

**Regulatory Citation(s):**

**78.85. Cement Standards.**

(c) After any casing cement is placed and cementing operations are complete, the casing may not be disturbed for a minimum of 8 hours by doing any of the following:

- (3) Slacking off by the rig supporting the casing in the cement sheath.

**Question:**

If an alternate means of casing support is provided that sufficiently immobilizes the casing during cement curing, must the casing remain hanging in the rig's elevators for 8 hours?

**Response:**

Many mechanisms/systems for stabilizing casing strings that do not rely upon the rig's elevators are available to operators. One example includes the use of landing ring systems that both support the casing and center it inside of the previous string near the top of the wellbore. When such systems are used and in place prior to circulating cement, it is not necessary to support the casing using the rig's elevators during the 8-hour wait-on-cement (WOC) time.