

Overview of Changes, IDAPA 37.03.04, Drilling for Geothermal Resources Rules

Scope, Rule 001: Removed wording in scope that was historic information, unnecessary, or repetitive from statute.

Definitions, Rule 010: Clarified 'Geothermal Resource' as groundwater having a temperature of 212 °F or more in the bottom of a well; removed 'Production Well'; Clarified 'Well' or 'Geothermal Resource Well' as excavation by which any geothermal energy is sought or obtained.

Drilling, Rule 25:

25.02: Clarified permitting and notice process; removed specific timeframe for submittal of notice of intent to allow for flexibility.

25.03: Removed specified amount of bond listed in rule and added reference to Idaho Code §42-4005(f) that describes the necessary form and amount of the security.

25.05: Clarified use of casing strings and depth to which to install cemented seal.

Alternative Methods, Rule 26: Added language to accommodate for the use of novel and alternative methods for constructing geothermal resource wells.

Records, Rule 30:

30.03: Removed confidential status rule.

30.04: Removed requirements associated with inspection status.

Blow Out Prevention, Rule 35: Removed reference to having department employees on site during initial construction and as conditions warrant. Clarified how and when to use data loggers to continuously monitor conditions until the well reaches full depth. Added language allowing the director to approve modifications or alternate blow out prevention equipment.

Injection Wells, Rule 40:

40.01: Removed reference to specific forms required for injection wells and added general note about the approved form provided by the Director.

40.02: Removed requirement that the Department visit well site after approval of injection well. Modified the language noting the Department may visit the well site and may rescind approval of the injection well for failure to perform the work.

Maintenance, Rule 50: Removed unnecessary language describing why well tests may be required.

Hearings, Notice, Procedure, Rule 60: Removed Rule 60, not necessary.

Enforcement, Rule 65:

65.02: Removed 65.02 as the language describing the Director's authority is unnecessary.

65.03: Removed 65.03 as the language describing willful violations or failure to comply is not necessary.

Forms, Rule 70: Removed Rule 70; not necessary to describe specific forms that are utilized.