

| Casing type       | Casing requirements   | Cementing requirements  |
|-------------------|---|---|
| (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.<br>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.<br>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.<br>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.<br>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.  |

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**§ 250.422 When may I resume drilling after cementing?**

(a) After cementing surface, intermediate, or production casing (or liners), you may resume drilling after the cement has been held under pressure for 12 hours. For conductor casing, you may resume drilling after the cement has been held under pressure for 8 hours. One acceptable method of holding cement under pressure is to use float valves to hold the cement in place.

(b) If you plan to nipple down your diverter or BOP stack during the 8- or 12-hour waiting time, you must determine, before nipping down, when it will be safe to do so. You must base your determination on a knowledge of formation conditions, cement composition, effects of nipping down, presence of potential drilling hazards, well conditions during drilling, cementing, and post cementing, as well as past experience.

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**§ 250.423 What are the requirements for pressure testing casing?**

The table in this section describes the minimum test pressures for each string of casing. You may not resume drilling or other down-hole operations until you obtain a satisfactory pressure test. If the pressure declines more than 10 percent in a 30-minute test or if there is another indication of a leak, you must re-cement, repair the casing, or run additional casing to provide a proper seal. The District Supervisor may approve or require other casing test pressures.

| Casing type                                | Minimum test pressure                    |
|--|--|
| (a) Drive or Structural .....              | Not required                             |
| (b) Conductor .....                        | 200 psi                                  |
| (c) Surface, Intermediate, and Production. | 70 percent of its minimum internal yield |

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**§ 250.424 What are the requirements for prolonged drilling operations?**

If wellbore operations continue for more than 30 days within a casing string run to the surface:

(a) You must stop drilling operations as soon as practicable, and evaluate the effects of the prolonged operations