

**CHAPTER 69-05.2-14**  
**PERFORMANCE STANDARDS - CASING AND SEALING OF DRILLED HOLES**

Section

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**69-05.2-14-01. Performance standards - Casing and sealing of drilled holes - General requirements.**

The operator shall case, seal, or otherwise manage each drill hole, borehole, or well within the permit area to prevent toxic drainage from entering ground or surface waters, minimize disturbance to the prevailing hydrologic balance, and ensure the safety of people, livestock, fish and wildlife, and machinery in the permit and adjacent areas. Unless approved for monitoring, the operator shall permanently close or otherwise acceptably manage openings uncovered or exposed by mining activities. Use of a drilled hole or borehole or monitoring well as a water well must meet the provisions of section 69-05.2-16-16. This section does not apply to holes drilled and used solely for blasting.

**History:** Effective August 1, 1980; amended effective June 1, 1983; May 1, 1990.

**General Authority:** NDCC 38-14.1-03

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 38-14.1-24

**69-05.2-14-02. Performance standards - Casing and sealing of drilled holes - Temporary.**

Each drill hole or borehole identified in the approved permit application to be used to monitor ground water conditions shall be temporarily sealed before use and protected during use by barricades, or fences, or other protective devices approved by the commission. These devices must be periodically inspected and maintained in good operating condition by the permittee or operator.

**History:** Effective August 1, 1980; amended effective January 1, 1993.

**General Authority:** NDCC 38-14.1-03

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 38-14.1-24

**69-05.2-14-03. Performance standards - Casing and sealing of drilled holes - Permanent.**

When no longer needed for monitoring or other use approved by the commission upon a finding of no adverse environmental or health and safety effect, the operator shall permanently close drill holes and boreholes to prevent toxic drainage from entering ground or surface waters.

**History:** Effective August 1, 1980; amended effective May 1, 1990.

**General Authority:** NDCC 38-14.1-03

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 38-14.1-24