMINATION) OF GROUND WATER means any impairment, however caused, of the natural quality of ground water. Such pollution includes, but is not limited to, impairment by salines, minerals, industrial wastes, domestic wastes or sewage, organic material, live organisms, or radioactive material, whether indrafted directly or through infiltration into the ground water supply.~~

~~n. REMOVED FROM SERVICE WELL means any well that is no longer being used to supply water for beneficial purposes.~~

~~o. UNCONSOLIDATED FORMATIONS means any naturally occurring geologic materials that have not been solidified and generally will not stand at the edge of an open bore hole.~~

~~p. UNDERGROUND WATER See GROUND WATER~~

~~q. WELL means any artificial opening or excavation in the ground, however constructed, by which ground water is sought or from which it flows under natural pressure or is artificially withdrawn. An excavation for the purpose of artificial recharge to a ground water body, or for the disposal of industrial or municipal wastes, it also considered a well. A series of bore holes developed as a unit and pumped collectively by a single pumping unit shall be considered one well. The term well, as used herein, excludes excavations made for the purposes of temporary dewatering of construction sites or mines; prospecting for oil, natural gas, minerals, or products of mining or quarrying; or inserting media for repressuring oil or natural gas bearing formations; or for storing petroleum, natural gas or other products.~~

~~r. WELL DRILLER (or DRILLER) means any person, partnership, company, corporation, community, or agency, who excavates or constructs a water wells or wells for compensation or otherwise.~~

CHAPTER 4

WELL COMPLETION AND MAINTENANCE

Section 1: Disinfection.

(a) Each person who repairs, modifies, works on, or otherwise affects the physical components of a well shall clean and disinfect the pump, electrical wiring and controls, drop pipe, and all other equipment each and every time the pump, electrical wiring and controls, drop pipe, and other equipment is placed into the well. In addition, each person (or crew) who performs the above tasks shall maintain at all times on every well site, adequate chlorine compounds to disinfect the well in accordance with the table found in Appendix A.

(b) The well driller shall:

(i) Clean all casing, tools, drilling equipment, and materials prior to beginning the drilling and construction of every well.

(ii) Clean all pumping equipment and well construction materials (including sand or gravel used in an artificial filter-packed well) before placing them in the well or borehole.

(iii) Ensure that only potable water is used for drilling and for mixing of sealing material.

(c) The pump installer shall:

(i) Clean all pumping, wiring, and other equipment prior to placement in the well.

(ii) Clean all materials that may come in contact with down-hole equipment.

(d) All wells used for drinking or sanitary use shall be disinfected after construction, reconditioning, or repair (e.g., submersible pump replacement) and before the well is placed into, or returned to, service.

(i) Following drilling:

(A) If calcium hypochlorite is used, it shall be slowly poured down the casing and at least 30 minutes shall pass to allow the tablets to fall through the water and dissolve.

(B) If sodium hypochlorite is used, the solution must reach all parts of the well. To accomplish this, a tube shall be suspended through the well casing so that it

reaches the bottom of the well. After it reaches the well bottom, it shall be withdrawn as the sodium hypochlorite solution is pumped through the tube.

(C) After the chlorine has been applied, the well shall be surged at least three times to improve the mixing and induce contact of the chlorinated water with the adjacent aquifer.

(ii) Following pump installation:

(A) Chlorine shall be introduced so that an average chlorine residual of 100 mg/l is in the entire volume of water in the casing and all parts of the plumbing system (pump, drop-pipe, wiring, pitless assembly, etc.) for a minimum contact period of not less than two (2) hours (overnight is preferable) before flushing and ridding the chlorine solution from the well.

(iii) See Appendix A for mixing proportions. Chlorine compounds intended for home laundry use, pool, or fountain use should not be used if they contain additives such as antifungal agents, scents, etc.

Section 2: Spring Developments.

(a) “W.S. §41-3-902. **Spring waters; perfection of right to use; limitation.** All springs and spring waters where the yield does not exceed twenty-five (25) gallons per minute and where the use is for domestic or stock purposes only, shall be considered as groundwater. Perfection of the right to use spring water up to twenty-five (25) gallons per minute for domestic and stock use shall be made in accordance with the laws pertaining to groundwater”

(b) Developed spring flow that is 25 gallons per minute or less and is utilized for stock and/or domestic use is to be permitted with the State Engineer underground water permitting procedures. Developed spring flow in excess of 25 gallons per minute, or for uses other than domestic or stock watering, must be permitted under State Engineer’s Office surface water permitting procedures. For the purposes of water right permitting, springs or seeps shall be improved or perfected by some artificial means of collection and/or conveyance. Springs with no artificial means of collection and/or conveyance cannot be claimed nor permitted under State of Wyoming water laws. Accepted means of spring development can range from simple piping to an impoundment, to spring box collection and associated delivery systems. If the spring is a domestic source of drinking water, setback allowances from contaminant sources should be employed the same as for well siting and protection for entrance of animals or other foreign material shall be provided.

Section 3: Water Well Rehabilitation.

(a) When a water well is to be rehabilitated to increase efficiency, all equipment used shall be clean and as sterile as possible to prevent well to well or well to

aquifer cross-contamination. All chemical or biological agents to be introduced into a well shall meet ASTM, API, NSF and/or AWWA standards approved for the application of well rehabilitation. Physical rehabilitation of the well including jetting, scrubbing, bailing, etc. shall be performed in a manner that does not compromise the integrity of the well casing materials, filter pack, and grout materials. When acidizing or flocculating agents are pumped or removed from a well, it may be necessary to obtain clearance from the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality – Water Quality Division (WDEQ-WQD) for the surface discharge of these agents.

(b) If, in the repair of a well, the old casing is withdrawn, the well shall be recased in conformance with these rules.

(c) If a liner is installed to prevent leakage of undesirable water into a well, the annular space between the casing and liner shall be completely sealed by packers, casing swedging, pressure grouting, or other methods which will prevent the movement of water between the casing and liner.

Section 4: Water Well Plugging and Abandonment.

(a) When a well is temporarily removed from service, it shall be kept in a state of good repair. The top of the well casing shall be sealed with a secure watertight cap that will prevent tampering and entrance of contaminants, animals, or debris.

(b) The well owner is responsible to ensure that any well (including any test well or replaced well) which is permanently abandoned or removed from service shall be entirely plugged to prevent contamination from the surface or any other source and to remove any further hazard potential that an unused well or abandoned drill hole might pose. All pumps, pipe, wiring, caps, and other obstructions/debris that may interfere with adequate plugging operations shall be removed from the well. Suitable cement-based mixtures or bentonite mixtures shall be used for grouting material. If a well is permitted under DEQ-WQD rules, those rules may be consulted for abandonment procedures. For all other wells, an abandoned well shall be plugged by one of the following methods in accordance with type of well completion and subsurface geologic and /or hydrostatic conditions:

(i) Dug wells or excavations [Type I Wells, see Section 6(a)(i)] exposing the shallow water table shall be filled to static water level with clean fill such as gravel or sand. The remaining hole is to be filled with bentonite to 2-feet below ground surface. The remaining 2 feet shall be filled with native soil and mounded slightly at the top to allow for settling.

(ii) If possible, casing shall be removed from Type II Wells [See Section 6(a)(ii)] prior to plugging procedures. Cased or uncased wells in unconsolidated formations shall be destroyed by placement of clean fill, such as gravel or sand, opposite the completed (screened, perforated interval) or water bearing zone and then grouting to the surface. The upper surface portion of the cased well must be cut off a minimum of 18

inches below ground level and the area back-filled with enough clean soil material to allow for settling.

(iii) Type III, gravel pack wells [See Section 6(a)(iii)] shall be grouted from bottom to top in order to accomplish a complete seal. Grout slurries shall not be poured from the land surface through a column of water. In order to place the grout in wells with water columns, it shall be pumped via tremie pipe by positive displacement or similar method (pressure grouted) from the bottom of the well to a sufficient elevation such that an uninterrupted seal may be emplaced to the land surface. The upper surface portion of the cased well must be cut off a minimum of 18 inches below ground level and the area back-filled with enough clean soil material to allow for settling.

(iv) Plugging of open-hole completed wells [Type IV Wells, see Section 6(a)(iv)] shall consist of grouting the entire well. Necessary pressure grouting procedures shall be utilized to permanently seal off flow and/or pressure of the artesian aquifer such that surface or subsurface leakage will not occur.

(v) Type V Wells [see Section 6(a)(v)] shall be decommissioned in the same manner as that prescribed for Type III Wells.

(vi) Type I, II, or III wells may alternately be grouted from bottom to top with bentonite grout to create a complete seal.

(c) If there is any question of proper procedure for extraordinary plugging/abandonment conditions, the State Engineer's Office, Ground Water Division must be consulted for instruction before commencement of plugging activities.

(d) Upon completion of plugging and abandonment of a water well, the well owner shall report the date and method of abandonment to the State Engineer's Office, Ground Water Division with reference to the State Engineer permit number issued for the well and the well location.

Section 5: Water Quality.

(a) The State Engineer recommends that a water quality sample be collected after well construction and aquifer testing is complete. The sample should be collected in an acceptable manner and container and submitted to a qualified laboratory for chemical and/or biological analysis. Additionally, the State Engineer recommends that water quality samples be collected and analyzed at periodic intervals during the life of the well for both chemical constituents and biological materials.

(b) If the water well is to be developed for human consumption serving fifteen (15) or more service connections, or twenty-five (25) or more persons, for sixty (60) days or more a year, regulations developed under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act apply. Specific requirements of the Act are available from the Water Supply Section Region VIII, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1595 Wynkoop St, Denver, CO 80202.

The provisions of Chapters 3, 11 and 12 of the Wyoming Water Quality Rules and Regulations also apply. You are advised that plans and specifications covering the proposed construction, installation, or modification of any public water supply system designed for this purpose are required to be submitted to and a permit to construct obtained prior to the start of construction from, the WDEQ-WQD, Herschler Building – 4W, Cheyenne, WY 82002; phone number: 307-777-7781.

CHAPTER 3

WELL CONSTRUCTION

Section 1: Water Well Siting.

(a) General Considerations.

(i) All wells shall be sited and constructed in such a manner that the well does not act as a conduit for the transmission of contaminants from either above or below ground to the ground water resource. All restriction and setback distances contained in this section are intended for production wells and do not necessarily apply (but does not constitute exemption) to choice of location for monitor wells, test wells, dewatering wells, recovery wells, or oil and/or gas wells which produce by-product water.

(b) Relation to Land Surface.

(i) Water wells shall be located such that there is adequate surface drainage away from the well and situated such that the well is easily accessed for repairs, maintenance, and inspection. For all wells, the top of the casing shall extend at least 18 inches above the finished land surface grade. Well casing may not be terminated at or near the base of underground well vaults or placed in basements. In the special case of ground water monitor wells constructed flush with the land surface, the wells shall be capped with an impact-resistant and water-proof cap.

(c) Relation to Property Lines.

(i) Every well shall be located at least 10 lateral feet from any property line or boundary.

(d) Relation to Buildings, Structures and Overhead Obstructions.

(i) When a well is proposed to be located adjacent to a building or any other standing structure, it shall be placed to be as accessible as may be necessary. The well shall be placed such that the building or any overhead projection from the building will not be within a 10-foot radius of the surface casing. The well owner is responsible for maintaining adequate spacing and access following construction.

(ii) Where overhead utility lines or other overhead obstructions are present, minimum distances from all equipment shall be maintained in accordance with OSHA standards.

(e) Setback Distances from Contaminant Sources.

(i) Water wells shall be located the minimum lateral distance from any common pollutant sources listed below:

SOURCE	MINIMUM DISTANCE TO WELL
Livestock Containment Pens	50 feet
Livestock Sewage Lagoons	50 feet
Sewer	50 feet
Septic Tank	50 feet
Disposal (Leach) Field	100 feet

(ii) Beyond minimum distances, an attempt shall be made to locate the well upgradient from contaminant sources.

Section 2: Water Well Construction.

(a) The driller or person/entity engaged in construction of a water well shall have in their possession, at the well site, a copy of the approved permit or the permit number.

(b) Knowledge of the properties and depth of the producing aquifer zone, the nature of the overlying formations, and the proposed use of the well will dictate the type of construction required. The following described well types are established:

(i) Type I – Dug Wells – Dug wells are excavations that penetrate from the ground surface down to the first-encountered aquifer. Dug wells are usually simple pits, elongate trenches, or large diameter, lined shafts constructed by hand or using excavating machinery (e.g., a backhoe). A typical construction diagram for Type I wells is illustrated in Appendix C-1.

(ii) Type II – Natural Filter Wells – Natural Filter Wells are constructed to obtain water at various depths from unconsolidated alluvial/colluvial deposits or severely weathered rock material that can be effectively stabilized and developed after placement of perforated casing or well screen. Wells of this type are usually completed into an unconfined aquifer (confined, perched conditions may be encountered) and may be dug or constructed by jetting, boring, driving, drilling, or a combination of methods. Horizontal wells that drain water from very coarse sand and gravel-sized material and often located near streams are considered Natural Filter Wells. A typical construction diagram for Type II wells is illustrated in Appendix C-2.

(iii) Type III - Artificial Filter Wells – Artificial Filter Wells are also referred to as “gravel pack,” “sand pack,” or “filter pack” wells. This type of well is designed to obtain water from unconsolidated to poorly consolidated deposits or bedrock formations by placing filter pack in the annulus, opposite the completion interval. The filter pack (or material contained in “channel pack” well screen) acts as a formation

stabilizer, a filter to prevent fine-grained material from entering the well, and also serves to increase the yield of the well. This type of well is constructed by boring or drilling. A typical construction diagram for Type III wells is illustrated in Appendix C-3.

(iv) Type IV – Partially-Cased Open Borehole Wells – Partially-Cased Open Borehole Wells are also referred to as “open-hole” wells. This type of well is designed to obtain water from consolidated formations that are stable enough to preclude the need for perforated casing or well screen. Overlying formations, however, are cased and sealed to prevent caving and cross-connection of water from vertically separate aquifers. Flowing wells are commonly the result of this type of well construction when head elevation is greater than ground surface elevation. A typical construction diagram for Type IV wells is illustrated in Appendix C-4.

(v) Type V – Fully-Cased Wells – Fully-Cased Wells are drilled to produce water from an aquifer containing multiple water-bearing intervals. Water production is achieved by screening and/or perforating opposite one or more of the most viable water-producing aquifer zones. Overlying formations are cemented or grouted off to prevent caving and aquifer cross-connection. Wells of this type are usually drilled relatively deep and generally intercept aquifers under confined conditions. A typical construction diagram for Type IV wells is illustrated in Appendix C-5.

(vi) Type VI – Conversion of Existing Oil or Gas Wells, or Exploration Test Wells into Water Wells.

(A) Existing oil and gas wells, seismic test holes, or mineral exploration holes may be converted for use as water wells, provided that the wells can be completed to conform to minimum construction standards cited herein.

(B) Information on geologic conditions encountered in the well at the time of the original well drilling shall be used to determine what special construction standards shall be met in order to eliminate all movement of pollutants into the well or along the annular space. If no original geologic information is available, a specified borehole log suite may be required to supplement known information.

(C) A permit to appropriate ground water must be obtained from the State Engineer prior to commencing construction of the well.

(D) Before any oil or gas exploration hole or well is converted for use as a water well, the Wyoming Oil & Gas Conservation Commission should be contacted in order to comply with that Commission’s regulations.

(c) Annulus.

(i) If a fill pipe for gravel is installed, the diameter of the well bore must be four (4) inches larger than the largest diameter of the casing plus the largest diameter

of the fill pipe for gravel. A fill pipe for gravel or any other pipe to provide access to the interior of the well bore must be completely surrounded by the seal.

(ii) All wells shall be constructed with at least a 2-inch annular space surrounding the outermost casing and extending not less than 20-feet below ground surface.

(d) Casing.

(i) Casing, surface casing (conductor pipe), liners, and screens shall be of new or new-like contaminant-free material and free of pits, cracks, breaks, and corrosion. All pipe, casing, couplings, and screen must meet applicable ASTM, API, NSF, and/or AWWA standards. Casing shall be of adequate strength and durability to protect the well against structural failures during construction and use and protect against the entrance of contaminants during the expected life of the well.

(ii) All casing shall be selected in accordance with the design of the well, depth of the well, and conditions at the well site. The most common casing materials allowed for use are carbon-steel and thermoplastic (PVC). Less common casing materials such as pre-cast concrete, fiberglass, stainless steel, aluminum, various alloy and non-ferrous metal casing types are allowable where use/conditions dictate and steel or plastic cannot be used. Choice of casing material, diameter, and wall thickness shall be based on:

(A) Maximum Pumping Rate and Flow Capacity Over the Life of the Well: The production casing shall be greater than or equal to one nominal size larger than the down-hole pump assembly.

(B) Geology and Aquifer Conditions: Where multiple casings are warranted (surface casing, liners, screens, etc.), provisions shall be incorporated to prevent misalignment, to seal/secure the annulus between casings, and to prevent or secure from borehole caving.

(C) Installation Method: Difficulty in handling and load strength must be considered for various well designs, depths of drilling, specific geologic conditions, and grouting requirements. Re-entered wells (e.g., for liner placement or plugging back and completing abandoned oil and gas test wells) should be assessed for competency of the existing casing.

(D) Plumbness and Alignment: A well shall drift off plumb no more than one degree per 100 feet of borehole. The alignment shall allow a 40-foot long section of pipe, ½-inch less than the inside diameter of the casing, to pass freely from the top of the casing through anticipated pump setting depth.

(E) Water Quality: The effects of formation waters that may cause corrosion, cross-connection of vertically separate aquifers, bacterial growth, surface water influx, etc., shall be avoided by proper casing selection and installation.

(F) Well Devices: Decisions on casing material and dimensions also depend on outfitting of the well which may include choice of pumps, motors, wiring, transducers, sampling tools, floats, adapters, airline, caps, seals, etc.

(iii) All casing types must achieve watertight connections according to directions from the manufacturer.

(A) Metal pipe must be welded or joined with threaded couplings. If the joints are welded, the weld shall be made using welding rods of equal quality to the most noble metal, shall be at least as thick as the wall thickness of the well casing, and shall be fully penetrating. Spot welding of joints is prohibited.

(B) PVC pipe may be glued, flush joint thread and coupled, or spline-lock coupled.

(C) All solvents, pipe dope, and glue must be NSF approved or an acceptable equivalent. Rivets or screws used in the casing joints shall not penetrate the inside of the casing.

(iv) Casing shall be installed in accordance with the drilling method used, borehole condition, formation characteristics, and comprehensive/tensile strength of the casing material. Only steel casing, equipped with proper drive shoe or drive point, can be used if the casing is to be installed by jacking or driving. PVC casing shall be installed only in an oversized drilled hole without driving. PVC casing shall conform to industry standards and shall be manufactured for the purpose of water well casing.

(v) Casing made of, or which has been exposed to, hazardous or potentially harmful materials, such as asbestos, shall not be used.

(e) Lost Circulation Material.

(i) The introduction of lost circulation materials (LCMs) shall be limited to those products which will not present a potential medium for bacterial growth or contamination. Only LCMs which are non-organic and can be safely broken down and removed from the borehole may be utilized. Cottonseed hulls, shredded newspaper, or cedar chips are examples of LCMs which are not allowed.

(f) Well Completion.

(i) Well completion refers to the method employed to allow water to enter the well from one aquifer. This is accomplished via perforations in the casing or well screens set adjacent to water-bearing intervals or by allowing water to enter the well through the open bottom of the casing. Multiple completions, or wells completed into two or more vertically separate aquifers, are not allowed

(A) The well driller shall:

(I) Install well screens constructed of material which is compatible with adjoining casing and is corrosion resistant.

(II) Install well screens or well intakes that prevent the continued production of sand, silt, or turbid water.

(III) Not install screen or perforated casing within the zone of maximum dynamic pumping level to prevent cascading water, except in the case of monitor wells, recovery wells or test wells.

(B) Type II and III wells shall be constructed with well screen (as defined in Chapter 2) commercially manufactured for the purpose of well construction and sized appropriately for the grain size of the aquifer materials to be developed by the well.

(g) Filter Pack.

Filter pack (or gravel pack) material shall consist of clean, well-rounded, chemically stable grains that are smooth and uniform. The filter material should not contain more than 2% by weight of thin, flat, or elongated pieces and should not contain organic impurities or contaminants of any kind. Type III Wells should be gravel (filter) packed opposite the perforated or screened zone(s) and no more than five (5) feet above the zone(s). The interval above the gravel pack must be sealed, as described in these rules, to prevent fluid cross-contamination from the surface or from a shallow aquifer.

(i) All filter material shall be placed using a method that through common usage has been shown to minimize bridging of the material between the borehole and the casing and excessive segregation of the material after it has been introduced into the annulus and before it settles into place.

(ii) It is not acceptable to place filter material by pouring from the ground surface unless proper sounding devices are utilized to measure dynamic filter depth, evaluate pour rate, and minimize bridging and formation of voids.

(h) Well Sealing/Grouting.

(i) Well casing shall be sealed to prevent vertical movement or leakage of fluid in the annular space between casing and borehole wall. Non-Slurry bentonite grouts must be in place before significant hydration occurs. Plans for well construction shall include allowances for maximum effective emplacement of grout as a seal to protect the source aquifer and/or assure structural integrity of the entire cased well. Well cuttings are not allowed to be used as grout, filler, or aggregate material for well sealing.

(ii) Selection of grouting material shall meet the technical requirements for making a proper seal. Grout products shall meet applicable ASTM, API, NSF,

AWWA, or other recognized industry standards. Grout shall be prepared according to manufacturer's directions and shall be mixed as engineered for specific site requirements. Water wells permitted under the DEQ-WQD may alternately use any grout mixture specified by DEQ-WQD. For all other wells, the following are approved grout materials:

(A) Neat Cement Grout Slurry must consist of a mixture of Portland Cement and not more than 6 gallons of clean water per bag (1 cubic foot or 94 pounds) of cement.

(B) Sand Cement Grout Slurry must consist of a mixture of Portland Cement, sand, and water in the proportion of not more than 1 part by weight of sand to 1 part of cement with not more than 6 gallons of clean water per bag of cement (1 cubic foot or 94 pounds).

(C) Concrete Grout Slurry must consist of a mixture of Portland Cement, sand and gravel aggregate, and water in the proportion of at least 1 part by weight of aggregate to 1 part of cement with not more than 6 gallons of clean water per bag of cement.

(D) Nonslurry Bentonite Grout must consist of chipped or pelletized bentonite varieties that are hydrated to manufacturer's specifications.

(E) Cement/Bentonite Grout Slurry must consist of a mixture of cement and bentonite in the proportion of not more than 6.5 gallons of water and 3 to 5 pounds of powdered bentonite per 94-pound sack of Portland cement.

(F) Bentonite Grout Slurry means an inorganic mixture of a minimum 20% by weight solids bentonite, with polymers, water, or other additives for the yield/rate control, which forms a low permeability seal (not greater than 1×10^{-7} cm/sec), and is mixed to the manufacturer's specifications.

(iii) All wells shall have an annular surface seal of grout extending not less than 20 feet below ground surface or to useable water below ground surface. The surface seal must be placed in at least a 2-inch annular space. The completed surface seal must fully surround the outermost casing, be evenly distributed, and be free of voids.

(A) If a temporary surface casing is utilized, the surface casing shall be removed in conjunction with the placement of the seal. Alternatively, conductor casing may be sealed permanently in place to a depth of at least 20 feet with a minimum 2-inch annular seal between the largest outside diameter of the surface casing and borehole wall. If the temporary surface casing is to be removed, the surface casing shall be withdrawn as sealing material is placed between the outermost permanent well casing and borehole wall. The sealing material shall be kept at a sufficient height above the bottom of the temporary surface casing as it is withdrawn, to prevent caving of the borehole wall.

(iv) Type I wells, as defined in this section, (b)(i), shall be constructed with a watertight curbing extending, at a minimum, from 18 inches above the natural ground level to the static water level. The curbing shall consist of poured cement grout or casing surrounded by cement grout. Concrete block with cement grout and rock with cement grout may also be used. The poured cement grout shall not be less than 6-inches thick. If casing is to be used, the minimum annular space between the casing and the borehole shall be three inches. A typical construction diagram for Type I wells is illustrated in Appendix C-1.

(v) Type III Wells, as defined in this section, (b)(iii), shall be grouted from immediately above the gravel packed interval and shall terminate at the ground surface or at the base of a pitless adaptor. The seal shall close off all zones above the gravel-packed interval. If a gravel tube is installed, it shall be sealed with a water-tight cap. A typical construction diagram for Type III wells is illustrated in Appendix C-3.

(vi) Type IV Wells, as defined in this section, (b)(iv), shall have the entire production casing string grouted from bottom to top before well completion. The well shall be drilled and cased at least 10 feet into the upper portion of the target aquifer. If permeability factors or hydrostatic conditions in the target aquifer will jeopardize a successful grout job, then the well shall be drilled, cased and cemented into the first overlying formation which will provide for secure sealing and completion. According to W.S. §41-3-909 (a)(vii), flowing and non-flowing wells are required to be "...constructed and maintained as to prevent the waste of underground water either above or below the land surface." Grouting shall be accomplished by either one or several methods in which grout is pumped directly in the annulus (by tremie or grout pipe) or circulated to the annulus by positive displacement from inside the casing. Before grouting, clean water or other suitable drilling fluid mixture shall be circulated to clear the borehole and provide conditions for optimal bonding. Engineered grout volume calculations must include an excess allowance (e.g. 25%, 50%, 100%, etc.) for losses in the subsurface. It is allowed to introduce cement or concrete (e.g. Redi-Mix) from the land surface to finish a grout job so long as a complete seal is attained. A cement bond log of the well may be required to assure that an adequate seal was set in place. If leaks occur around the well casing or adjacent to the well, the driller shall complete the well with seals, packers, and/or grout to eliminate the leak. A typical construction diagram for Type IV wells is illustrated in Appendix C-4.

(vii) Type V Wells, as defined in this section, (b)(v), shall be grouted from the ground surface or the base of the pitless adaptor to the bottom of the casing. A typical construction diagram for Type IV wells is illustrated in Appendix C-5.

(i) Well Development – Following construction, all wells shall be cleaned and developed to remove drilling fluids, drill cuttings, and other foreign materials. Proper well development functions to establish the best hydraulic connection between the well and the source aquifer. The well driller shall develop every new well until the produced water does not contain appreciable amounts of sand, silt, or turbidity. Chemicals used as development aids such as agents used in acid fracturing, carbon dioxide (CO₂) injection,

formation deflocculation treatment, etc., are also allowed; however, notification to WDEQ-WQD is required prior to application or introduction of a foreign substance into a well that is a public water supply source.

Section 3: Water Well Equipping.

(a) All new and old wells (including hand-dug) shall be capped or sealed so that they do not present a hazard and to prevent the unintended entry of contaminant matter, surface water, animals, or foreign objects, by utilizing either a welded plate or a sanitary well cap. All vents installed in the well casing shall open downward and be screened to prevent the entrance of foreign material. Wells shall be equipped with a minimum ½-inch diameter access port for water level and drawdown measurement (unless a flowing well).

(b) Pitless Adapters.

(i) Pitless adapters must be designed and constructed to be water tight and to prevent contamination of the ground water resource and any potable water. Pitless adapters must be compatible with the casing material. The driller or pump installer shall ensure that the pump and column weight do not exceed the casing strength.

(ii) Where a pitless adapter is to be installed, the grout seal must extend from the pitless unit to at least 20-feet below the ground surface (or to useable water below ground surface). The area around the pitless unit and surface string may be filled with bentonite or clean earth to grade level.

(iii) The components of a pitless adapter must allow sufficient clearance for the insertion and removal of the down-hole pumping assembly.

(c) Pumps and Pumping Equipment.

(i) Special care must be exercised when replacing a pump because bacteria can easily contaminate what is pulled from the well (pump, drop pipe, electric wire) and it is difficult to disinfect portions of the electric wire and drop pipe that are above water level. When pulling a pump, the electric wire should not be allowed to touch the ground. This may be accomplished by laying plastic on the ground, utilizing a mechanical system that winds up the electric wire as it is withdrawn from the well, or other appropriate means. The drop pipe should be placed on pipe racks or other precautions should be taken to keep it from contacting the ground. If contamination does occur, special care must be taken to disinfect the contaminated areas.

(ii) A flow meter with instantaneous flow rate and totalizing capability shall be installed on discharge lines of all water wells or well systems whenever the State Engineer permit conditions require a flow meter and subsequent reporting of volumetric use. The flow meter shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

(iii) All pumping systems shall be designed not to exceed the permitted pumping rate as established by the State Engineer permit, under normal operating conditions. All electrical and plumbing installations and connections shall be performed and maintained in accordance with the existing electrical and plumbing codes, and shall meet the equipment-manufacturer's specifications.

(iv) The pump and downhole assembly shall be at least one nominal size smaller in diameter than the production casing.

(v) Pumps shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and shall provide for proper cooling.

(d) Flowing wells are required, by W.S. §41-3-909(a)(vii), "...to be so capped or equipped [valved] that the flow of water can be stopped when the wells are not in use..." In addition, the flow shall be controlled in such a manner as not to exceed the flow rate as established by the State Engineer permit. Additional precautions may be necessary to prevent freezing of the wellhead or piping.

(e) Unless specifically designed as an injection well, directional flow controls shall be installed and maintained to prevent water from being forced or siphoned back into the well.

(f) For irrigation wells with in-line chemical injection systems or for other wells that are cross-connected with potential contaminant sources or water source(s) of lesser quality, a backflow prevention device (reduced pressure assembly, single/double check valve, etc., with vacuum relief) shall be installed to protect the wellhead from backpressure or back siphonage.

(g) For multiple wells which are connected by a common conveyance system, controls shall be maintained to ensure that one pump does not overpower another pump and allow water to be injected into one well bore.

(h) All electrical installations shall be performed and maintained in accordance with existing electrical codes. A properly licensed electrician must perform all electric wiring which impacts the operation of the pump or pumping system. This includes wiring from the pump to the control boxes to the main power supply such as the breaker box in a house. Licensed Water Well Pump Installation Contractors are advised that additional licensing requirements may be required by the Wyoming State Fire Marshal's Office. The electric wire should be adequately attached to the drop pipe for support and be installed in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.

(i) All plumbing or water supply distribution from the well to the point of entry hookup shall be installed and maintained in accordance with existing plumbing codes.

CHAPTER 2

REQUIREMENTS AND DEFINITIONS

Section 1: Statutory Requirements.

(a) “Any person who intends to acquire the right to beneficial use of any underground water in the state of Wyoming, shall, before commencing construction of any well or other means of obtaining underground water or performing any work in connection with construction or proposed appropriation of underground water or any manner utilizing the water for beneficial purposes, file with the state engineer an application for a permit to make the appropriation and shall not proceed with any construction or work until a permit is granted by the state engineer...” (W.S. §41-3-930)

(b) “An appropriator of underground water may change the location of his well to a point within the same aquifer in the vicinity of the original location, without loss of priority, by securing approval of the state board of control if the groundwater right has been adjudicated or if the groundwater right has not been adjudicated but the water has been applied to beneficial use. In cases involving domestic or stock water wells which are not adjudicated but the water has been applied to beneficial use, the state engineer may approve a change of location. If the right is not adjudicated and the water has not been applied to beneficial use, approval for the change in location may be granted by the state engineer.” (see W.S. §41-3-917(a))

(c) “It shall be unlawful for any person to construct, alter or rehabilitate a water well or install pumping equipment in a water well without a license as provided by [W.S. §33-42-101 through 33-42-117] unless the activity is exempted from the licensing requirements of [W.S. §33-42-101 through 33-42-117].” (W.S. §33-42-103(f))

(d) “Any person who drills, digs or constructs any works for the securing of underground water without having obtained a permit is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished under W.S. §41-3-616.” (W.S. §41-3-938)

(e) “Any person who withdraws underground water or who fails to stop or reduce the flow of underground water in violation of any order of the state engineer made pursuant to this act, or any person who does not have a permit, certificate or vested right to appropriate underground water who shall withdraw underground water from any well other than a well for stock or domestic purposes as defined in W.S. §41-3-907, is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished under W.S. §41-3-616.” (W.S. §41-3-919)

(f) “[T]he state engineer is authorized and empowered on advice and consent of the board of control... [t]o require the abatement of any condition, or the sealing of any well, responsible for the admission of polluting materials into an underground water supply.” (W.S. §41-3-909(a))

Section 2: Definitions. For the purposes of Part III of the Regulations and Instructions of the Wyoming State Engineer's Office – Ground Water Division, the following definitions apply:

(a) ACCESS PORT – An opening at the wellhead and/or within the discharge system where measuring devices or meters may be placed to measure water levels, pressure, or discharge.

(b) ACRE-FOOT – The volume of water required to cover one (1) acre to a depth of one (1) foot. One (1) acre-foot equals approximately 325,851 U.S. Gallons.

(c) AIR-HAMMER DRILLING – A system of drilling that employs a pneumatic bit that delivers percussion strikes to the formation while being slowly rotated. Cuttings are removed by the compressed air that drives the hammer bit.

(d) ALLUVIUM – Deposits resulting from the operations of rivers, streams, etc., thus including sediments laid down in riverbeds, flood plains, lakes, fans at the foot of mountain slopes, and estuaries.

(e) ANNULAR SPACE (ANNULUS) – The space between two cylindrical surfaces, one of which surrounds the other, e.g. concentrically; such as the space between the outer well casing and the borehole wall. An annular space also means the space between an inner well casing and outer well casing. The annular space is calculated as the difference in diameter of the borehole (D_b) and the outside diameter of the casing (D_c) divided by two $[(D_b - D_c)/2]$, or the difference in the inside diameter of a larger casing (D_l) and the outside diameter of a smaller casing (D_s) divided by 2 $[(D_l - D_s)/2]$.

(f) AQUIFER – “[A]ny underground geological structure or formation having boundaries that may be ascertained or reasonably inferred, in which water stands, flows or percolates.” (W.S. §41-3-901(a)(iii)). (*Also see Unconfined, Confined and Perched*)

(g) API – The American Petroleum Institute.

(h) ARTESIAN AQUIFER – See Confined Aquifer.

(i) ARTESIAN WELL – A well that derives its water from an artesian or confined aquifer where the hydrostatic pressure is greater than atmospheric pressure thereby raising the water level above the top of the aquifer. A flowing artesian well has a water level that is above the land surface.

(j) ASTM – American Society for Testing and Materials International.

(k) AWWA – The American Water Works Association

(l) BENTONITE – Clay composed predominantly of the clay mineral montmorillonite and used commercially in drilling fluids and well sealing products.

(m) **BOREHOLE LOGS** – Borehole logs measure and display the physical properties of the surrounding medium with a sensor located in a borehole. Some common borehole logging techniques are presented below:

(i) **Acoustic (Sonic) Velocity** – A borehole log in which the down-hole tooling has a sound transmitter at one end and two receivers spaced along it. The tool uses the difference in signal arrival time to calculate the sonic velocity through the strata.

(ii) **Caliper** – A borehole log which measures the size of the well bore. Used to measure the diameter of an uncased borehole in bedrock units. Can also be used to find the casing depth.

(iii) **Cement Bond (Bond)** – An acoustic log that measures and displays the return arrival time of an acoustic wave generated within the casing. When steel casing is strongly bonded to cement, most of the energy of the wave is carried through the casing; however, when the casing is not strongly bonded to the cement, most of the sound waves are carried along the casing and the arrival time will be much shorter.

(iv) **Focused (Focus)** – A borehole log wherein electrodes are designed to direct electrical current as a disk. This method can yield improved results in high resistivity strata.

(v) **Formation Density (Density)** – A borehole log which measures the rock density.

(vi) **Gamma-Gamma Radiation** – A borehole log in which a source of gamma radiation and a detector are lowered into the borehole. The log measures bulk density of the formation and fluids.

(vii) **Gamma-Ray (or Gamma)** – A borehole log which measures naturally occurring gamma radiation emitted by the surrounding strata.

(viii) **Induction (or Dual Induction)** – A borehole log which measures spontaneous potential, resistivity, and conductivity.

(ix) **Neutron Porosity (Neutron)** – A borehole log obtained by lowering a radioactive element, which is a source of neutrons, and a neutron detector into the well. The log measures the hydrogen atom density of the surrounding strata and provides an indication of the formation porosity.

(x) **Resistivity** – A borehole log which measures the resistivity between two current electrodes and two additional electrodes. Measures the electrical resistivity of the formation and contained fluids near the probe.

(xi) **Spontaneous Potential (or Self Potential) (SP)** – A borehole log made by measuring the natural electrical potential that develops between the formation and the

borehole fluids. The SP log is commonly used to assess the permeability of the surrounding strata.

(n) CABLE-TOOL DRILLING – A drilling technique which is operated by repeatedly lifting and dropping a heavy drilling string and drilling bit which pulverizes the encountered material.

(o) CASCADING WATER – Ground water which trickles or pours through cracks (or other openings), down the cased or uncased borehole above the water level in the well.

(p) CASING – Any conduit or pipe placed in a well to prevent borehole wall caving, to protect the production string and pump, and to prevent pollution of the well. Casing material is most commonly steel, PVC, or concrete.

(q) CEMENT BASKET – A device firmly attached to the casing string that is designed to tightly fit against the borehole wall that is intended to hold cement above a desired zone.

(r) CENTRALIZER – A device attached to the outside of a casing or liner to center it within a borehole or casing.

(s) COLLUVIUM – Loose rock and soil at the base of a cliff or steep slope.

(t) CONFINED (ARTESIAN) AQUIFER – An aquifer bounded above and below by confining units (or beds) and in which water levels in wells rise above the top of the aquifer.

(u) CONFINING FORMATION (CONFINING UNIT) – A geologic bed which displays a significantly lower vertical hydraulic conductivity than an adjacent aquifer.

(v) CONSOLIDATED – Combined or cemented into a single or solid mass; or lithified (e.g. bedrock formation).

(w) CONSTRUCTION – “[I]ncludes boring, drilling, jetting, digging or excavating, and installing casing, pump and other devices withdrawing or facilitating the withdrawal of underground water, or measuring the depth to the water table or flow of the well.” (W.S. §41-3-901(a)(v)).

(x) CONTAMINANT – Any material responsible for or contributing to pollution. See POLLUTION.

(y) CUBIC FEET PER SECOND (CFS) – A rate of flow. One (1) cfs equals 448.8 gpm.

(z) DEVELOPMENT – Cleansing of the drilled hole and formation to remove cuttings, fine grained materials, infiltrated drilling fluids, and/or to enhance aquifer

permeability. Development can be accomplished by surging, backwashing, jetting, airlifting, acid-fracture treatment, etc.

(aa) DRILLER – See WATER WELL DRILLING CONTRACTOR.

(bb) DRILLING MUD – A viscous liquid suspension, usually composed of water and a bentonite-based mixture, which is pumped through the drill stem to equalize formation pressures, lubricate and cool the drilling bit, and/or aid in removing drill cuttings to the surface.

(cc) DRILL PIPE (DRILL STEM) – Thick walled pipe used for drilling operations. Transmits rotation from the rotating mechanism on the drill rig to the bit. Drill collar, extremely heavy drill pipe, is usually placed in the drill pipe string just above the bit to provide extra weight and strength.

(dd) DRILLING RIG – The derrick, mast, or standing apparatus together with the power equipment, pumps, cable and tools used in well drilling. Usually truck-mounted or trailer mounted.

(ee) DRIVE POINT – A conical shaped point of steel placed at the bottom of a driven well's screen to aid in placing the screen at the desired depth.

(ff) DRIVE SHOE – A section of steel casing attached to the bottom of a driven casing. The drive shoe has a beveled edge and is designed for cutting through rock or other hard formations.

(gg) DRIVEN WELL – A well which is emplaced by forcefully driving a casing into the ground (usually deep soil or alluvial material). The leading end of the casing is usually fitted with a drive point.

(hh) DUG WELL – A large diameter well or trench constructed by digging down and intercepting the water table or shallowest water-bearing horizon.

(ii) FILTER (GRAVEL) PACK – Clean sand or gravel sized according to formation texture and emplaced in the annular space of a well between the perforated or screened interval(s) of the casing and the borehole wall in order to prohibit or decrease the entrance of formation material into the well, stabilize the borehole, and increase the efficiency of water production.

(jj) FLOWING WELL – An artesian well in which the water level stands above the land surface.

(kk) FORMATION – a body of rock or soil which has identifiable and distinctive lithic characteristics, is aerially extensive, can be mapped, and may be combined into groups or divided into members.

(ll) GALLONS PER MINUTE (GPM) – Unit of measure used to describe a flow rate.

(mm) GEL – A jelly-like fluid and colloidal material (natural or synthetic) dispersion mixture used as a drilling fluid.

(nn) GROUND (UNDERGROUND) WATER – “[A]ny water, including hot water and geothermal steam, under the surface of the land or bed of any stream, lake, reservoir, or other body of surface water, including water that has been exposed to the surface by an excavation such as a pit.” (W.S. §41-3-901(a)(ii)).

(oo) GROUT – A fluid mixture of water plus a cement-based or bentonite-based material that is stable, has low permeability, and possesses minimum shrinking properties such that it is an optimal sealing material for well casing or for well plugging.

(pp) HEAT PUMP WELL – Any well constructed to utilize the heat exchange properties of either ground water or of geological material penetrated in the well.

(qq) HYDROSTATIC PRESSURE OR HEAD – Pressure of water (or other liquid) upon a unit area due to the height at which the surface of the water column stands above the point where the pressure is measured. Expressed as pounds per square inch (p.s.i.) or actual feet of head.

(rr) LINER – Pipe (steel or plastic), which is smaller in diameter than installed well casing, that is used to reconstruct (deepen) a well or strengthen unstable conditions encountered at depth in a well.

(ss) LINER HANGER – A device used to attach or hang liners from the internal wall of a larger, upper casing string.

(tt) LOST CIRCULATION – Subsurface escape of drilling fluid from a drill hole into a porous, fractured, or cavernous formation.

(uu) LCM (LOST CIRCULATION MATERIAL) – Material added to drilling fluid in order to reduce or stop lost circulation conditions.

(vv) MILLIGRAMS PER LITER – Abbreviated mg/l, means milligrams of solute per liter of solvent.

(ww) MONITORING WELL – A ground water level observation well or a well from which water samples are retrieved for water chemistry analysis.

(xx) NEAT CEMENT – Used for ground or borehole sealing. Commonly known as Portland cement of various ASTM designations (Type I through Type V, Type K, etc.). May be mixed with calcium chloride (CaCl₂) for rapid set time or bentonite for lower conductivity, lower curing temperature, and resistance to shrinking/cracking.

(yy) NSF – NSF International, formerly National Sanitation Foundation.

(zz) NOMINAL SIZE – Used to describe standard sizes for pipe from 1/8 inch to 12 inches. The term “nominal” is used in designating the inside diameter of the pipe, because, in practice, the actual size varies somewhat.

(aaa) PACKER – A device used to seal or isolate. In the case of a telescoped casing and screen assembly, a packer is used to provide a sand-tight seal between the screened assembly and the casing. An inflatable packer is used to isolate zones of the casing or borehole for tests or casing repairs.

(bbb) PERCHED AQUIFER – Unconfined ground water which is bounded below by low-permeability material and separated from an underlying regional body of ground water by an unsaturated zone.

(ccc) PERFORATIONS – Puncturing, drilling, sawing, slotting, torchcutting, or other openings of a well casing emplaced in order to allow flow of water from the water-bearing interval(s) into a cased well. Perforations are typically installed with revolving wheel cutters, knives, or explosive charges and are created after the casing has been placed in the borehole.

(ddd) PERMEABILITY – A measure of the ability of a material to transmit fluids.

(eee) PERMIT – The record instrument on which the State Engineer grants permission to construct a well/spring and beneficially use the water for the purposes specified, together with any conditions and limitations attached.

(fff) PIEZOMETER – A nonpumping well, generally of small diameter, that is used to measure the pore pressures, water levels, or potentials. A piezometer generally has a short well screen through which water can enter.

(ggg) PITLESS ADAPTOR – A commercially manufactured, watertight unit or device designed for attachment to well casing which permits discharge from the well below the land surface to provide for a buried, frost-free discharge line.

(hhh) PLUGGED AND ABANDONED WELL (P&A) – Any well which has been filled or plugged so that it is rendered unproductive and prevents contamination of the ground water. A properly abandoned well will not produce water nor serve as a channel for movement of water or other material from the well or between water-bearing zones.

(iii) POLLUTION – “[A]ny impairment of the natural quality of such water, however caused, including impairment by salines, minerals, industrial wastes, domestic wastes or sewage, whether indrafted directly or through infiltration into the underground water supply.” (W.S. §41-3-901(a)(vi))

(jjj) POROSITY – The ratio of the volume of void spaces in a rock or sediment to the total volume of the rock or sediment. Effective Porosity – the volume of the void

spaces through which water or other fluids can travel in a rock or sediment divided by the total volume of the rock or sediment. Primary porosity is the porosity that represents the original pore openings when a rock or sediment formed. Secondary porosity is the porosity that has been caused by fractures or weathering in a rock or sediment after it has been formed.

(kkk) **POTENTIOMETRIC SURFACE** – A surface that represents the level to which water will rise in tightly cased wells.

(lll) **PRESSURE GROUTING** – A process by which a grout is emplaced and confined within the borehole or casing of a well by the use of retaining plugs, packers, or a displacing fluid by which sufficient pressure is applied to drive the grout into and within the annular space or interval to be grouted.

(mmm) **PUMP INSTALLER** – See **WATER WELL PUMP INSTALLATION CONTRACTOR**.

(nnn) **PUMP TEST** – Pumping a well, usually at time of completion, to determine aquifer or well performance (e.g., drawdown, maximum efficient gpm, specific capacity, etc.).

(ooo) **PUMPING WATER LEVEL** – The water level achieved, during water well pumping, where the drawdown ceases or stabilizes.

(ppp) **PVC CASING OR SCREEN** – Polyvinyl chloride polymer (plastic) pipe.

(qqq) **RECOVERY WELL** – A well primarily designed to remove contaminants, groundwater, or both, usually in an attempt to contain contaminants or contaminated groundwater to an area already effected.

(rrr) **REHABILITATION** – Restoring a well to its most efficient condition. This may be accomplished by chemical and mechanical methods.

(sss) **ROTARY DRILLING** – Drilling technique which employs a rotating drill string through which drilling mud is pumped down hole to cool the drill bit and remove cuttings to the surface via the borehole outside the drill pipe. Compressed air is also used, in lieu of drilling fluid, to remove cuttings. Reverse circulation rotary drilling is a method in which drilling fluid flows from the ground surface down the borehole and is pumped back to the ground surface through the drill pipe. The reverse rotary method can be effective for drilling large diameter boreholes and for drilling in unstable material.

(ttt) **SANITARY WELL CAP (SEAL)** – A vented watertight wellhead cap that prevents the intrusion of foreign fluids (runoff, chemical liquids, animal waste, etc.) or debris.

(uuu) **SATURATED** – All voids are filled with water.

(vvv) SHALE BASKET – A device firmly attached to the casing string designed to tightly fit against the borehole wall that is intended to prevent materials from falling into the intervals below the shale basket setting.

(www) SLIM HOLE – A small diameter exploration borehole drilled to obtain stratigraphic or structural information.

(xxx) SPRING – A point location where ground water emanates from bedrock or soil to the land surface.

(yyy) SQUEEZE JOB – Usually a secondary cementing or grouting process where the sealant is pumped into a borehole through the bottom of the casing or through perforations at key depths in the casing in order to obtain fluid or formation shut off.

(zzz) STATE ENGINEER – The State Engineer or his designee.

(aaaa) STATIC WATER LEVEL – (1) The elevation or level of the water in a well when the pump is not operating. Usually measured in depth below the land surface or from the top of the casing. (2) The level or elevation to which water would rise in a tube connected to an artesian aquifer when the well is shut in. Usually measured in psi or feet above ground level.

(bbbb) SURFACE (CONDUCTOR) CASING – Retaining pipe, usually large diameter steel, concrete or culvert material installed in the uppermost portion of the well between the borehole wall and the inner well casing.

(cccc) SURFACTANT – An agent that reduces the surface tension of the liquid in which it is dissolved. Used in air-based drilling to produce foam and during development to disaggregate clays.

(dddd) TREMIE PIPE (GROUT PIPE) – A small diameter conductor pipe, hose or tubing used in down hole placement of well construction material (cement, grout mixture, gravel pack, etc.).

(eeee) UNCONFINED (WATER TABLE) AQUIFER – An aquifer that has no overlying geologic unit preventing or restricting the vertical or upward movement of water.

(ffff) UNCONSOLIDATED – A loose aggregation or not combined nor cemented into a single or solid mass; or unconsolidated deposit (e.g., alluvium).

(gggg) WATER TABLE – The water surface of an unconfined aquifer.

(hhhh) WATER WELL DRILLING CONTRACTOR (DRILLER) – “[A]ny person responsible for or causing the construction, equipping, test pumping or development of any water well for compensation or otherwise as provided by [W.S. §33-42-101 through 33-42-117].” (W.S. §33-42-102 (a)(iii))

(iiii) WATER WELL PUMP INSTALLATION CONTRACTOR (PUMP INSTALLER) – “[A]ny person who is in the business of installing pumping equipment in water wells for compensation or otherwise as provided by [W.S. §33-42-101 through 33-42-117].” (W.S. §33-42-102 (a)(iv))

(jjjj) WELL – “[A]ny artificial opening or excavation in the ground, however made, by which underground water is sought or through which it flows under natural pressure or is artificially withdrawn, and a series of wells developed as a unit and pumped collectively by a single pumping unit shall be considered as one (1) well.” W.S. §41-3-901(a)(iv) “[A]ny artificial opening in the ground for the production of groundwater or the disposal of water underground, including developed springs, test wells, monitoring wells, deep well ground beds (cathodic protection bores), geothermal or heat exchange wells, drive points and excavations for the purpose of artificial recharge to the groundwater bodies or disposal of wastes. The term "well" does not include excavations made for the dewatering of construction sites, mines or oil and gas wells, and the prospecting for and removal of mineral products, nor wells for the production of the media for secondary oil recovery.” (W.S. §33-42-102(a)(v))

For the purpose of this document, the following well types are described:

- (i) Type I – Dug Wells
- (ii) Type II – Natural Filter Wells
- (iii) Type III - Artificial Filter Wells
- (iv) Type IV – Partially-Cased Open Borehole Wells
- (v) Type V – Fully-Cased Wells
- (vi) Type VI – Conversion of Existing Oil or Gas Wells, or Exploration Test Wells into Water Wells

(kkkk) WELL (DRILL HOLE) CUTTINGS – Rock chips or particles cut by the action of the drill bit and removed from the hole. Cutting samples collected and identified at evenly spaced intervals provide a lithologic log (detailed description of rock material encountered in the drill hole).

(llll) WELL SCREEN – A commercially manufactured structurally supporting filter device that allows inflow, retains select material, and is the access for aquifer development and future aquifer maintenance. Screen may be continuous-slot wire-wrapped, pre-packed, louvered, or bridge-slotted or any other commercially manufactured product which is produced for the purpose of water well screening.

PART III

WATER WELL MINIMUM CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

CHAPTER 1

PURPOSE

Section 1: Purpose and Scope.

(a) The State Engineer, having general supervision of the waters of the state, is authorized under Section 41-3-909 of the Wyoming Statutes to establish standards for construction of water wells to protect the use of the state's ground water resources. The enactment of federal and state environmental quality law and fostering of safe and clean water policy has prompted enhanced well head protection measures against contamination of ground water resources.

(b) Every well constructed or repaired with a withdrawal of well casing after the adoption of these standards must comply with them. Any deviation from these standards must be approved in writing by the State Engineer or his designee.

(c) It is the joint responsibility of the drilling and/or pump contractor(s) and well owners(s) to comply with these standards. Further, the well owner(s) must maintain a well in a condition so that it does not contribute to contamination (pollution) of the ground water supply.

(d) If compliance with these Water Well Minimum Construction Standards will not result in a well that is sufficiently sealed from either surface or subsurface contamination, then the drilling and/or pump contractor(s) and well owner(s) must use additional safeguards to protect the ground water supply and its users.

(e) Any waiver or variance to these Water Well Minimum Construction Standards can only be obtained by applying for the waiver or variance to the State Engineer in writing. The waiver or variance application shall state the nature of the waiver or variance and the reasons why the waiver or variance will not result in a well that will have a detrimental effect on the ground water resource.

(f) Other state and local regulations pertaining to well drilling and construction, ground water protection, and water quality regulations may exist that are either more stringent than these rules or that apply to a specific situation. It is the well driller's responsibility to understand and apply other regulations as applicable.

(g) Well owners and drillers are advised that local zoning ordinances or county board of health requirements may limit or restrict the actual well location, construction, and/or relationship to property/structure boundaries and existing or proposed concentrated sources of pollution or contamination such as septic tanks, drain fields, sewer lines, stock corrals, feed lots, etc., beyond the requirements of these standards.

(h) Well owners and drillers are advised that standards developed under Wyoming State Law, Title 37, Chapter 12, Article 3 (Damage to Underground Public Utility Facilities) apply.

(i) Well owners and drillers are advised that the State Engineer's Office maintains reporting requirements with regard to certain stages of well completion. These requirements are addressed in the Wyoming State Engineer's Office Part II Rules.

Section 2. Authority.

(a) The State Engineer has the authority to establish standards for the construction of wells. Pursuant to W.S. §41-3-909 (a)(vi) and the Wyoming Administrative Procedures Act; the State Engineer hereby adopts the following Water Well Minimum Construction Standards. Every well constructed after the adoption of these standards must be in compliance with these standards. Deviations from these standards must be approved by the State Engineer.

PART III.

CHAPTER V.

STANDARDS FOR SPECIAL SITUATIONS

~~Section 1. Construction of Wells that Encounter Artesian Water.~~

~~a. When artesian water is encountered in a well, unperforated casing shall extend into the confining layer overlying the artesian zone. This casing shall be adequately sealed with cement grout into the confining zone so as to prevent both surface and subsurface leakage from the artesian zone. (See Figure 3A on page 17.) The method of construction shall be such that during the placing of the grout and the time required for it to set, no water shall flow through or around the annular space outside the casing, and no water pressure sufficient to disturb the grout prior to final set shall occur. After the grout has set completely, drilling operations may be continued into the artesian zone. If leakage occurs around the well casing or adjacent to the well, the well shall be recompleted with any seals, packers, or casing, necessary to eliminate the leakage completely.~~

~~b. If water flows at the surface, the well shall be equipped with valved pipe connections, watertight pump connections, or receiving reservoirs set at an altitude so that flow can be stopped completely. There shall be no direct connection between any discharge pipe and a sewer or other source of pollution.~~

~~Section 2. Construction of Gravel Packed Wells. The diameter of an oversized drill hole designed for the placement of an artificial gravel pack, shall be such as to allow a thickness of gravel or sand outside the casing sufficient to block the movement of natural earth materials into the well. The size of the openings in the casing or screen shall be based on the size of the gravel or sand used in the gravel pack. After completion, the well shall be overpumped, surged, or otherwise developed to insure free entry of water without sediment. A gravel packed well shall be sealed in one of two ways to prevent pollution to the ground water supply:~~

~~a. If a permanent surface casing is not installed, the annular opening between the casing and drill hole shall be sealing in the top 10 feet with concrete or cement grout. Access pipes used to inject gravel may be installed in the annular space prior to sealing, provided that the seal around the injection pipes remains watertight, and that such pipes are covered with a watertight cap or plug. (See Figure 4A on page 18.)~~

~~b. If a permanent surface casing is installed, it shall extend to a depth of at least 10 feet. The annular opening between this outer casing and inner casing shall be covered with a metal or cement seal. (See Figure 4B on page 18.) Access pipes used to inject gravel may be installed in this seal, provided that the seal around the injection pipes remains watertight, and that such pipes are covered with a watertight cap or plug. A watertight concrete pump base tied to the surface casing, may serve in place of the above seal between casings.~~

PART III.

~~Section 3. Construction of Wells that Encounter Mineralized or Polluted Water.~~

~~a. Any time during the construction of a well that mineralized water or water known to be polluted is encountered, the aquifer or aquifers containing such inferior quality water shall be adequately cased or sealed off so that such water shall not enter the well, nor will it move up or down the annular space outside the well casing. (See Figure 3B on page 17.) If necessary, special seals or packers shall be installed to prevent movement of inferior quality water.~~

~~b. In gravel packed wells, aquifers containing inferior quality water shall be sealed by pressure grouting, or with special packers or seals, to prevent such water from moving vertically in gravel packed portions of the well.~~

~~Section 4. Conversion of Existing Oil or Gas Wells, or Exploration Test Holes, into Water Wells.~~

~~a. Existing oil and gas wells, seismic test holes, or mineral exploration holes, may be converted for use as water wells, provided that the wells can be completed to conform to the minimum construction standards cited herein. A permit to appropriate ground water must be obtained from the State Engineer prior to use of the water. Also, before any oil or gas exploration hole or well is converted for use as a water well, a written request for conversion must be approved by the Wyoming Oil & Gas conservation Commission as specified in Rule 312 of the Rules and Regulations of the Commission.~~

~~b. Information on the geologic conditions encountered in the well at the time of the original drilling, shall be used to determine what special construction standards shall be met in order to eliminate all movement of pollutants into the well or along the annular space surrounding the casing. If no original geologic information is available, an electric or other geophysical log may be required to supplement known information.~~

~~Section 5. Modification of Existing Water Wells. When existing wells are to be modified extensively, including, but not limited to, replacing the casing, deepening the well, or changing the pump to increase the yield of the well by more than 25 gallons per minute, the well shall be modified to meet the minimum construction standards cited herein.~~

PART III.

CHAPTER 5

APPENDICES

Appendix A

DISINFECTION TABLE*

(PRODUCES A 100 mg/l SOLUTION PER 10 FEET OF CASING LENGTH)

<u>NOMINAL CASING OR BOREHOLE DIAMETER</u>	<u>GALLONS OF WATER PER 10 FEET OF CASING</u>	<u>6% Chlorine HOCl</u> <small>Clorox, Purex, Sno-White, White Magic, etc. (Sodium Hypochlorite)</small>	<u>10% Chlorine HOCl</u> <small>Liquid Bleach (Sodium Hypochlorite)</small>	<u>70% Chlorine HOCl</u> <small>"High Test" (Calcium Hypochlorite)</small>	<u>100% Chlorine Cl₂</u>
<u>(inches)</u>	<u>(gal/10ft.)</u>	<u>fluid oz.</u>	<u>fluid oz.</u>	<u>dry oz.</u>	<u>fluid oz</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>6.5</u>	<u>1.7</u>	<u>0.9</u>	<u>0.1</u>	<u>≤0.1</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>10.2</u>	<u>2.6</u>	<u>1.4</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>0.1</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>15.0</u>	<u>3.8</u>	<u>2.0</u>	<u>0.3</u>	<u>0.2</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>26.0</u>	<u>6.6</u>	<u>3.5</u>	<u>0.5</u>	<u>0.35</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>40.8</u>	<u>10.4</u>	<u>5.4</u>	<u>0.8</u>	<u>0.5</u>
<u>12</u>	<u>58.7</u>	<u>14.9</u>	<u>7.8</u>	<u>1.1</u>	<u>0.8</u>
<u>16</u>	<u>104.4</u>	<u>26.5</u>	<u>13.9</u>	<u>2.0</u>	<u>1.4</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>163.2</u>	<u>40.8</u>	<u>21.2</u>	<u>3.3</u>	<u>2.2</u>
<u>24</u>	<u>235.0</u>	<u>59.7</u>	<u>30.6</u>	<u>4.5</u>	<u>3.1</u>
<u>36</u>	<u>528.7</u>	<u>132.2</u>	<u>68.7</u>	<u>10.6</u>	<u>7.1</u>
<u>48</u>	<u>940.0</u>	<u>235.0</u>	<u>122.2</u>	<u>18.8</u>	<u>12.5</u>

For 50 mg/l solution, divide values by 2; for 200 mg/l solution, multiply values by 2.

U.S. liquid measure - 1 gal = 4 qt = 8 pt = 128 fl oz

U.S. dry weight measure - 16 oz = 1 lb

*Modified from National Ground Water Association, Manual of Water Well Construction Practices
and State of Missouri Well Construction Rules

PART III.

Appendix B CONVERSION TABLES

VOLUME CONVERSIONS FOR WATER

1 cubic foot = 7.48 gallons = 62.4 lbs

1 cubic foot = 28.317 liters

1 gallon = 231 cubic inches

1 gallon = 8.3 pounds

1 gallon = 4 quarts = 3.7853 liters

1 cubic yard = 27 cubic feet

1 cubic yard = 202 gallons

1 liter = 0.264 gallon

1 liter = 2.205 pounds

1 cubic meter = 2204.5 pounds

1 cubic meter = 1000 liters

1 cubic meter = 35.4 cubic feet

1 cubic meter = 265 gal

1 acre-foot = 43,560 cubic feet

1 acre-foot = 325,851 gallons

1 million gallons = 3.0684 acre-feet

RATES OF FLOW

1 second-foot/day = 1.984 acre-feet/day

1 second-foot/day = 86,400 cubic feet

1 cubic foot/second = 448.8 gal/min

1 cubic foot/second = 646,317 gal/day

1 gallon/minute = 192.5 cubic feet/day

1 gallon/minute = 0.00442 acre-foot/day

1 gallon/minute = 1.61 acre-feet/year

1 cubic meter/second = 35.31 cubic feet/second

1 cubic meter/second = 70.02 acre-feet/day

1 acre-foot/day = 0.32585 million gallons/day

LENGTH

1 inch (in) = 2.54 centimeters (cm)

1 foot (ft) = 12 in

1 meter (m) = 39.37 in = 3.28 ft = 100 cm

1 centimeter = 10 millimeters (mm)

AREA

1 square inch (sq in) (in²)

1 square foot (sq ft) (ft²) = 144 in²

1 acre (a) = 43,560 ft²

1 square mile = 640 acres

WEIGHT

1 pound (lb) = 16 ounces (oz)

1 pound = 453.6 grams (g or gm)

1 pound = 7,000 grains (gr)

1 kilogram (kg) = 1,000 grams = 2.205 pounds

PRESSURE

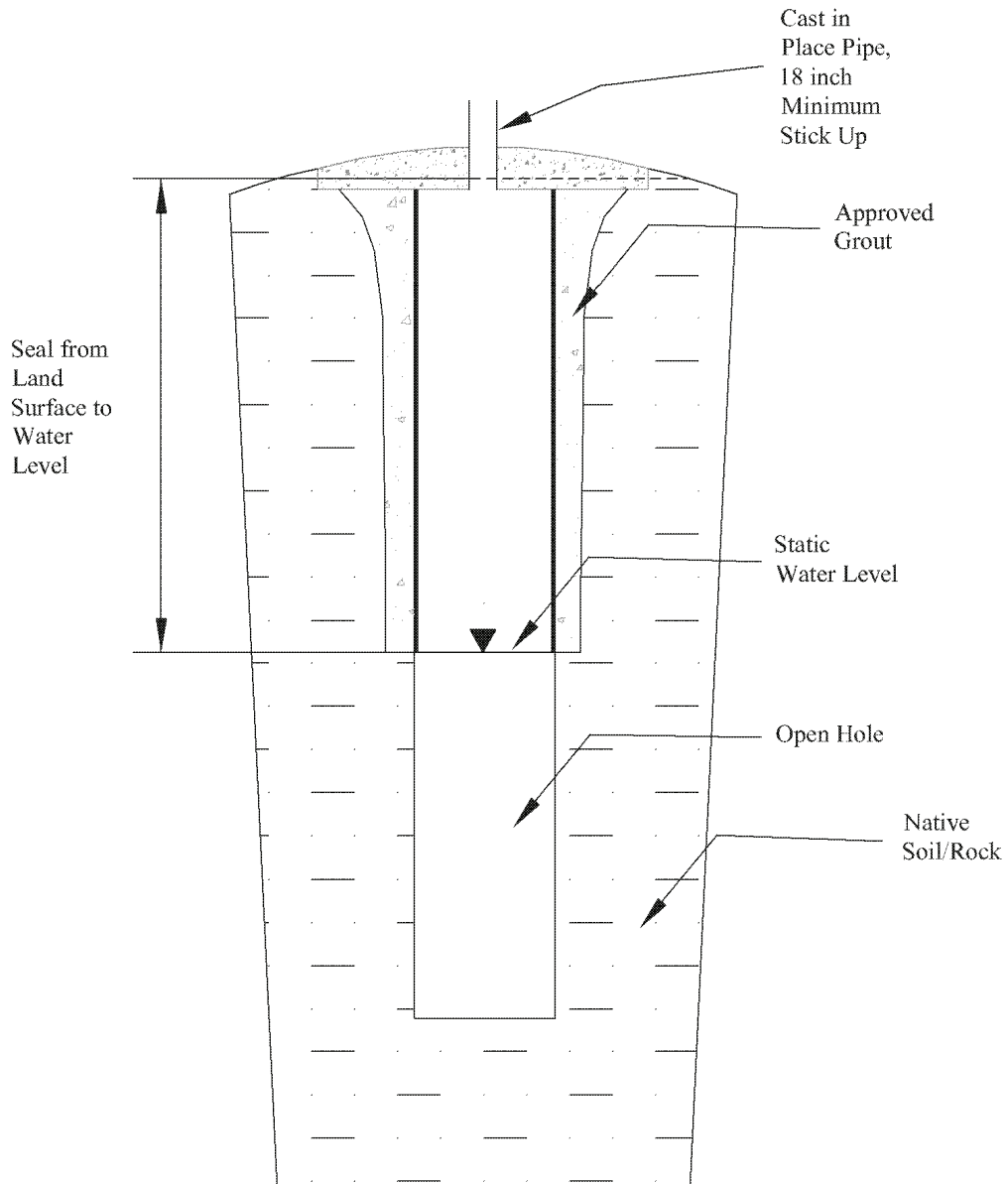
1 bar = 100 kilopascals

1 bar = 14.5 pounds/square inch

1 pound/square inch = 2.31 feet of water

PART III.

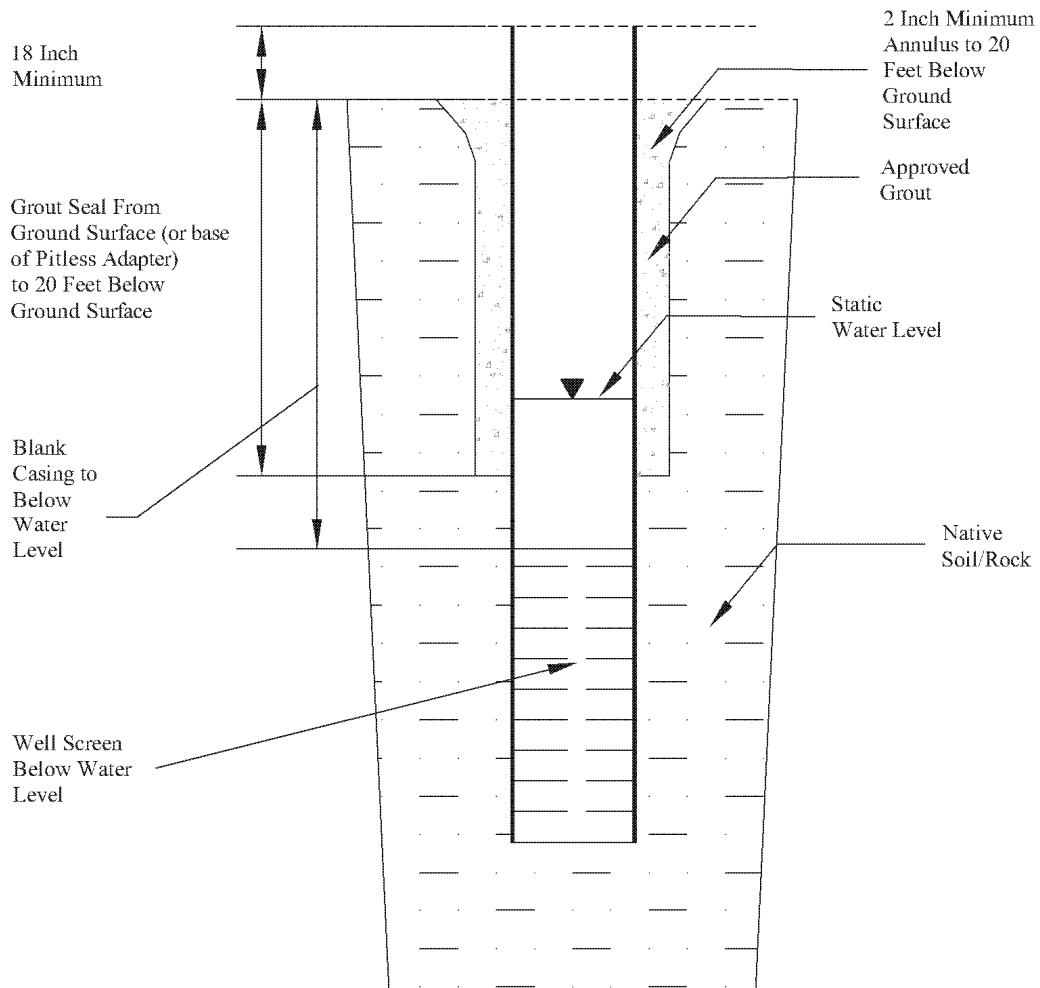
Appendix C-1
TYPE I WELLS



Version 11.20.2009

PART III.

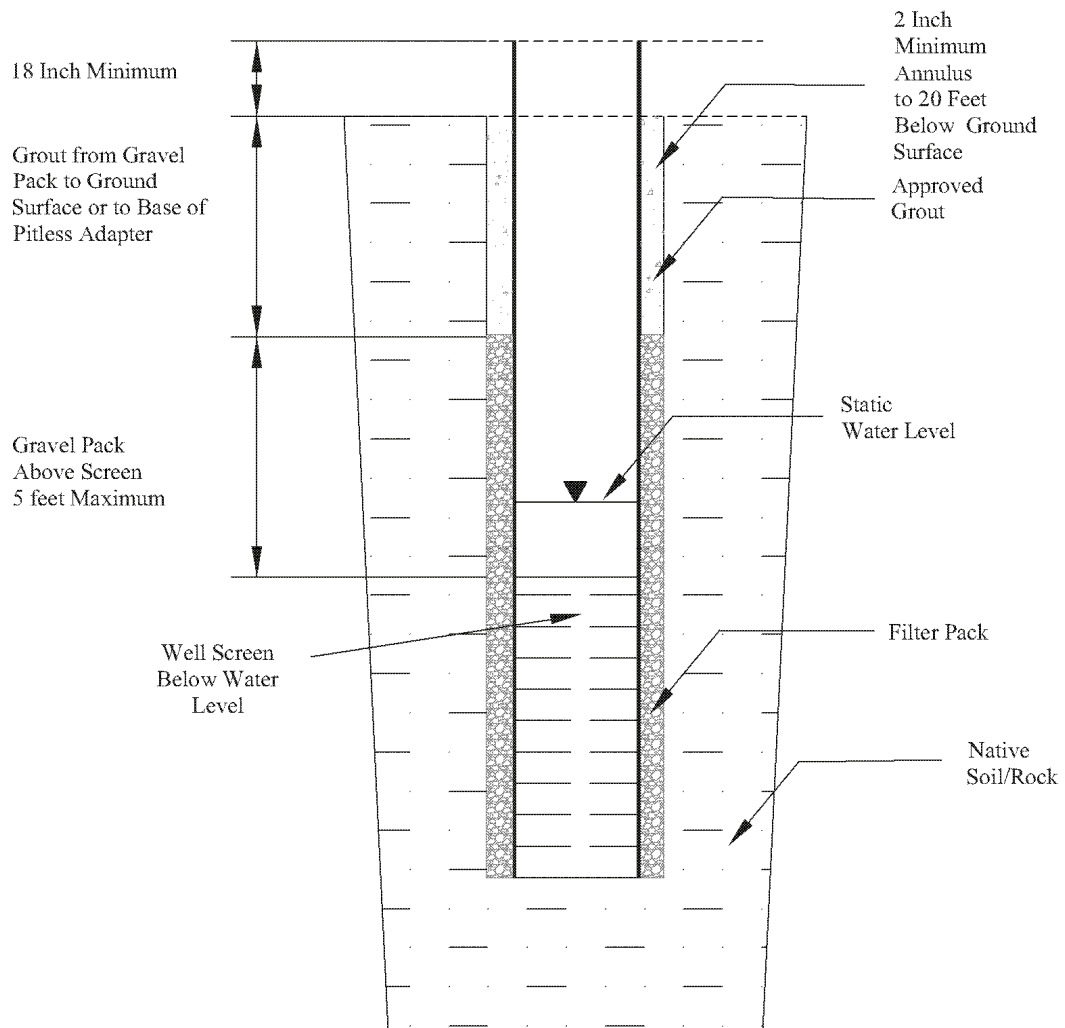
Appendix C-2
TYPE II WELLS



Version 11.20.2009

PART III.

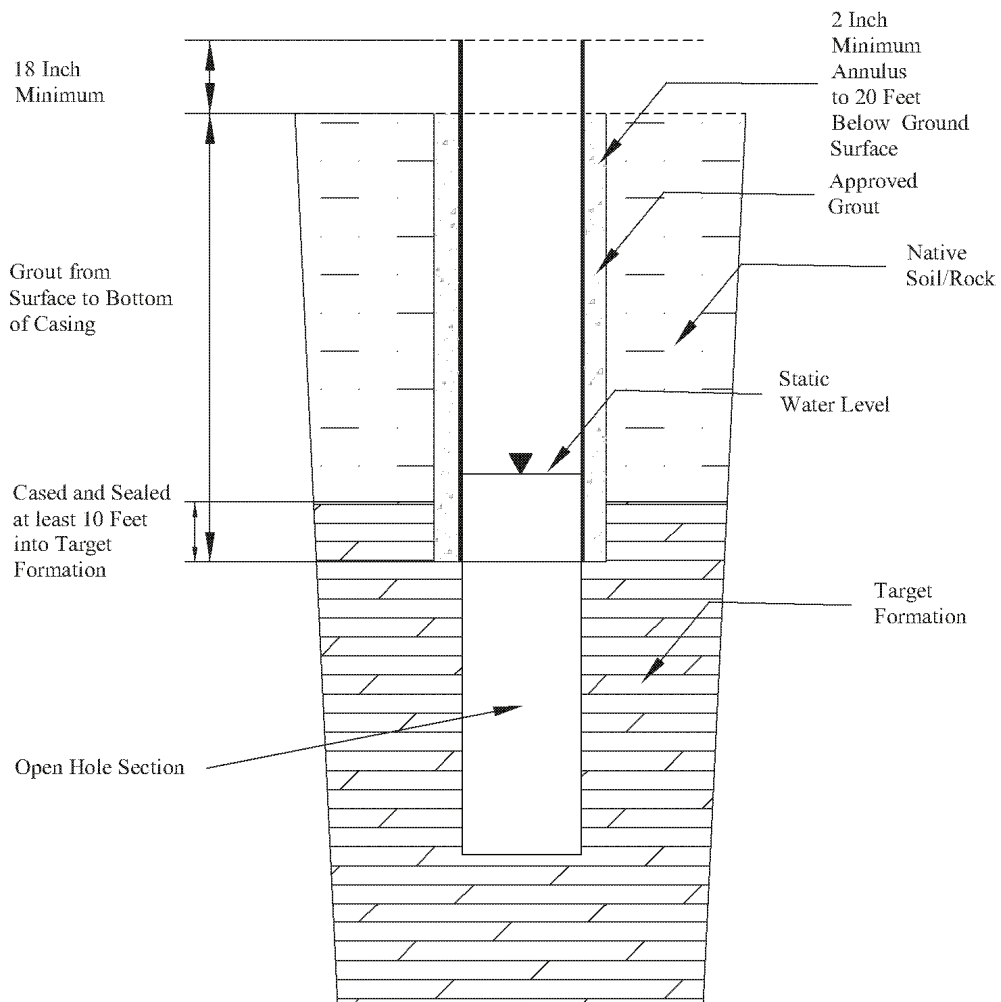
Appendix C-3
TYPE III WELLS



Version 11.20.2009

PART III.

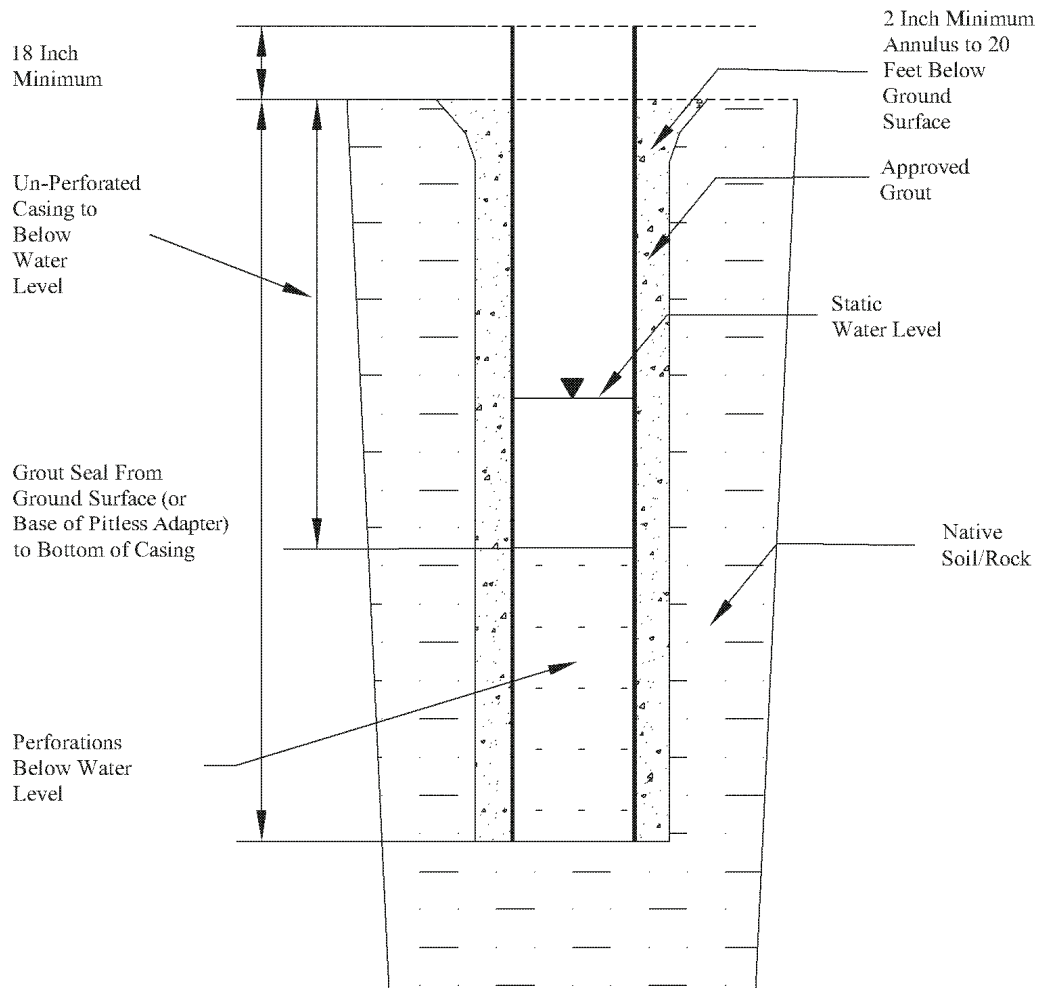
Appendix C-4
TYPE IV WELLS



Version 11.20.2009

PART III.

Appendix C-5
TYPE V WELLS



Version 11.20.2009

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