

SYNOPSIS
Proposed Amendments to the Rules for Safe Drinking Water,
Chapter 391-3-5

The proposed amendments to the Rules for Safe Drinking Water, Chapter 391-3-5, would amend Rule 391-3-5-.07 to revise the well construction standards for 4- and 5-inch diameter steel pipe well casings.

Purpose: EPD proposes to amend Rule 391-3-5-.07(b)(1) to revise the minimum wall thickness for 4- and 5-inch diameter steel pipe well casings. The reduction of minimum wall thickness will allow well pumps to match the diameter of the casing without drilling larger diameter (and higher cost) wells.

Main Features: The proposed amendments include reducing the minimum wall thickness for 4- and 5-inch diameter steel pipe well casings, as shown in subparagraph (b)(1), from 0.237 and 0.258 inches to 0.188 inches. The 0.188 inch value was the minimum wall thickness for these types of well casings prior to the 2021 amendments to this rule. The proposed amendments would also specify that 4- and 5-inch diameter steel pipe well casings are not recommended for use in corrosive or high alkalinity water.

RULES FOR WATER QUALITY CONTROL, CHAPTER 391-3-5

391-3-5-.07(5) (b)(1), “Well Construction Standards” is being amended to reduce the minimum well casing thickness in table (b)(1) in four- and five-inch steel casing wells to 0.188 inches. This amendment is not recommended for use in corrosive or high alkalinity water.

STATEMENT OF RATIONALE
Proposed Amendments to the Rules for Safe Drinking Water,
Chapter 391-3-5

The proposed amendments to the Rules for Safe Drinking Water, Chapter 391-3-5, Rule 391-3-5-.07, would revise the minimum wall thickness for 4- and 5-inch diameter steel pipe well casings in subparagraph(b)(1) to the prior value of 0.188 inches. The proposed amendments address comments the Division received after the prior amendments to these standards were adopted and became effective in March 2021, of Section 5.2.6.2. Minimum Standard for Public Drinking Water Systems. The Division received input that the well pumps currently available on the market are not compatible with the increased casing thickness, particularly for 4- and 5-inch diameter steel pipe well casings, resulting in additional costs to drill larger diameter wells to accommodate the size of the well pumps. While the proposed amendments will reduce the minimum wall thickness back down to prior value, the Division is also adding a recommendation that these types of well casings not be used in corrosive or high alkalinity water.