ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENT

THERMOPLASTIC CASING SURFACE SEAL VARIANCE

All licensed well drillers and well drilling consultants are hereby notified that upon request, except in extraordinary circumstances requiring the use of steel casing, all qualified Vadose Zone, Monitor, Piezometer, and Exploration wells, as defined in the Department's Well Construction and Licensing Rules, **A.A.C. R12-15-801,** will be granted a variance from the Arizona Department of Water Resource's well construction rule **A.A.C. R12-15-811(B)(1),** to substitute the use of qualified thermoplastic casing for the steel casing required by the rule in the upper 20 feet of a well's surface seal.

"Exploration Well" means a well drilled in search of geophysical, mineralogical, or geotechnical data. **A.A.C. R12-15-801(13).**

"Monitor Well" means a well designed and drilled for the purpose of monitoring water quality within a specific depth interval. **A.A.C. R12-15-801(17).**

"Piezometer Well" means a well designed and drilled for the purpose of monitoring water levels within a specific depth interval. **A.A.C. R12-15-801(20).**

"Vadose Zone Well" means a well constructed in the interval between the land and the top of the static water level. **A.A.C. R12-15-801(26).**

Pursuant to **A.A.C. R12-15-820,** a person intending to drill a vadose zone, monitor, piezometer, or exploration well will be granted a variance to substitute the use of qualified thermoplastic casing for the **A.A.C. R12-15-811(B)(1)** requirement to use steel casing for the upper 20 feet of a well's surface seal upon request, except in extraordinary circumstances requiring steel casing. To qualify for this variance, the thermoplastic casing shall be installed only in an oversized borehole without driving, and the well shall be completed below the land surface in a vault. The casing shall conform with American Society of Testing and Materials Standard Specification F480-89 (1989). A copy of this specification is on file with the Department's Well Construction and Licensing Rules, **A.A.C. R12-15-801,** ***et seq.***, at the Office of the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona, State Capitol, West Wing, Phoenix, Arizona, 85007 and may be obtained from the American Society of Testing and Materials, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19103.

A request for the thermoplastic casing surface seal variance shall be made in the manner specified on the appropriate Notice of Intention to Drill (NOI) form. The variance shall be effective only upon receipt by the well drilling contractor of a Drilling Card stamped "Thermoplastic Surface Seal Casing Variance Issued."

The Director may modify or revoke this policy at any time.

Effective Date:

August 1, 2000

Rita Pearson Maguire

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Director