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TITLE 30--MINERAL RESOURCES

CHAPTER II--MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

PART 250_OIL AND GAS AND SULPHUR OPERATIONS IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF--Table of Contents

Subpart D_Oil and Gas Drilling Operations

Sec. 250.420 What well casing and cementing requirements must I meet?

You must case and cement all wells. Your casing and cementing programs must meet the requirements of this section and of Sec. Sec. 250.421 through 250.428.

(a) Casing and cementing program requirements. Your casing and cementing programs must:

- (1) Properly control formation pressures and fluids;
- (2) Prevent the direct or indirect release of fluids from any stratum through the wellbore into offshore waters;
- (3) Prevent communication between separate hydrocarbon-bearing strata;

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(4) Protect freshwater aquifers from contamination; and

(5) Support unconsolidated sediments.

(b) Casing requirements. (1) You must design casing (including liners) to withstand the anticipated stresses imposed by tensile, compressive, and buckling loads; burst and collapse pressures; thermal effects; and combinations thereof.

(2) The casing design must include safety measures that ensure well control during drilling and safe operations during the life of the well.

(c) Cementing requirements. You must design and conduct your cementing jobs so that cement composition, placement techniques, and waiting times ensure that the cement placed behind the bottom 500 feet of casing attains a minimum compressive strength of 500 psi before drilling out of the casing or before commencing completion operations.

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