

Railroad Commission of Texas

Statewide Rule 13

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Session Description



**Discussion of Statewide Rule 13
regarding casing, cementing, drilling,
well control and completion
requirements.**

Statewide Rule 13



Intent §3.13(a)(1)

- Securely anchor casing
- Isolate and seal off all useable quality water zones
- Isolate all productive zones, potential flow zones and zones with corrosive formation fluids

Statewide Rule 13



Terms of Interest §3.13(a)(2)

Zone of Critical Cement

Protection Depth

Stand under pressure

Productive Zone

Potential Flow Zone

Statewide Rule 13



§13(a)(1)

- Compliance with rule 13 required for all wells **spudded** on or after January 1, 2014.

§13(a)(3)

- References to wellbore diameter

§13(a)(4)

- References to casing standards, cement standards and zonal isolation requirements

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§13(a)(6)(A-B)

- Well Control
- Blow Out Preventer Testing Requirements

§13(a)(6)(C)

- Drilling Fluid Programs

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§13(a)(7)

- Hydraulic Fracturing Treatment Casing Tests
- Minimum Separation Wells

§13(b)(1)(A)

- Surface Casing Requirements > 3500'

§13(b)(1)(I)

- Mechanical Integrity Test of Surface Casing

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Surface Casing Requirements §3.13(b)(2)

- Set sufficient casing to isolate all defined usable quality water strata
- Surface casing must be cemented
- Cement must be circulated to surface

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Cement Compressive Strengths §3.13(b)(2)(C)

- Critical Zone cement > 1200 psi in 72 hours
- Filler cement > 250 psi in 24 hours
- API free water separation less than 2 mL water/250 mL
- RRC may require a better cement mixture
- Test slurries according to API RP 10 B
- Sample analysis

Statewide Rule 13



Alternative Surface Casing Requirements §13(b)(2)(G)

- Operator may request authority to set more or less casing than the required protection depth
- Alternative programs require approval by the appropriate District Director

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RRC ONLINE SYSTEM Choose an Application Go Log In

Log In

Log in to access the RRC Online System.

UserID:

Password:

[Forgot Password?](#) OR [Forgot User Id?](#)

The RRC Online System allows authorized entities to electronically file certain forms with the Railroad Commission online or through EDI. Forms processed through this system are ones containing data that has been migrated from the Commission's mainframe to an open system environment. Through the RRC Online System, forms can be filed online over the Internet using a web browser, or data files can be uploaded through the application.

How to Obtain a User ID:

To utilize the Online Filing system, you must have a User ID that is assigned to you by your company's designated Security Administrator. A company or individual may designate a Security Administrator by completing the Security Administrator Designation (SAD) form and mailing it to the RRC. When the SAD form is processed, the Security Administrator will receive a User ID and a temporary initial password. The Security Administrator will be able to log into the RRC Online System using their assigned User ID and create User IDs for users within their company. They will also be able to assign certain electronic filing rights for those accounts, and perform account maintenance activities (such as resetting passwords) when needed.

If you are uncertain whether your company has a security administrator, please email the Commission at rrconline-security@rrc.state.tx.us.

1. [Read](#) the requirements for participating in online filing.
2. [Print](#) the SAD form.
3. Complete and sign the form then mail it to the RRC, following instructions on Page 2 of the form. When the form is processed, the designated security administrator will receive a User ID and temporary password by email.
4. The security administrator will log into the system and assign User IDs and filing rights.

Statewide Rule 13



SWR13EX Homepage

The screenshot shows the SWR13EX homepage. At the top left is the RRC logo. The main header is "Railroad Commission of Texas". A left-hand menu contains sections for "Home" (with links to RRC Online and SWR13EX Home), "My Applications" (with links for In Progress, Submitted, Approved, Returned, and Withdrawn), "Search" (with links for Search Operator and Search Application), "Application" (with a link for New Application), and "Help" (with a link for User Guide). The main content area is titled "Statewide Rule 13 Exception" and contains a "My Applications" section. This section displays a table of applications with the following data:

Showing 1-1 out of 1 applications							
	Application Number	Application Status	Last Modified Date	Operator Number	Operator Name	API Number	Lease N
Actions	101441	In Progress	2015-05-18	758502	SCOTT OPERATING, INC.	05937035	BERT J
	Application Number	Application Status	Last Modified Date	Operator Number	Operator Name	API Number	Lease

The table also includes pagination controls at the bottom: "Showing 1-1 out of 1 applications" with page number 1 and items per page 10, and download options for Excel and CSV.

The *SWR13EX Home* is the main landing page of the Statewide Rule 13 (SWR13EX) site, and provides the ability for you to view, sort, delete, or edit SWR13EX Applications that are in progress. From this page you can also go to an application search; view lists of submitted, approved, returned, or withdrawn applications; as well as start the creation process for a new application.

When navigating to the *SWR13EX Home*, you see a list of SWR13EX applications that are in progress as well as information about those applications, such as application status and operator information.

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New Application – Filing and Well Info Tab

Statewide Rule 13 Exception

- Filing and Well Information
- Request Information
- GAU Information
- Exception Information
- Attachments
- Review

New Application

- Filing Information

i The operator, well and location information is prepopulated from the entered drilling permit number.

Enter a GAU Number and click Look Up GAU. Additional information from the GAU application displays.
 Enter a GAU Number and click Look Up GAU. Additional information from the GAU application displays.

Is this a Tubing Only Exception Request?

Yes No

GAU Number

105281 [Look Up GAU](#)

Drilling Permit Number

784499 [Look Up DP](#)

API Number

39133108

GAU Areal Extent Radius

Radius Distance 200

Is this exception part of an Area-Wide Request?

Yes No

Associated Application ID [Select Associated Application](#)

Previous SWR13E Application

Application Number	Lease Name	Well No.	Status	Submitted
101381	MAUDE WILLIAMS ET AL 'A'	D216	Approved	2015-05-15
101382	MAUDE WILLIAMS ET AL 'A'	D217	Approved	2015-05-15

- GPS Coordinates

NAD

State Plane Zone

Statewide Rule 13



New Application – Request Information Tab

Application Information

Application Number : 27 Application Status : In Progress

Request Information

Reason for this request Is this a proposed injection or disposal well? Is this a Minimum Separation well?

Economic Technical Other Yes No Yes No

Please explain

250 characters remaining.

Have there been any blowouts within a mile of this wellsite?

Yes No

Are there any Injection or Disposal wells within 1/4 mile of the proposed well location?

Yes No

Are there any water wells within 1/4 mile of this proposed well location?

Yes No

Has the well been drilled and completed?

Yes No

Remarks for the application

500 characters remaining.

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New Application – GAU Info Tab

Statewide Rule 13 Exception

Filing and Well Information

Request Information

GAU Information

Exception Information

Attachments

Review

Before navigating to the next tab, click Save and Continue to update the application information.

Application Information

Application Number : 101442 Application Status: In Progress

GAU Information

GAU Areal Extent Radius

Radius Distance 200

Base of Usable Quality Water (feet, determined by GAU) 111

Recommendation Statements

The interval from the land surface to a depth of BUQ feet must be protected.

The base of usable-quality water-bearing strata is estimated to occur at a depth of BUQ feet at the site of the referenced well.

Save and Continue

Cancel

Statewide Rule 13



New Application – Exception Information Tab

Filing and Well Information Request Information **Exception Information** Attachments Review

Before navigating to the next tab, click Save to update the application information.

Application Information

Application Number : 382 Application Status: In Progress

Exception Type

Exception Request Tubing

Alternate Program Request Drilling Fluid Program Non-API Cement Other

Proposed Casing and Cementing Program

No Casing Program information is required

Save and Continue **Cancel**

Casing Type: Intermediate Casing Cementing Program Conventional Multi-Stage

Hole Size (in.)	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>		
Casing O.D. (in.)	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	Lower Casing Values for Tapered String	
Grade	<input type="text"/>	Hole Size (in.)	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
Weight (lb.)	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	Casing O.D. (in.)	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
Shoe Setting Depth (ft.)	<input type="text" value="Number"/>	Grade	<input type="text" value="Text"/>
Multi-Stage Tool Depth (ft.)	<input type="text" value="Number"/>	Weight (lb/ft.)	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
Number of Centralizers	<input type="text" value="Number"/>	Setting Crossover Depth (ft.)	<input type="text" value="Number"/>
Centralizers Placement	<input type="text" value="Text"/>		

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New Application – Exception Information Tab (cont.)

Cementing			
Slurry: Tail/Critical Cement		Slurry: Lead/Filler Cement	
Cement Type	Class H	# of Sacks	550
Yield (cu. ft./sk.)	1.07	Cement Additives	retarder, ss-200
24-Hr. Comp. Strength (psi)	2750	72-Hr. Comp. Strength (psi)	3620
Cement Column Height (ft.)	7500	Top of Cement (ft.)	9000
Free Water Content (mL water per 250mL cement)	1.0	% Excess Cement	25
Cement Type	tx lehigh	# of Sacks	1100
Yield (cu. ft./sk.)	1.75	Cement Additives	d-air, retarder
24-Hr. Comp. Strength (psi)	850	72-Hr. Comp. Strength (psi)	1700
Cement Column Height (ft.)	8000	Top of Cement (ft.)	1000
Free Water Content (mL water per 250mL cement)	0.5	% Excess Cement	50

Data Field Name	Description	Data type
Cement Type	Classification of cement slurry (e.g. Class A, Class H, 15:85 POZ, TX Lehigh, etc.)	Text
# of Sacks	Total number of cement sacks	Number (up to 2 decimals)
Yield	The yield of the mixed cement in cubic ft. per sack of cement when mixed in accordance with API Spec. 10A.	Number (up to 2 decimals)
Cement Additives	Cement additive names and descriptions, and volume of additive in cement	Text ("N/A" or "Neat" is acceptable)
24-hr Comp. Strength	The measured compressive in 24-hours strength from crush test performed in accordance with API RP 10B-2.	Number (up to 2 decimals)
72-hr Comp. Strength	The measured compressive in 72-hours strength from crush test performed in accordance with API RP 10B-2.	Number (up to 2 decimals)
Cement Column Height	The calculated annular cement column height in feet from the casing shoe to the top of the cement column assuming 0% washout or gauge borehole.	Number (rounded to whole number)
Top of Cement	The calculated top of cement in feet below ground surface inclusive of any washout factors and excess cement volume.	Number (rounded to whole number)
Free Water Content	The free water content measured in mL fluid per 250 mL cement slurry in accordance with API RP 10B-2.	Number (up to 2 decimals)
% Excess Cement	The excess volume of cement to be pumped as a percentage of the prescribed volume of cement.	Number (up to 2 decimals)

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New Application – Attachments Tab

Application Information

Application Number : 441 Application Status: In Progress

Attachments

Attach the necessary files. Then click the **Review** tab to continue application process.

Mandatory File: GAU Recommendation Letter

Upload Files

Add Attachments * Select One Comments + Choose

File	File Name	Size	Type	Comments	View File	Remove
No records found.						

Upload Files

IMPORTANT: Click Choose automatically upload the selected attachmnets.

Add Attachments * GAU Recommen Comments + Choose

Jellyfish.jpg 757.5 KB

x

File	File Name	Size	Type	Comments	view file	Remove
GAU Recommendation Letter	Desert.jpg	845941	image/jpeg			Remove

Statewide Rule 13



New Application – Review Tab

Statewide Rule 13 Exception

- Filing and Well Information
- Request Information
- Exception Information
- Attachments
- Review

Exception Information Tab: Surface Casing: CONVENTIONAL: Slurry: Lead/Filler Cement: If any one is entered, then all are required for Cement Type, # of Sacks, Yield, Cement Additives, 24 Hr Comp Strength, 72 H2 Comp Strength, Cement Height, Top of Cement, Free Water content, % Excess Cement.
Exception Information Tab: Intermediate Casing: CONVENTIONAL: Required are Hole size, Casing O.D., Grade, Weight, Shoe Setting Depth, Number of Centralizers, Centralizers Placement.
Exception Information Tab: Intermediate Casing: CONVENTIONAL: Slurry: Tail/Critical Cement: Required are Cement Type, # of Sacks, Yield, Cement Additives, 24 Hr Comp Strength, 72 H2 Comp Strength, Cement Height, Top of Cement, Free Water content, % Excess Cement.
Exception Information Tab: Production Casing: MULTISTAGE: Multi-Stage Tool: Slurry : If any one is entered, then all are required for Cement Type, # of Sacks, Yield, Cement Additives, 24 Hr Comp Strength, 72 H2 Comp Strength, Cement Height, Top of Cement, Free Water content, % Excess Cement.

Application Information

Application Number : 42 Application Status : In Progress

Review Application

Click Review to check the application for errors. You can finish the application process after all errors have been corrected.

Review

View application as PDF.

View

Review Application

Click **Review** to check the application for errors. You can finish the application process after all errors have been corrected.

Review

View application as PDF

View

Terms And Conditions

I declare under penalties in Sec. 91.143, Texas Natural Resources Code, that I am authorized to file this application, that this application was prepared by me or under my supervision and direction, and that the data and facts stated therein are true, correct, and complete to be the best of my knowledge.

Finish and Pay

Cancel

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Statewide Rule 13 Exception Data Sheet



RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
STATEWIDE RULE 13 EXCEPTION APPLICATION/ALTERNATIVE REQUEST

Surface Casing: 13(b)(1)(H), Tubing: 13(b)(4)(B), Drilling Fluid: 13(a)(6)(C), or Non-standard Cement 13(b)(1)(D)

PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO RULE 13 EXCEPTIONS:

1. Operator:		2. P-5 No.:		3. Lease Name:		4. Well No.:	
5. Street Address:				6. RRC District:		7. Drill Permit No.:	
8. Field Name:			9. County:			10. Proposed Depth: <input type="checkbox"/> TVD <input type="checkbox"/> MD	
11. Well Location: Latitude: _____		Longitude: _____		Datum: _____			
Survey Name: _____		Abstract No: _____		Block/Township: _____		Section: _____	
12. GAU No.: _____ (attach letter)			Recommendation Type (below)			13. Usable-Quality Water (determined by GAU): _____ ft.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Well <input type="checkbox"/> Lease <input type="checkbox"/> Survey <input type="checkbox"/> Pad <input type="checkbox"/> Radius: _____			Separation points: _____ ft.				
14. Exception Request: <input type="checkbox"/> Short Surface Csg <input type="checkbox"/> Excess Surface Csg <input type="checkbox"/> Single-string <input type="checkbox"/> Tubing <input type="checkbox"/> Area-wide ²							
15. Alternate Program Request: <input type="checkbox"/> Drilling Fluid Program <input type="checkbox"/> Non-API Cement <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____							
16. Reason for this request: <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Technical <input type="checkbox"/> Other Please explain: _____ <i>First-time requests for exception to tubing requirements outlined in 13(b)(4)(A) will be granted for a period of 180 days, 13(d)(2)</i>							
17. Is this a proposed injection or disposal well ³ ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				18. Is this a Minimum Separation well ⁴ ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
19. Are there any water wells within ¼ mile of this proposed well location ⁵ ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>If Yes, provide information requested below</i> Type of water well: _____ Depth: _____ Distance: _____ Direction: _____							
20. Are there any INJECTION or DISPOSAL wells within ¼ mile of the proposed well location ⁶ ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>If Yes, list names and depths of all formations permitted for INJECTION OR DISPOSAL within ¼ miles of the well location⁷.</i> _____							
21. Have there been any blowouts within one mile of this wellsite ⁸ ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>If yes, name operator(s), lease(s), and date(s) blowout(s) occurred:</i> _____							

IF CEMENT IS NOT CIRCULATED TO THE GROUND SURFACE AS REQUIRED BY THIS EXCEPTION, YOU MUST CONTACT THE DISTRICT OFFICE IMMEDIATELY AND FOLLOW THE PROCEDURES SET OUT IN RULE 13(B)(2)(g)(III) OR AS REQUIRED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

22. Proposed Casing and Cementing Program (if more space is needed, use supplemental table on page 3)

	Surface Casing/Single-String	Intermediate Casing	Production Casing
Hole Size (in.), Casing O.D. (in.)			
Grade, Weight (lb/ft.)			
Setting Depth (ft.)			
Multi-Stage Tool Depth (ft.)			
Centralizers (no. & placement)			
Cement Type			
# of Sacks and Yield (cu. ft./sk)			
Cement Additives			
24/72-Hr. Comp. Strength (psi)			
Height/TOC (ft.), % Excess			
Free Water Content ⁹ (mL water per 250 mL cement)			
LEAD/FILLER CEMENT			
Cement Type			
# of Sacks and Yield (cu. ft./sk)			
Cement Additives			
24/72-Hr. Comp. Strength (psi)			
Height/TOC (ft.), % Excess			
Free Water Content ⁹ (mL water per 250 mL cement)			
TAIL/CRITICAL CEMENT			
Cement Type			
# of Sacks and Yield (cu. ft./sk)			
Cement Additives			
24/72-Hr. Comp. Strength (psi)			
Height/TOC (ft.), % Excess			
Free Water Content ⁹ (mL water per 250 mL cement)			

- REQUESTS FOR EXCEPTIONS TO STATEWIDE RULE 13 SUBMITTED AFTER THE WELL HAS BEEN DRILLED OR COMPLETED MAY RESULT IN ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST THE OPERATOR.
- For area-wide exception requests, please provide additional information which clearly defines the area to be exempted. Area-wide approvals are NOT allowed for short surface casing applications (only approved on a well-by-well basis). Note: District Offices are not required to grant area-wide exceptions.
- Caution: If this well is being drilled for injection or disposal purposes, a(n) injection/disposal well permit may be denied unless surface casing is set and cemented through all zones of usable-quality groundwater.
- A Minimum Separation Well, further defined in section 13(a)(2)(L), is a well in which hydraulic fracturing treatments will be conducted AND for which: the vertical distance between BUQW and the top of the formation to be fracture stimulated is less than 1000 ft. or for which the District Director has determined there to be inadequate separation between the BUQW and the top of the formation to be fracture stimulated.
- Review applications 1-3 (Groundwater Database, Submitted Driller's Report, and Brackish Groundwater Database) at the following link to determine location(s) of water wells within ¼ mile of the proposed well: <http://wid.twdb.texas.gov/>.
- Refer to the Railroad Commission of Texas Public GIS map viewer to locate injection and disposal wells within ¼ mile of the well(s) mentioned on this application: <http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/data/online/gis/index.php>.
- Review W-14 or H-1a applications at <http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/data/online/OGImagedRecordsQuery.php> to determine permitted injection/disposal zones for wells within ¼ mile of the proposed well. Additionally, refer to Rule 13 Formation Tables provided on the RRC website for information regarding saltwater, H2S, and other notable formation depths by county. (<http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/environmental/rule13/index.php>). Statewide Rule 13 may require cementing across these formations.
- Blowout records can be found at the following URL: <http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/data/drilling/blowouts/index.php>.
- Free water content for tail and critical cement may be provided based on lab data available at the time of submission. If additional lab analyses are required by the District Office, slurries must be tested according to API RP 10B-2, per 13(b)(1)(D)(iii).
- Notify District Office at least 8 hours prior to setting and cementing casing.
- The alternative surface casing program authorized by this letter is subject to the condition that drilling fluid used while drilling to the base of usable quality groundwater have a salinity of 3000 ppm TDS or less and be conditioned to form a filter cake sufficient to prevent infiltration into the protected water while drilling with fluid having a salinity greater than 3000 ppm TDS below the base of usable quality groundwater to the approved surface casing depth. *The use of oil-based and emulsion drilling fluids are prohibited until casing is set and cemented across the base of usable quality groundwater.*
- Note: The following attachments may be requested by the District Office:
 - Proposed wellbore diagram or cementing proposal
 - Lab reports containing compressive strength and free water data for Lead and/or Tail Slurry
 - Any other information that may be required by the District Office.
- Please note that a copy of the approved application form must be kept on location during all phases of drilling and/or plugging operations. Once approved, changes CANNOT be made to the Proposed Casing and Cementing Program on the original application without additional approval from the District Office.

OPERATOR CONTACT INFORMATION		
Signature: X _____	Name: _____	Title: _____
Date: _____	Phone: _____	Fax: _____
Email Address (optional): _____		

RRC District Office Action—FOR RRC USE ONLY.		Ref. No:
TUBING EXCEPTION: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as Modified <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	By: _____	Date: _____
SURFACE CASING EXCEPTION: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as Modified <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	By: _____	Date: _____
DRILLING FLUID PROGRAM: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as Modified <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	By: _____	Date: _____
ALTERNATE CEMENT PROGRAM: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as Modified <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	By: _____	Date: _____
Remarks/Modifications:		

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Statewide Rule 13 Exception Data Sheet

OPERATOR CONTACT INFORMATION		
Signature: X _____	Name: _____	Title: _____
Date: _____	Phone: _____	Fax: _____
Email Address (optional): _____		

RRC District Office Action—FOR RRC USE ONLY.		Ref. No:
TUBING EXCEPTION: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as Modified <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	By: _____	Date: _____
SURFACE CASING EXCEPTION: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as Modified <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	By: _____	Date: _____
DRILLING FLUID PROGRAM: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as Modified <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	By: _____	Date: _____
ALTERNATE CEMENT PROGRAM: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as Modified <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	By: _____	Date: _____
Remarks/Modifications:		

Make sure to use version dated 2-10-2014



Statewide Rule 13



§13(a)(2)(N)

RRC will establish and maintain list of potential flow zones and corrosive zones by county

List is available on website at:

<http://www.rrc.texas.gov/oil-gas/compliance-enforcement/rule-13-geologic-formation-info/>

List to be revised as additional information becomes available

Statewide Rule 13



Formation Tables

- Formation lists subject to change based on new data.
- Listed formation tops for **reference only**.
- Compliance with Rule 13 will be based on formation tops listed on completion report.

Statewide Rule 13



New Requirements in SWR 13 Example Formation Table

All listed formations require isolation if encountered in well

Mitchell County			
Formation	Shallow Top	Deep Top	Remarks
Santa Rosa	600	600	possible lost circulation
Yates	600	1,250	overpressured, possible flows
7 Rivers	1,300	1,300	
Tubb	2,000	2,000	
San Andres	1,500	2,400	high flows, H2S, corrosive
Glorieta	2,400	2,700	
Wichita	3,300	3,300	
Clearfork	2,500	3,400	
Coleman Junction	3,100	3,600	possible lost circulation
Wolfcamp	4,800	5,300	
Strawn	3,200	5,850	
Odom	6,800	6,900	
Mississippian	6,300	7,900	
Ellenburger	7,200	8,100	

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New Requirements in SWR 13 Example Formation Table

All listed formations require isolation if encountered in well

KLEBERG COUNTY			
Formation	Shallow Top	Deep Top	Remarks
Miocene / Lagarto / Oakville	1400	6200	
	3000	3300	Kingsville Field area H2S
	2600	6200	Injection/Disposal
Catahoula Anahuac	2800	4670	
	3650	3850	Canelo Field area H2S
	2800	4670	Injection/Disposal
Catahoula Frio	2800	14050	
	8550	8750	Canelo Field area H2S
	2800	7500	Injection/Disposal
Vicksburg	6800	8700	
Jackson	11250	11250	

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Notification in Drilling Permits

- RRC query will flag with a permit restrictions any new drill permit application filed on or after 01-01-2014, as any amended new drill application that does not have a spud date prior to 01-01-2014:
- The restriction will state that “***This well must comply with the new Rule 13 requirements concerning the isolation of any potential flow zones and zones with corrosive formation fluids. See approved permit for those formations identified for the county in which you are drilling the well.***”
- The approved permit will print out with the information stored in the county table, which is available on the RRC’s Internet website.

Statewide Rule 13



§13(b)(4)(A-B) - Tubing

All flowing oil wells must be equipped with tubing

NEW - Exceptions up to 180 days may be administratively granted by the director:

- Fee will be required when online system deployed
- Subsequent extensions require a RRC order

Summary



- Statewide Rule 13 – designed to protect UQW and maintain well control
- Construct wells to prevent Sustained Casinghead Pressure (SCP) and maintain casing integrity
- Call the District Office for assistance

Common Questions



- **Q** Most new Eagle Ford wells are not required to be equipped with tubing for the first six months. Will this apply to all new wells?
 - **A** Starting January 1, 2014, an administrative exception to install tubing in a flowing well may be granted by the District Director (no field rule amendment required) for 180 days. If a special field rule exception already has been issued for a particular field, that field rule trumps SWR 13, and compliance is based on that field rule.
- **Q** For purposes of documentation and compliance, who is responsible for providing certification of BOP equipment--the rig owner or operator?
 - **A** The operator to whom the drilling/re-entry permit was issued (or the current well operator, if performing a workover) is responsible for obtaining and providing to the RRC upon request the well control equipment certification.

Common Questions



- **Q** Does the Groundwater Advisory Unit recommendation serve as District Office approval to set surface casing deeper than 3,500'?
 - **A** No; separate authorization must be obtained from the District Office to set surface casing deeper than 3,500', even if the protection depth is deeper than 3,500'. Authorization may be given on an area-wide basis (e.g. radial area, survey & abstract, etc.)
- **Q** Does an operator need to obtain an SWR 13 exception from the District Office to set surface casing below 3500 feet?
 - **A** No, approval to set surface casing below 3,500' is not an exception. However, the operator must notify and receive approval from the District Office prior to setting surface casing deeper than 3,500'. The District Director must approve the method for protection of UQW and maintaining well control. Exceptions will be required to set surface casing greater than 200' below the BUQW.

Common Questions



- **Q** If a disposal/injection permit is issued for a location within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of a proposed new well location, is that new permitted disposal/injection zone required to be isolated in the new well?
 - **A** Yes, disposal/injection permits that have been submitted to the Commission are available on the Commission web site.
- **Q** How does an operator determine if a disposal/injection well is within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of a new well proposed location and what is required if a disposal /injection well is identified?
 - **A** Research RRC Public GIS site and isolate the disposal/injection interval with cement in new well in accordance with Statewide Rule 13.

Common Questions



- **Q** Does the new rule change the requirements for obtaining a surface casing exception for wells producing at or above the protection depth or for single-string wells?
 - **A** No; a SWR 13 exception is required for all wells producing at or above the BUQW and single-string wells deeper than 1,000’.
- **Q** Can a person drill with brine drilling mud through uncased protection depths to prevent washout of shallow salt beds?
 - **A** The adoption preamble for SWR 13 states that potassium chloride (KCl) may be added to freshwater drilling mud prior to setting surface casing. Permission to use other brines to drill through UQW protection depths may be granted as part of SWR 13 Surface Casing exception request after showing that the drilling fluid program will provide filter cake protection through the UQW interval, or may be added to field rules through the hearing process.

Common Questions

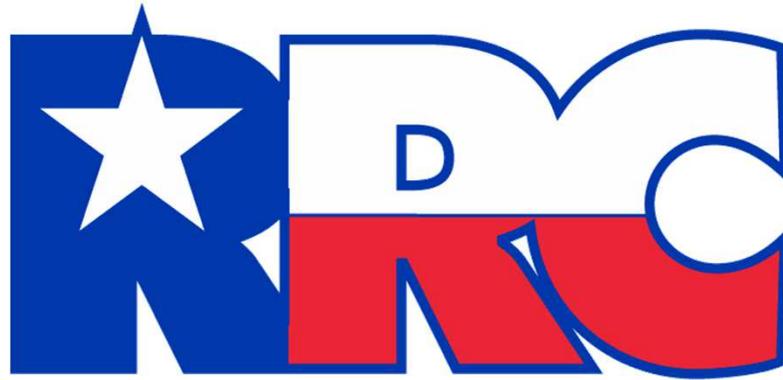


- **Q** Does it count towards the 360 rotating hours when drilling is taking place in the horizontal section and the drill string is “sliding”.
 - **A** No; hours are only counted when the drill string is actually rotating.

District Offices



<u>District</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>
1 & 2	San Antonio	115 East Travis St, Suite 1610 San Antonio, TX 78205	(210) 227-1313
3	Houston	1706 Seamist Dr, Suite 501 Houston, TX 77008	(713) 869-5001
4	Corpus Christi	10320 IH 37 Corpus Christi, TX 78410	(361) 242-3113
5 & 6	Kilgore	2005 North State Highway 42 Kilgore, TX 75662	(903) 984-3026
7B	Abilene	3444 North First St, Suite 600 Abilene, TX 79603	(325) 677-3545
7C	San Angelo	622 South Oakes St, Suite J San Angelo, TX 76903	(325) 657-7450
8 & 8A	Midland	10 Desta Dr, Suite 500 E Midland, TX 79705	(432) 684-5581
9	Wichita Falls	5800 Kell Blvd, Suite 300 Wichita Falls, TX 76310	(940) 723-2153
10	Pampa	200 West Foster, Room 300 Pampa, TX 79065	(806) 665-1653



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