

PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE DIVISION OF MINERALS OF THE COMMISSION ON MINERAL RESOURCES

LCB File No. R081-15

(The provisions of this regulation were split out from R056-15 for separate consideration)

NAC 522.195 Tentative approval ~~of oral or telegraphed~~ request. If the division gives tentative approval of ~~an oral or telegraphed~~ a request or plan, the person requesting the approval must promptly submit the request or plan in writing on the proper form for final approval and confirmation by the division.

[Div. of Mineral Res., § 105, eff. 12-20-79]—(NAC A by Dep't of Minerals, 7-22-87)

NAC 522.380 Procedure for underground disposal of water.

1. The *construction of a well intended for* underground disposal *permitted by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection Underground Injection Control* of salt water, brackish water or other water unfit for domestic use or for livestock, irrigation or other use is permitted only upon approval of the administrator.

2. Disposal wells must be cased and the casing cemented in such a manner that no damage is caused to fresh water, oil, gas or other minerals. All injection must be through tubing and below the packer unless another means is approved by the administrator.

3. The application *for the construction of a well* to dispose of salt water, brackish water or other water unfit for domestic use or for livestock, irrigation or other use must be verified by the applicant and filed in duplicate with the division. The application must include:

(a) A plat showing the location of each disposal well and the location of all oil and gas wells, including abandoned wells, wells being drilled and dry holes, and the names of lessees of record of land within one-half mile of the proposed disposal well;

(b) The formation and depths to which all wells are currently completed;

(c) The name, description and depth of the formation into which water is to be injected;

(d) Logs of each disposal well, or a description of the typical stratigraphic level of the disposal formation in each disposal well;

(e) A description of the casings in each disposal well of the proposed casing program, and the proposed method for testing the casings before use of each disposal well;

(f) A statement specifying the source of water to be injected;

(g) The estimated minimum and maximum amount of water to be injected daily;

(h) The estimated minimum injection pressure; and

(i) The names and addresses of the operator of the project.

[Div. of Mineral Res., § 600, eff. 12-20-79]—(NAC A by Dep't of Minerals, 7-22-87)

NAC 522.430 *Permanent and* Temporary abandonment of well.

1. Each well in which production casing has been run but which has not been operated for 1 year, and each well in which no production casing has been run and for which drilling operations have ceased for 30 days, must be immediately *and permanently* plugged.

2. The administrator may, for good cause, grant extensions of up to 1 year ~~an additional 6 months~~ for the well to be plugged.

3. Extensions shall be requested on Sundry Notice and Report on Wells (NDOM form 4).

[Div. of Mineral Res., § 305, eff. 12-20-79]—(NAC A by Dep't of Minerals, 7-22-87)

~~[NAC 522.450 Water wells.~~

~~—1. If a well or exploratory hole which is to be plugged may safely be used as a fresh-water well, and the landowner wishes so to use it, the well need not be filled above the required sealing plug set below the fresh-water stratum. Written authority for use of the well or hole as a water well must be secured from the landowner on Form 10 and filed with and approved by the division. Authority from the landowner must also include the assumption of full responsibility by the landowner for the final plugging of the well.~~

~~—2. Approval by the division to convert the well to a fresh-water well and approval of the plugging of the well to the base of the fresh-water producing stratum releases and discharges the principal and surety from any liability under any bond given to assure that the well would be properly plugged and abandoned.~~

~~[Div. of Mineral Res., § 304, eff. 12-20-79]—(NAC A by Dep't of Minerals, 7-22-87)]~~

NAC 522.465 Record of plugging. Within 30 days after the plugging of a hole or well, a record of the plugging must be submitted to the division on Form 4 **5A**.

[Div. of Mineral Res., § 307, eff. 12-20-79]—(NAC A by Dep't of Minerals, 7-22-87)

NAC 522.485 Forms required by chapter. Where the provisions of this chapter require forms to be filed, the forms listed in NAC 522.490 to 522.530, inclusive, ~~for other approved machine-accounting forms, may be filed. Applicable forms of the United States Geological Survey~~ may be filed. ~~[in place of Forms 4, 5 and 7A.*~~

~~—*(See agency for forms.)]~~

[Div. of Mineral Res., § 702, eff. 12-20-79]

NAC 522.495 Form 2: Application for permit to drill ~~[, deepen or plug back]~~ oil and gas wells.

1. A person who desires to drill ~~[, deepen or plug back]~~ any oil or gas well must file Form 2, properly completed, with the division. ~~[A fee of \$50 and a location plat must accompany the application for a permit to drill. No additional fee or location plat is required to deepen or plug back a well which has been drilled.]~~

2. The location plat required by this section must be of convenient size, and must have the location of the proposed well within a 40-acre legal subdivision by an accurate course and distance tie to an established corner of a section or quarter section. The plat must contain a full description of the corner to which the tie is made, together with all markings thereon. Ties to offset section or quarter corners on township lines must also show the nearest corner of the adjoining township together with the offset distance. Lots within a lotted section must be shown and designated. The plat must indicate the method used in obtaining all bearings and must show the declination used for compass bearings and the source of the bearing if an angle is turned from a line of known bearing. The person who prepares the plat must note on the plat whether solar or polaris observations have been used.

[Div. of Mineral Res., § 704 subsecs. 1 & 2, eff. 12-20-79]—(NAC A by Dep't of Minerals, 7-22-87)

NAC 522.500 Forms 3 and 3a: Drilling bond.

1. Form 3, ~~{*}~~ properly prepared, must accompany the bond required by NAC 522.230 for the drilling of a single well.
2. Form 3a, ~~{*}~~ properly prepared, must accompany the bond required by NAC 522.230 for the drilling of more than one well.

~~{*(See agency for form.)}~~

[Div. of Mineral Res., § 705, eff. 12-20-79]

NAC 522.505 Form 4: Sundry notices and reports on wells.

1. Form 4 must be used to:
 - (a) Notify the division and request its approval of:
 - (1) A change of *drilling* plans.
 - (2) A test of water shutoff.
 - (3) A reentering or reopening of a plugged hole.
 - (4) A shooting, acidizing or fracture treating.
 - (5) A pulling or altering of casing.
 - (6) An intention to abandon a well.
 - (7) *To deepen or plug back a well which has been drilled*
 - (8) *Permit extensions.*
 - (9) *Change of location of well.*
 - (10) *Major work-over or cleaning of a well.*
 - (11) *Change in status of well.*
 - (12) *Administrative Change in name of well.*
 - (13) *Administrative change in operator or owner.*
 - (14) *Any other proposed activity for which the Division conducts extensive review.*
 - (b) Report progress or completion of the activities designated in paragraph (a).
 - (c) Report the supplemental history of a well.
2. The presence of a representative of the division at the scene of any of the activities required to be reported on Form 4 or any approval of an activity of which the division must be notified on Form 4 does not relieve the operator of the requirement to file the form or the notice. The division may observe and report on these activities.

Permission in advance does not relieve the operator of the requirement to file the notice.

- (b) Report progress or completion of the activities designated in paragraph (a).
- (c) Report the supplemental history of a well.
2. The presence of a representative of the division at the scene of any of the activities required to be reported on Form 4 or any approval of an activity of which the division must be notified on Form 4 does not relieve the operator of the requirement to file the form or the notice. The division may observe and report on these activities.

[Div. of Mineral Res., § 706, eff. 12-20-79]—(NAC A by Dep't of Minerals, 7-22-87)

NAC 522.510 Form 5, and 5A: Well completion report.

1. Form 5, the well completion report, must be filed for all wells drilled in Nevada. In the case of a dry hole, this report may accompany Form 4. In the case of a well placed in commercial production, Form 5 must be filed with the division within 30 days after the ~~{well is placed in production}~~ *completion of drilling operations*. ~~{Only one Form 5 is required for each well.}~~ A second Form 5 is ~~{not}~~ required upon *commencement of production* ~~{the abandonment of any producing well}~~.

2. Two copies of all logging surveys run in the wellbore by the operator must be filed with the division. The division will file one of the sets with the bureau of mines and geology. The copy at the bureau will be available for public inspection when the records are no longer confidential.

3. Form 5A is required for the abandonment of all wells drilled in the State of Nevada.

[Div. of Mineral Res., § 707, eff. 12-20-79]—(NAC A by Dep't of Minerals, 7-22-87)

~~[NAC 522.525—Form 8A: Notice of change of owner.—Any owner or part owner who is bound under a drilling bond and who conveys his interest to another shall file Form 8A, notice of change of owner, with the division.]~~

[Div. of Mineral Res., § 710, eff. 12-20-79]—(NAC A by Dep't of Minerals, 7-22-87)

NAC 522.540 Confidentiality of well records.

1. Records concerning a well will not be kept confidential by the division unless the owner of the well requests confidentiality in writing or marks “confidential” on the logs of an exploratory well. Upon receiving such a request or log, the division will keep the records confidential for ~~{6 months}~~ *one year* after ~~{their receipt}~~ *completion of drilling operations* unless the owner provides a written authorization for an earlier release.

~~{2.—An operator who plans to drill a series of exploratory wells within a given region or area may apply to the division to have the records for all his exploratory wells kept confidential. Such an application must specifically describe the area to be explored and the number and location of exploratory wells contemplated. Upon approval of the application, the administrator will keep all records of the project confidential for 6 months after receipt of the record. The operator may amend the plan of the project with the written approval of the administrator.}~~

(Added to NAC by Dep't of Minerals, eff. 7-22-87)