

South Dakota Chapter 74:12:02

DRILLING

**74:12:02:11. Oil, gas, and water strata required to be sealed.** During construction of oil, gas, and injection wells all oil and gas bearing strata and freshwater resources must be sealed to preclude vertical migration of fluids or gas between strata. Freshwater or freshwater muds must be used from the surface to no less than 50 feet below the base of all locally utilized freshwater resources when drilling.

**Source:** 38 SDR 117, effective January 12, 2012.

**General Authority:** SDCL [45-9-11](#), [45-9-13](#).

**Law Implemented:** SDCL [45-9-11](#), [45-9-14](#).

**74:12:02:12. Procedures for setting surface casing and production casing.** The procedure for setting surface and production casing must meet the following conditions:

(1) The surface hole must be drilled with fresh water. Surface casing must be set to protect freshwater resources as determined by the secretary. Cement must be used in the annulus to circulate to the surface. Unless otherwise waived by the secretary, no less than 100 feet of surface casing may be set under any circumstances; and

(2) Freshwater resources not presently utilized must be protected by production casing and cement. Cementing in stages, if necessary, must be done for the purpose of sealing or separating aquifers with cement that circulates in the annulus.

The secretary shall prescribe variations in the casing and cementing procedures from area to area. The operator shall file a cement bond log within 60 days after completion of a well.

**Source:** 38 SDR 117, effective January 12, 2012.

**General Authority:** SDCL [45-9-11](#), [45-9-13](#).

**Law Implemented:** SDCL [45-9-11](#), [45-9-13](#), [45-9-14](#).