

567—39.1(455B) Purpose and applicability. This chapter implements Iowa Code section 455B.190 by providing a schedule and required procedures for the proper plugging of abandoned wells to protect the groundwater by permanently sealing off contamination to individual aquifers.

39.1(1) Wells covered by these rules are those accessing groundwater (withdrawing water from or injecting water into the groundwater) and can include but are not limited to public and nonpublic water wells, test wells, observation wells, monitoring wells, agricultural drainage wells, heat pump recirculation wells, and cooling water wells.

39.1(2) Wells or subsurface structures not covered by these rules include small-diameter (2-inch or less) test holes, observation wells or monitoring wells installed for a limited time that can be sealed by withdrawing the casing and allowing the hole to collapse; soil borings; septic tanks; underground storage tanks; and cisterns, if not used for accessing groundwater.

39.1(3) For additional guidance and background information, refer to “Guidelines for Plugging Abandoned Water Wells,” Technical Information Series 15, Geological Survey Bureau, Iowa DNR, 1988, available on the department’s website at www.iowadnr.gov.

[ARC 9197C, IAB 5/14/25, effective 6/18/25]