TITLE 30 -- MINERAL RESOURCES
CHAPTER II--BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT, REGULATION, AND ENFORCEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
SUBCHAPTER B -- OFFSHORE
PART 250 -- OIL AND GAS AND SULPHUR OPERATIONS IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF
SUBPART D -- OIL AND GAS DRILLING OPERATIONS
CASING AND CEMENTING REQUIREMENTS

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30 CFR 250.421

§ 250.421 What are the casing and cementing requirements by type of casing string?

The table in this section identifies specific design, setting, and cementing requirements for casing strings and liners. For the purposes of subpart D, the casing strings in order of normal installation are as follows: drive or structural, conductor, surface, intermediate, and production casings (including liners). The District Manager may approve or prescribe other casing and cementing requirements where appropriate.

Casing type	Casing requirements	Cementing requirements
(a) Drive or Structural	Set by driving, jetting, or drilling to the minimum depth as approved or prescribed by the District Manager	If you drilled a portion of this hole, you must use enough cement to fill the annular space back to the mudline.
(b) Conductor	Design casing and select setting depths based on relevant engineering and geologic factors. These factors include the presence or absence of hydrocarbons, potential hazards, and water depths Set casing immediately before drilling into formations known to contain oil or gas. If you encounter oil or gas or unexpected formation	Use enough cement to fill the calculated annular space back to the mudline. Verify annular fill by observing cement returns. If you cannot observe cement returns, use additional cement to ensure fill-back to the mudline. For drilling on an artificial island or when using a glory hole, you

Casing type	Casing requirements	Cementing requirements
	pressure before the planned casing point, you must set casing immediately	must discuss the cement fill level with the District Manager.
(c) Surface	Design casing and select setting depths based on relevant engineering and geologic factors. These factors include the presence or absence of hydrocarbons, potential hazards, and water depths	Use enough cement to fill the calculated annular space to at least 200 feet inside the conductor casing. When geologic conditions such as near-surface fractures and faulting exist, you must use enough cement to fill the calculated annular space to the mudline.
(d) Intermediate	Design casing and select setting depth based on anticipated or encountered geologic characteristics or wellbore conditions	Use enough cement to cover and isolate all hydrocarbon-bearing zones and isolate abnormal pressure intervals from normal pressure intervals in the well. As a minimum, you must cement the annular space 500 feet above the casing shoe and 500 feet above each zone to be isolated.
(e) Production	Design casing and select setting depth based on anticipated or encountered geologic characteristics or wellbore conditions	Use enough cement to cover or isolate all hydrocarbon-bearing zones above the shoe. As a minimum, you must cement the annular space at least 500 feet above the casing shoe and 500 feet above the uppermost hydrocarbon-bearing zone.
(f) Liners	If you use a liner as conductor or surface casing, you must set the top of the liner at least 200 feet above the previous casing/liner shoe If you use a liner as an intermediate string below a surface string or production casing below an intermediate string, you must set the top of the liner at least 100 feet above the previous casing shoe.	Same as cementing requirements for specific casing types. For example, a liner used as intermediate casing must be cemented according to the cementing requirements for intermediate casing.

HISTORY: *[68 FR 8402, 8426,* Feb. 20, 2003]

AUTHORITY: AUTHORITY NOTE APPLICABLE TO ENTIRE PART:
30 U.S.C. 1751; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 43 U.S.C. 1334.

NOTES: NOTES APPLICABLE TO ENTIRE TITLE:
CROSS REFERENCES: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, regulations with respect to mineral lands: 43 CFR, chapter II, subchapter C.
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Department of Energy: 18 CFR chapter I.
Foreign Trade Statistics, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce: 15 CFR part 30.
Forest Service regulations relating to mineral developments and mining in national forests: 36 CFR part 251.
General Services Administration regulations for stockpiling of strategic and critical materials: 41 CFR subtitle C, subchapter C.
Geological Survey: 30 CFR chapter II.
Interstate Commerce Commission: 49 CFR chapter X.
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, mining regulations: 25 CFR chapter I, subchapter I.
EDITORIAL NOTE: Other regulations issued by the Department of the Interior appear in title 25, chapters I and II; title 36, chapter I; title 41, chapter 114, title 43; and title 50, chapters I and IV.

NOTES APPLICABLE TO ENTIRE PART:
[PUBLISHER'S NOTE: Nomenclature changes affecting Part 250 appear at *71 FR 46398, 46399, 46400,* Aug. 14, 2006.]
[PUBLISHER'S NOTE: For Federal Register citations concerning Part 250 Availability of an Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis, see: *75 FR 80717,* Dec. 23, 2010.]

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