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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
LANSING



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TO: Water Well Drilling Contractors

FROM: Sara Pearson, Supervisor, Source Water Unit, Environmental Health Section,
Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division

DATE: May 31, 2023

SUBJECT: Approval on Use of Portland-Limestone Cement Type IL

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) has completed the rule promulgation process to amend the Michigan Water Well Construction and Pump Installation Code (Well Code), adopted under Part 127, Water Supply and Sewer Systems, of the Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, as amended. Amendments to the rules were undertaken to add Portland-Limestone Cement Type IL to the approved cement types for water wells.

The updated Well Code is available at the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs website at <https://ARS.Apps.LARA.State.MI.US>.

Revisions are specific to four rules of the Well Code: Rules 103a, 110, 133a, and 140. A summary of the modifications is listed below:

Rule 103a, Definitions, previously defined neat cement as a mixture of Portland Cement and not more than six gallons of fresh water. The change updates the definition to include the use of Portland-Limestone Cement.

Rule 110, Adoption of Standards and Specifications, documents the standards for products allowed for use under the Well Code. The revision adds American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) specification C595/C595M-21 "Standard Specification for Blended Hydraulic Cements" (C595) which is the standard that defines Type IL.

Neat cement must be allowed to set a minimum of 24 hours when standard Portland Cement is used for well installation before drilling operations can resume. The amendment to Rule 133a, Construction of Wells, extends this requirement to Type IL and its variants. This is due to the similar characteristics between Portland and Portland-Limestone Cement.

Water well components, such as cement, must comply with certain standards such as ASTM International Specification C150-89 "Standard Specification for Portland Cement" for use in well construction regulated under the Well Code. The addition of C595 with a limitation to Portland-Limestone Cement Type IL within Rule 140, Certification of Water Well Components, allows for its use. EGLE and its stakeholders did not recommend the

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allowance of Portland Blast-Furnace Slag (Type IS), Portland-Pozzolan (Type IP), and Ternary Blended Cements (Type IT), which are also covered under C595.

The promulgation of the new rule language in the Well Code and this Approval on Use of Portland-Limestone Cement Type IL supersede the Advisory on Use of Portland-Limestone Cement Type IL issued by EGLE on July 7, 2022.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 517-420-3219; PearsonS@Michigan.gov; or mail at EGLE, Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division, P.O. Box 30817, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8311.

cc: Michigan Ground Water Association
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