

(b) Shut-in pressures shall be taken with a dead-weight gauge after a minimum shut-in period of 24 hours. When the shut-in period exceeds 24 hours, the length of time the well was shut in shall be reported to the Division.

(c) The Division Director may prescribe special shut-in pressure test periods and procedures for pools when he deems the same necessary in order to obtain more accurate pressure data.

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE

RULE 701.D. SALT WATER DISPOSAL WELLS

1. The Division Director shall have authority to grant an exception to the requirements of Rule 701-A for water disposal wells only, without notice and hearing, when the waters to be disposed of are mineralized to such a degree as to be unfit for domestic, stock, irrigation, or other general use, and when said waters are to be disposed of into a formation older than Triassic (Lea County only) ~~which is nonproductive of oil or gas within a radius of two miles from the proposed injection well,~~ and provided no objections are received pursuant to Rule 701-B(3).

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE

RULE 704. TESTING, MONITORING, STEP-RATE TESTS, NOTICE TO THE DIVISION, REQUESTS FOR PRESSURE INCREASES

Case 9013

X A. Testing

Prior to commencement of injection and any time tubing is pulled or the packer is reseated, wells shall be tested to assure the integrity of the casing and the tubing and packer, if used, including pressure testing of the casing-tubing annulus to a minimum of 300 psi for 30 minutes or such other pressure and/or time as may be approved by the appropriate district supervisor. A pressure recorder shall be used and copies of the chart shall be submitted to the appropriate Division district office within 30 days following the test date.

At least once every five years thereafter, injection wells shall be tested to assure their continued mechanical integrity. Tests demonstrating continued mechanical integrity shall include the following:

- (a) measurement of annular pressures in wells injecting at positive pressures under a packer or a balanced fluid seal;
- (b) pressure testing of the casing-tubing annulus for wells injecting under vacuum conditions; and,
- (c) such other tests which are demonstrably effective and which may be approved for use by the Division.

Notwithstanding the test procedures outlined above, the Division may require more comprehensive testing of the injection wells when deemed advisable, including the use of tracer surveys, noise logs, temperature logs, or other test procedures or devices.

In addition, the Division may order special tests to be conducted prior to the expiration of five years if conditions are believed to so warrant. Any such special test which demonstrates continued mechanical integrity of a well shall be considered the equivalent of an initial test for test scheduling purposes, and the regular five-year testing schedule shall be applicable thereafter.

The injection well operator shall advise the Division of the date and time any initial, five-year, or special tests are to be commenced in order that such tests may be witnessed.

B. Monitoring

Injection wells shall be so equipped that the injection pressure and annular pressure may be determined at the wellhead and the injected volume may be determined at least monthly.

Injection wells used for storage shall be so equipped that both injected and produced volumes may be determined at any time.

(New Material)

C. Step-Rate Tests, Notice to the Division, Requests for Injection Pressure Limit Increases

Whenever an operator shall conduct a step-rate test for the purpose of increasing an authorized injection or disposal well pressure limit, notice of the date and time of such test shall be given to the appropriate Division district office.

ILLEGIBLE