ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
WATER DIVISION - WATER WELL STANDARDS PROGRAM
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 335-9-1
LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION OF WATER AND WATER WELL CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

335-9-1-.06 Construction Standards.

(a) Casing.

(1) In every well, the casing shall extend from 1 foot above ground level to a suitable impervious layer where it shall be properly sealed to prevent the entrance of seep water and other extraneous material. In no case shall the length of casing be less than 20 feet. Where an impervious layer is not encountered above the water-bearing zone, the seal shall be affected by sealing 50 feet of the annulus, the upper 20 feet of which must be grouted. All well with casing greater than 8 inches in I.D. (inside diameter) shall be grouted to a depth of 20 feet or more. Wells that are to be constructed with less than 20 feet of casing must be approved by the County Environmentalist.

(2) The minimum casing size in mud rotary wells shall be 4 1/2 inches O.D. If a person desires to drill a well with casing of a size smaller than herein specified, permission shall be obtained from the County Environmentalist prior to commencement of work, and when approved by the County Environmentalist, the driller may construct, install, or service a single-string completion well with cemented casing and chlorination. This type well shall not be pulled or re-screened except in Choctaw County, Act 81-185, and Sumter County, Act 81-186; it shall be sealed or plugged according to Rule .06 (g).

(3) Air rotary drilling equipment used in the developing of ground water shall be equipped with a pump for the injection of a minimum of 3 gallons per minute of water. This injection equipment shall be used during the course of drilling for water.

(4) Casing may be driven, lowered, or installed in any manner which will affect a continuous watertight installation. In those wells where there is an annulus, it shall be filled with puddled clay and/or cement grout in the manner prescribed in Rule 06 (a) (1).

(b) Screens.

An adequate screen shall be provided where necessary and installed in such a manner that removal and replacement can be accomplished without affecting the watertight seal around the casing.

(c) Development.

The well shall be developed to its maximum practical yield of the best quality of water at the site.

(d) Testing.

The contractor shall make an adequate test for yield and report the results on the Well Completion Certificate.

(e) Capping.

Every well shall be left with a secure cap which will not permit the well to become contaminated during construction.

(f) Special Cases.

Any person desiring to construct a well in a manner not covered above, shall submit this information to the Board for approval before the work is started on the well.

(g) Abandonment.

Any well to be abandoned shall be permanently sealed in the following manner: The well will be filled with a puddled clay material containing 50 ppm of chlorine to within 20 feet of the top of the well. The top 20 feet shall be filled with cement grout or concrete.

(h) Holes.

Any holes remaining after construction or testing attempts shall be properly backfilled.

Author:
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