

20 AAC 25.412 is amended to read:

**(c) The tubing-casing annulus must be tested at a surface casing pressure equal to the maximum expected injection pressure, not to exceed 70 percent of the minimum yield strength of the casing. The test pressure must show stabilizing pressure and may not decline more than 10 percent within 30 minutes. A calibrated recording device and calibrated digital test gauge with suitable range and accuracy must be used to document the test. The results of a mechanical integrity test required by this section must be recorded as required by 20 AAC 25.070(1) and provided on a form specified by AOGCC within 5 days of completing the test. The mechanical integrity of each injection well must be demonstrated by pressure testing the tubing-casing annulus**

**(1) before injection begins;**

**(2) before returning a well to service following any workover affecting mechanical integrity;**

**(3) within 7 days following commencement of injection; and**

**(4) at subsequent intervals specified in an injection order.**

[(c) BEFORE INJECTION BEGINS, A WELL MUST BE PRESSURE-TESTED TO DEMONSTRATE THE MECHANICAL INTEGRITY OF THE TUBING AND PACKER AND OF THE CASING IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING THE INJECTION TUBING STRING. THE CASING MUST BE TESTED AT A SURFACE PRESSURE OF 1,500 PSIG OR AT A SURFACE PRESSURE OF 0.25 PSI/FT MULTIPLIED BY THE TRUE VERTICAL DEPTH OF THE CASING SHOE, WHICHEVER IS GREATER, BUT THE CASING MAY NOT BE SUBJECTED TO A HOOP STRESS THAT WILL EXCEED 70 PERCENT OF THE MINIMUM YIELD STRENGTH OF THE CASING. THE TEST PRESSURE MUST SHOW

STABILIZING PRESSURE AND MAY NOT DECLINE MORE THAN 10 PERCENT WITHIN 30 MINUTES.]

(d) The operator shall provide a cement quality log or other well data approved by the commission to demonstrate isolation of the injected fluids to the approved interval.

(e) At least 24 hours notice of a pressure test required by (c) of this section must be given so that a representative of the commission can witness the test.

**(f) Upon written request of the operator showing good cause, the commission may modify a deadline in this section, approve a variance from any requirement of this section if the variance provides at least an equally effective means of complying with the requirement, or approve a waiver of a requirement of this section if the waiver will not promote waste, is based on sound engineering and geoscience principles, will not jeopardize the ultimate recovery of hydrocarbons, will not jeopardize correlative rights, and will not result in an increased risk to health, safety, or the environment, including freshwater.**

(Eff. 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

Authority: AS 31.05.030