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MEMORANDUM

To: Licensed Water Well Contractors
Local Health Departments
Directors or Environmental Health
Regional Engineers/Supervisors

From: Jerry Dalsin, Program Manager *JD*
Private Water Program
Division of Environmental Health

Date: June 23, 2003

Subject: Illinois Water Well Construction Code
Extending Steel Casing with Plastic Casing

During the course of this year's continuing training sessions for licensed water well and pump installation contractors, there was some confusion as to whether or not plastic well casing could be used to extend steel casing.

Plastic casing **can be** used to extend steel casing. The steel casing can have either an outside threaded end or a specialized adapter coupling welded into place followed by screwing a PVC coupling or threaded adapter on/into the threaded or coupling end. If the steel casing has a plain end, there is a pressurized adapter (installed under system pressure) that can be used. The PVC casing is then screwed into the pressurized adapter. If the PVC riser is hit, the PVC will fracture at the surface rather than at the connection with the steel casing.

When steel casing is used to extend PVC casing, the **connection is critical**. Section 920.90 c) of the Illinois Water Well Construction Code requires a pressurized connection to extend plastic casing with steel casing when the connection is within 20 feet of the surface.

If you have any further questions regarding this issue, please contact me at 217-782-5830.