



DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION METHODS GEOTHERMAL STANDING COLUMN WELLS & STATUE of LIBERTY ISLAND



STEVE GROSS, PE, CertainTeed
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Hampstead NH www.northeastgeo.com



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SAINT-GOBAIN

3D-501-1



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3D-501-2

PVC Well Casing

- Used as both Casing & Liner
 - Domestic, Public Supply, Ag Irrigation, Geothermal, Environmental Monitoring
- Successfully used for over thirty years – believed to be the most commonly specified casing material in almost all parts of the U.S.
- Available from numerous qualified and reputable suppliers
 - Produced with a variety of strengths (wall thicknesses) to suit a wide range of application conditions
 - Typical sizes 2" – 16" O.D.



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- Available from numerous qualified and reputable suppliers
 - Produced with a variety of strengths (wall thicknesses) to suit a wide range of application conditions
 - Typical sizes 2" – 16" O.D.
- Engineered continuous water-tight system that maintains integrity of the well, thus protecting natural resources
 - Corrosion-resistant material does not degrade with time
 - Leak-free joint
- PVC is generally a more affordable option, making it easier for homeowners that need a well to have one on their property



2



PVC Well Casing

Made to accepted national standards that control:

- Material composition and properties
 - Tensile Strength, Elastic Modulus, Impact Strength
- Precise dimensions and tolerances
- Quality control and marking requirements

NSF International tested, approved, and listed as safe for use with potable water

An American National Standard

Designation: F 480 - 06b

Standard Specification for Thermoplastic Well Casing Pipe and Couplings Made in Standard Dimension Ratios (SDR), SCH 40 and SCH 80¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 480; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of last revision. A revision date, such as (1998), indicates the year of last revision. A superscript date, such as (1998), indicates an extended change since the last revision or reissue. This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers water well casing pipe and couplings made from thermoplastic materials in standard dimension ratios (SDR), SCH 40 and SCH 80, for the application of these materials to water well and ground water monitoring applications. Flushed threaded joint systems are included for screen and casing applications. This specification also covers the application of ground water monitoring wells (see Practice D 5092).

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values in parentheses are provided for information only (IEC/ASTM SI 10).

Notes 1—Casing field conditions may require alternative materials to those specified in this standard. The user is responsible for making the decision to use alternative materials. The user is also responsible for making the decision to use thermoplastic materials for well casing or monitor pipe.

Notes 2—This standard specifies dimensional, performance and test requirements for plumbing and fluid handling applications, but does not address requirements for water wells.

1.4 Although the pipe sizes and SDR values listed in this specification are generally available, numerous other plastic pipe sizes, SDR 40 and 80 wall, other than those values in various other diameters and wall thicknesses for well casing, such products often selected because they fulfill certain needs and Annex A1 includes a list of these Plastic Pipe Well Casing Specifications.

1.5 The following safety hazard caveat pertains only to the test methods and practices of this standard. This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

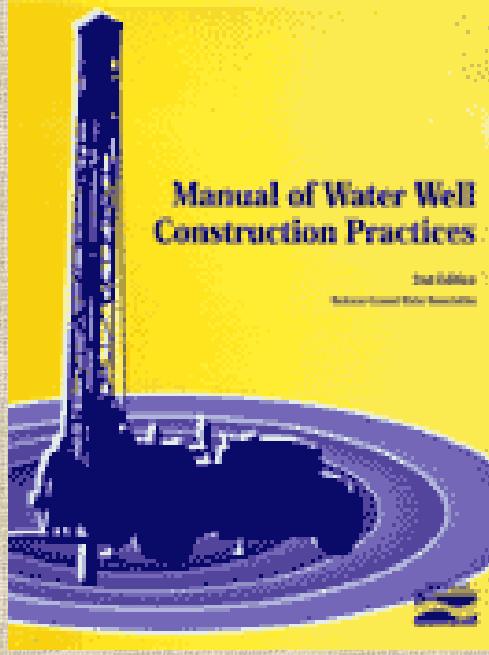
¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F17 on Plastic Piping Systems and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F17.7 on Water Well Casing. For inquiries concerning this standard, contact the responsible committee. Last previous edition approved in 2006 as F 480 - 06a.

ASTM F480

Construction Practices

NGWA Manual of Water Well Construction Practices

- Includes PVC, with solvent weld and spline-lock joining systems



5

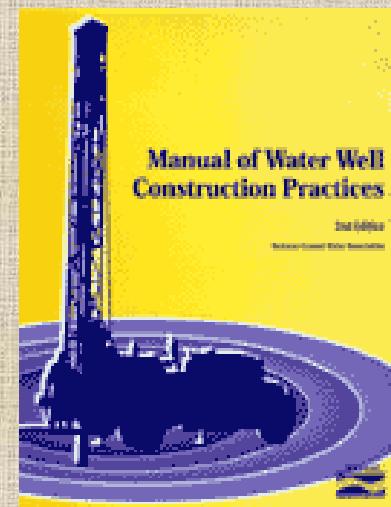
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Construction Practices (continued)

Well Screens & Intakes

- Engineered screen should be used with Casing
 - Maximizes open area for flow performance
 - Protects against entrance of fines during pumping



6

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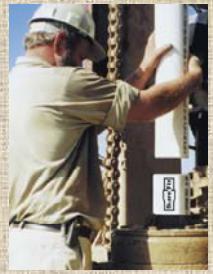
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Available with a Variety of Approved and Proven Joining Systems



U.S. Patent Number 6,086,297

Solvent Weld
Bellied End



Spline-Lok Mechanical Joining System

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4

Drop Pipe – PVC Options



**Kwik-Set Threaded
Drop Pipe (1" – 2")**

**Spline Lock
Drop Pipe
(2" – 8")**



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Retail Pavilion

P.A. Collins PE MEP & Acheson Doyle Partners Architects

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A STANDING COLUMN WELL

- BRIDGES THE GAP BETWEEN:
 - Closed Loop Earth Coupling
 - Open Well Earth Coupling



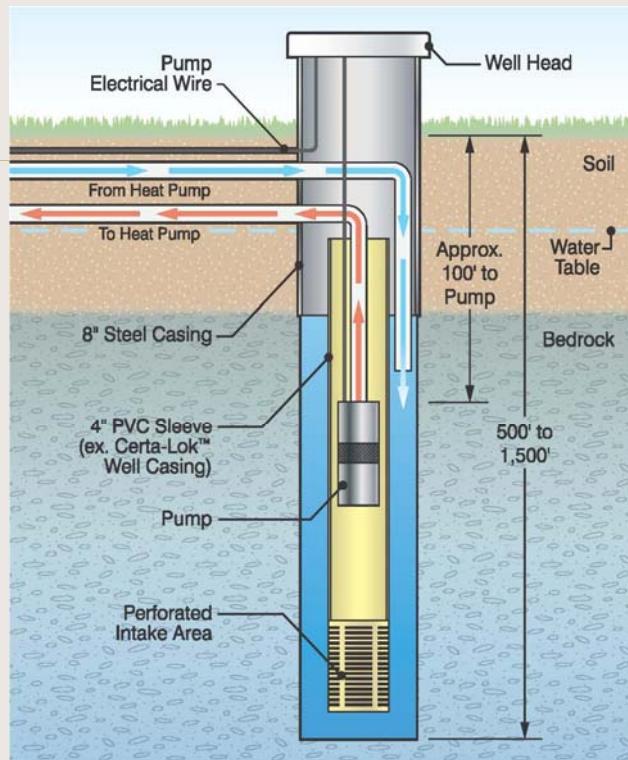
501-13

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A Standing Column Well is:

- Vertical Re-circulating water filled bedrock bore hole
- Heat Exchange occurs when water is removed from one end of bore and returned to the other end.
- Periodic removal of small amounts of water from the well greatly enhances heat transfer



Courtesy of CertainTeed

501-14

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GEOLOGICAL

NEAR-SURFACE BEDROCK in the U.S.

- Near-Surface Bedrock is Defined by Competent Rock within ~ 200 ft. of Surface
- Approximately 62% of the Continental U.S. has Near-Surface Bedrock

GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMPS



Standing Column Wells

- **Higher Capacity**
- **Higher Efficiency**
- **Lower First Cost**

than
a Closed Loop

501-16

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The image shows a page from a spiral-bound notebook. On the left, there is a photograph of the Statue of Liberty and the New York City skyline across the water. A green circle highlights a specific area on the ground level, which is connected by a green arrow to a photograph on the right. The right photograph shows a geothermal well site with a white truck and a green drilling rig. The text on the page reads:

Miss LIBERTY Goes GEOTHERMAL

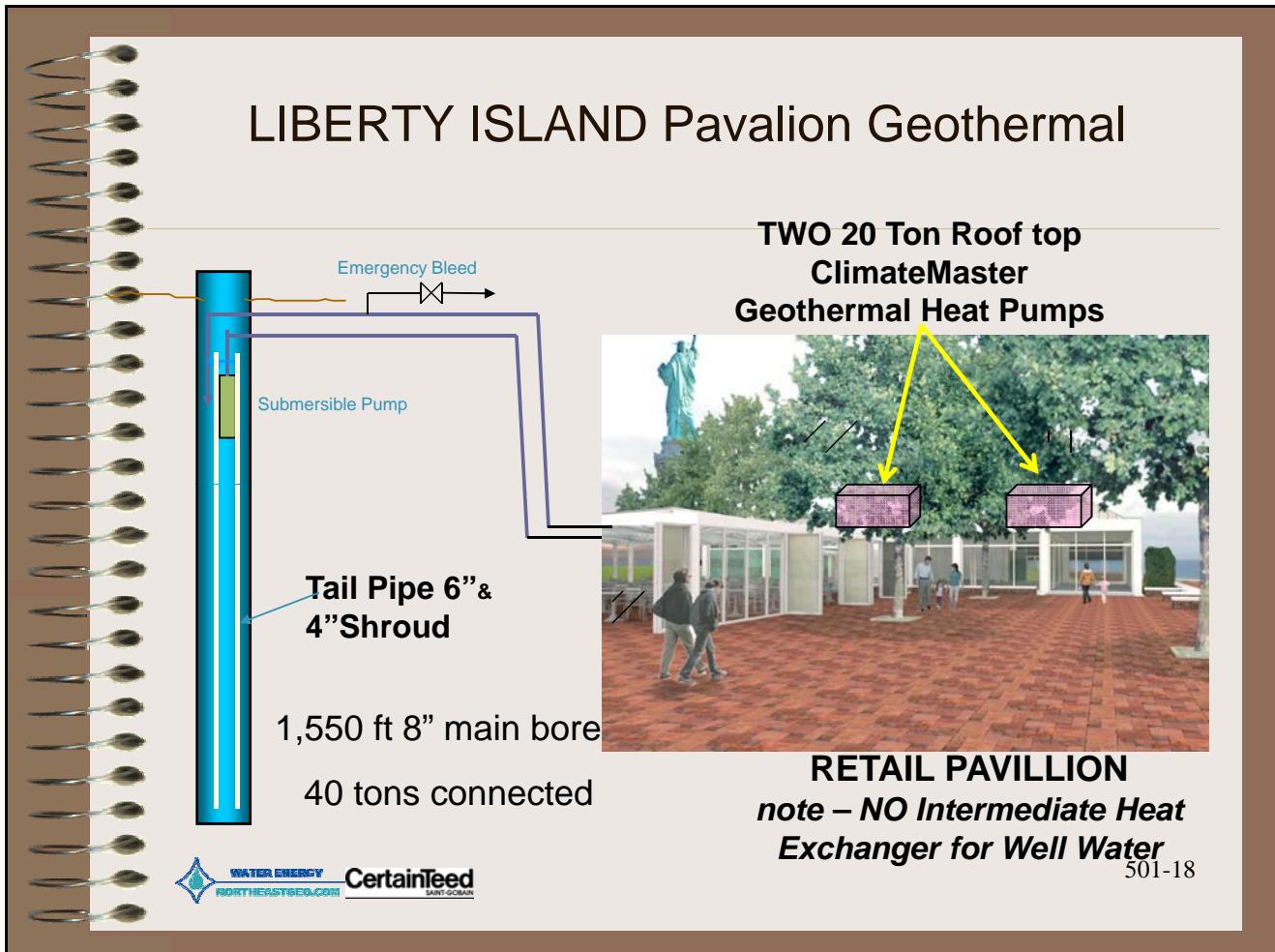
ONE Standing Column Well for a 32 ton LOAD

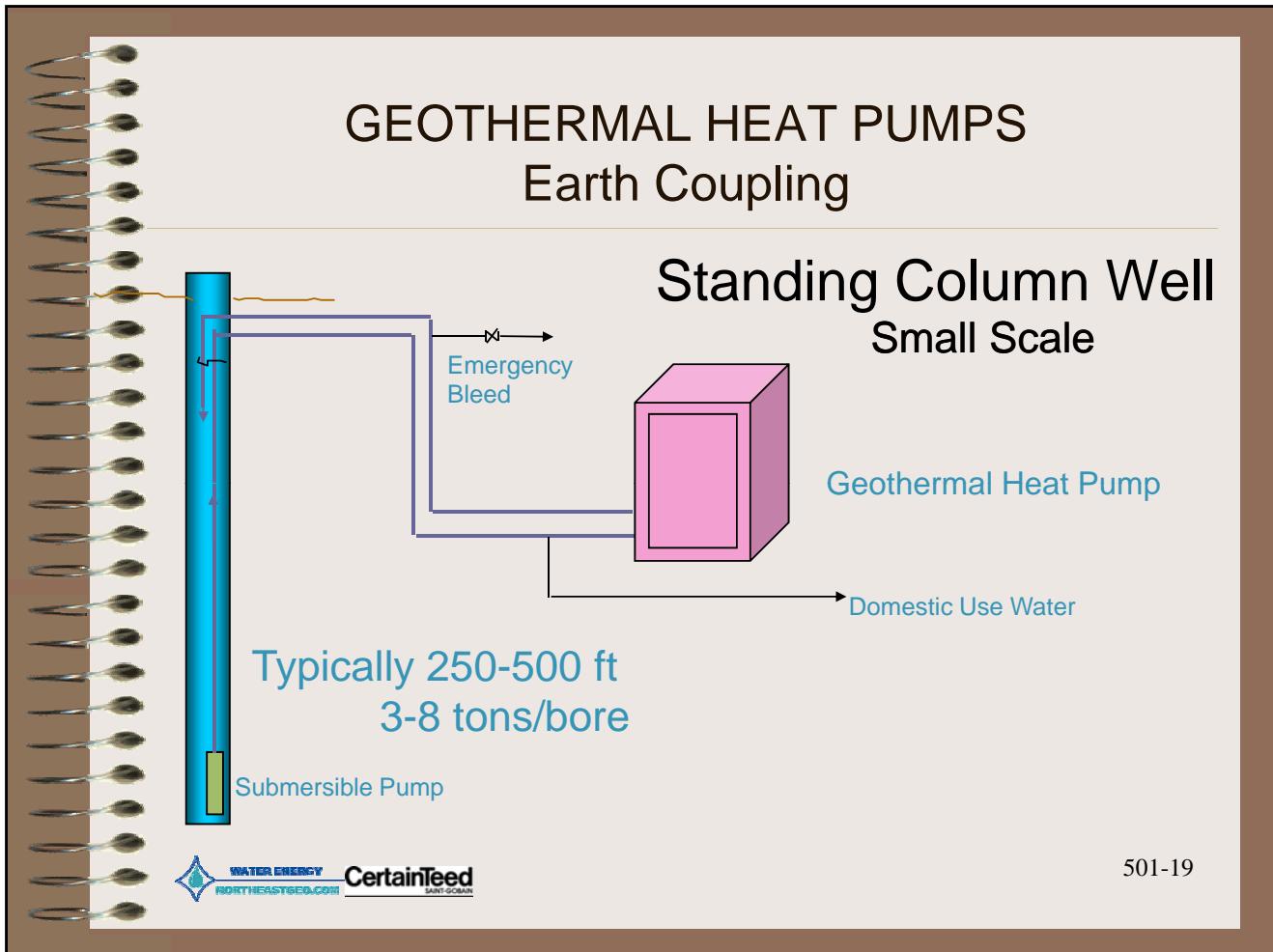
Courtesy Connecticut Wells, Inc

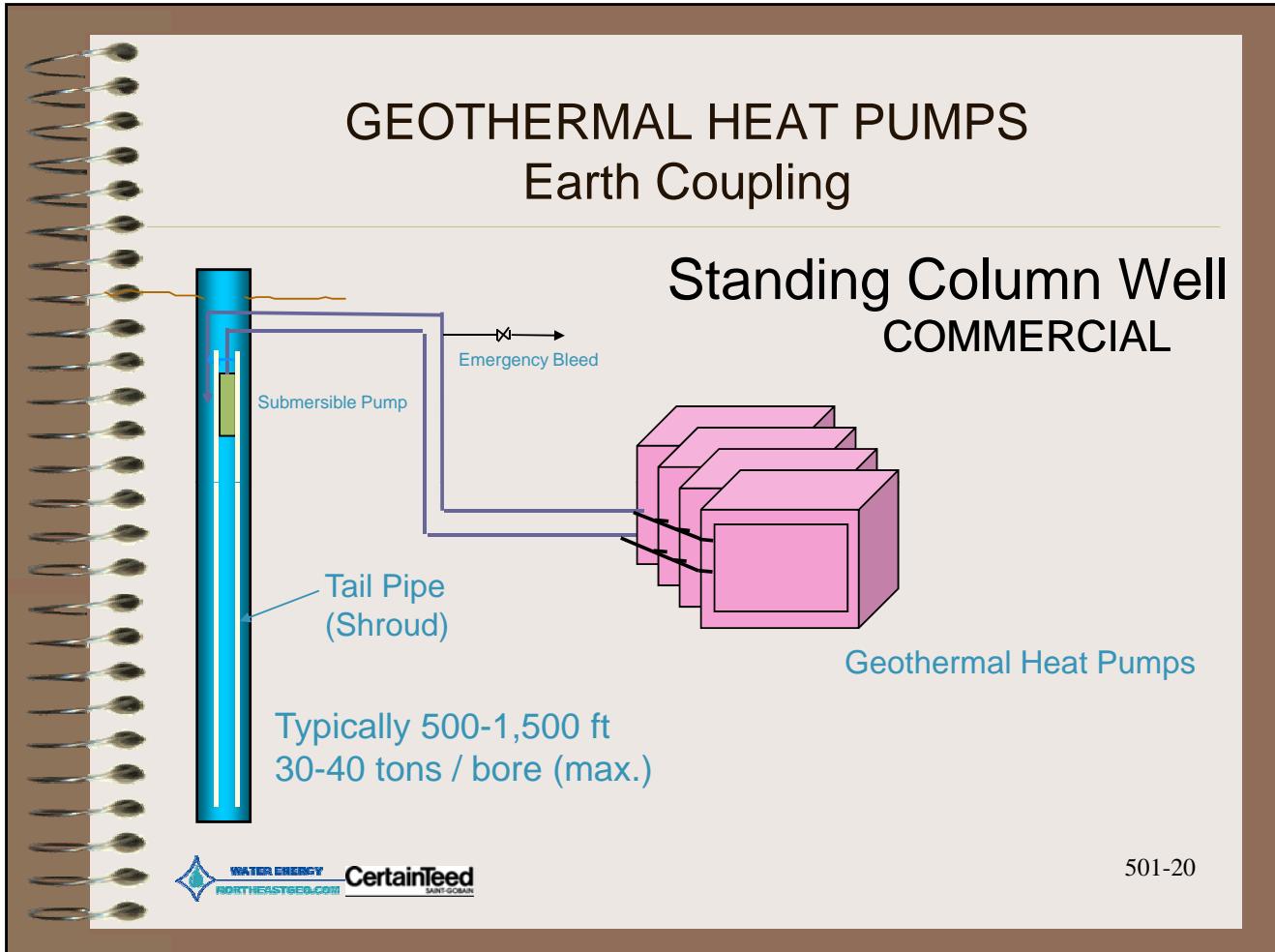
501-17

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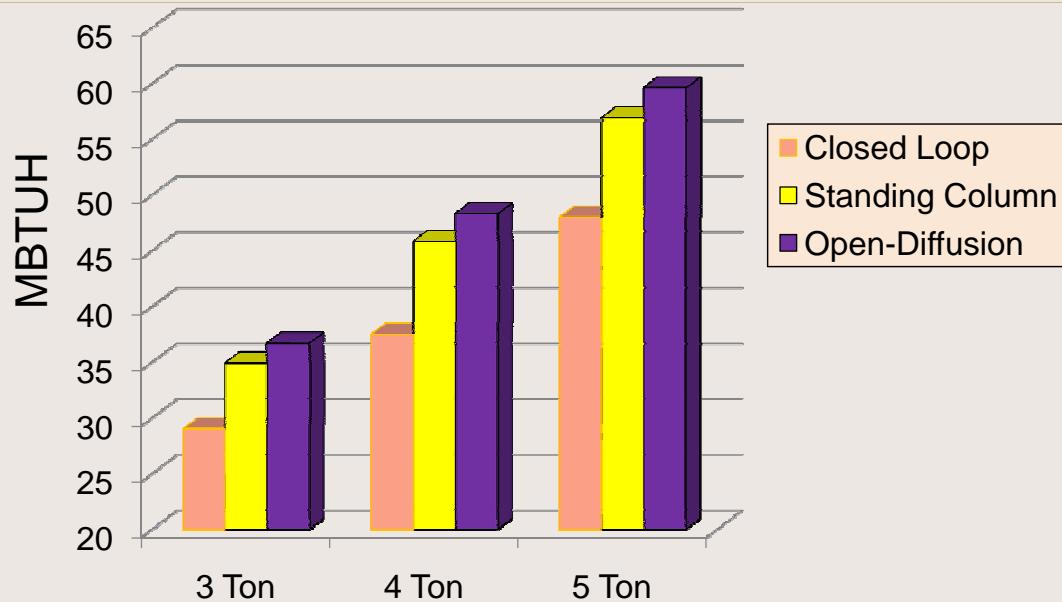
CertainTeed





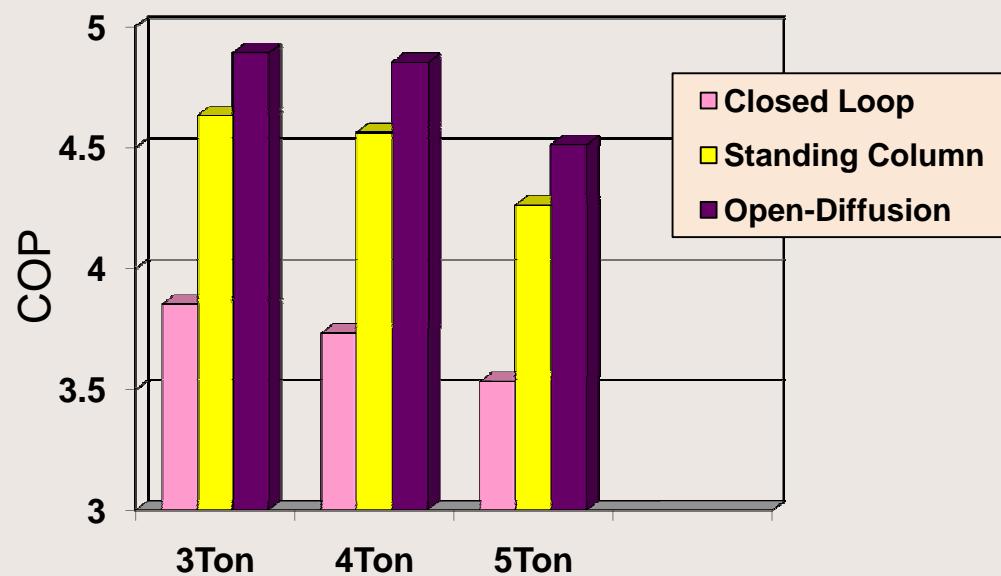


SCW has HIGHER CAPACITY than Closed Loop



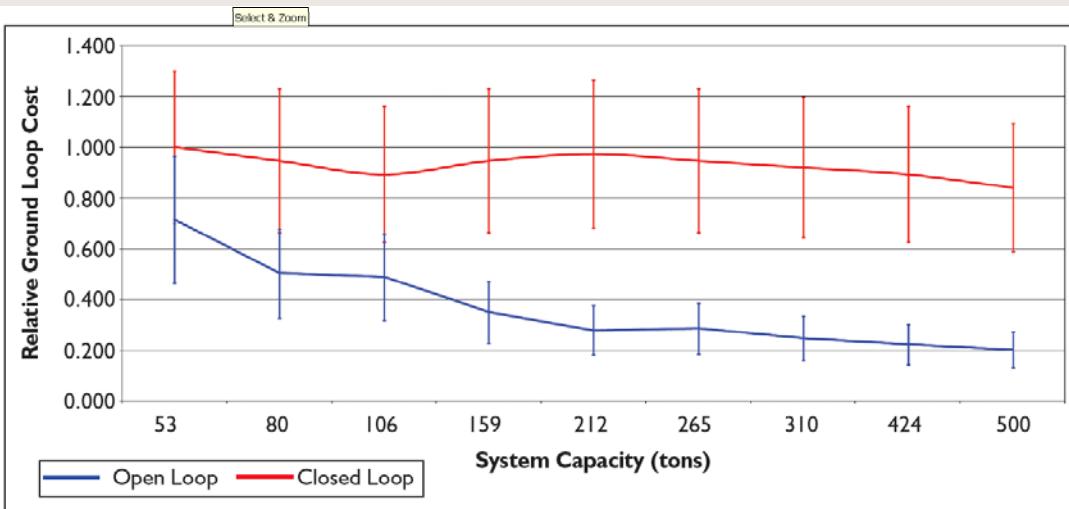
3D-501-21

SCW has HIGHER EFFICIENCY than Closed Loop



3D-501-22

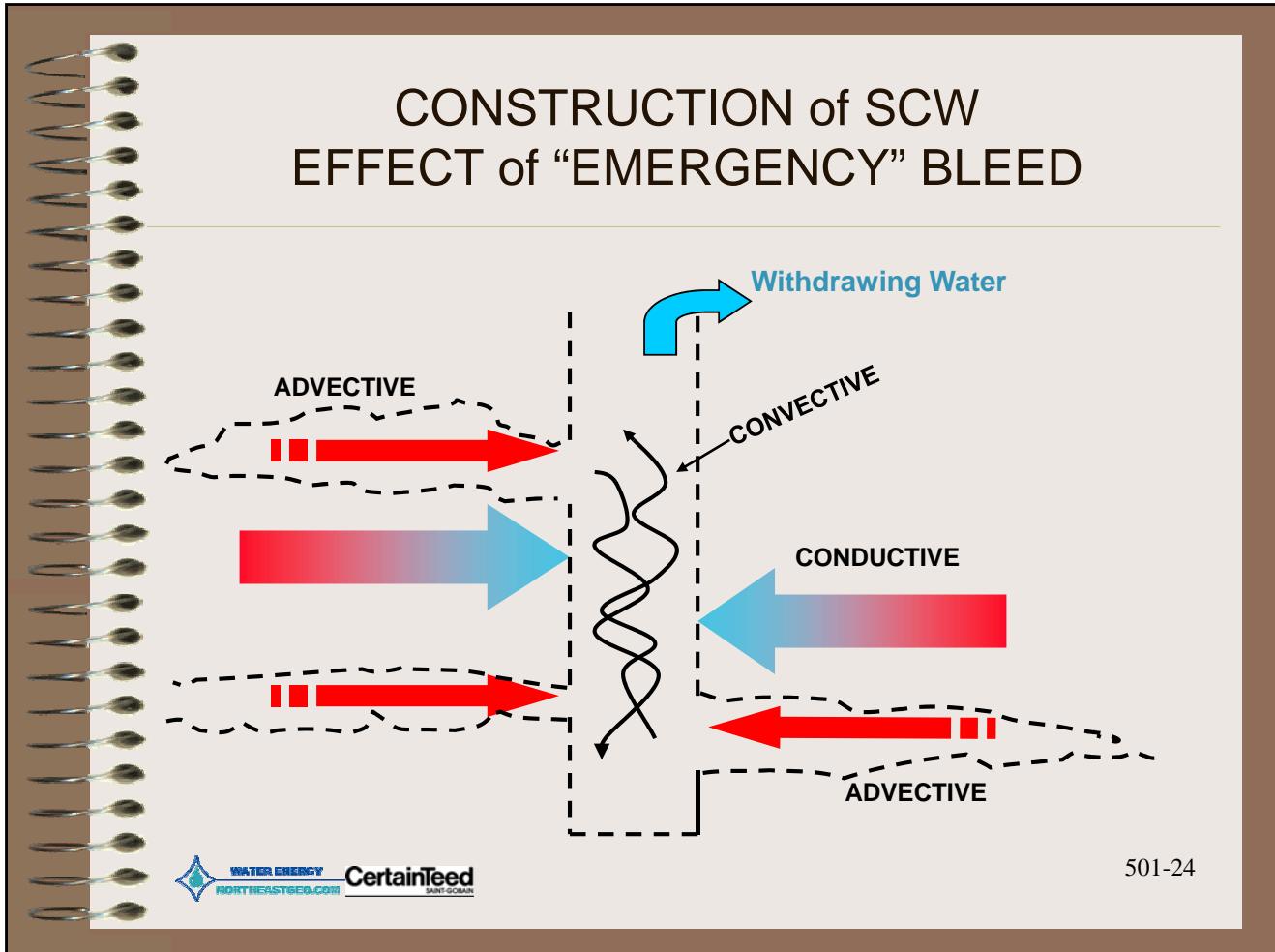
Comparative Cost of OPEN vs. CLOSED LOOP



Rafferty -ASHRAE Journal March 2009



3D-501-23



Heat Transfer within SCW

Conductive

**ENERGY MOVING THROUGH THE ROCK –
MOLECULE TO MOLECULE, NO MOVEMENT**

Advective

**WATER AS AN ENERGY ENTITY MOVING
THROUGH ROCK FRACTURES, CHANGING
ROCK TEMPERATURE**

Convective

**ENERGY MOVING AS WATER & MIXING .
OCCURS AT THE SURFACE OF & WITHIN
THE BORE**



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Designing a **STANDING COLUMN WELL**



1. Heating & Cooling WRITTEN Loads by ASHRAE, Manual-J or N (Commercial)
2. Determine Month by Month Load Profiles
3. Assess Long Term Geologic Thermal Effects
4. Issue Preliminary Bid/Drill Specifications
5. Monitor Drilling
6. Report to State/Federal Agencies on Basis of Class V UIC Wells



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**STANDING COLUMN WELL =
SAME DESIGN MATHEMATICS**

as

CLOSED LOOP

EXCEPT

**NO LOOP PLASTIC PIPE
THERMAL RESISTANCE**

&

HAS ADVECTIVE ENHANCEMENT



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STANDING COLUMN WELL SAME DESIGN MATHEMATICS as CLOSED LOOP SAME INPUTS

T = Soil Temp - deg

Q' = Heat Transferred - btu/hr/Lft

r = Radial Dist from Line - ft

K_s = Thermal conductivity - btu/ft-deg

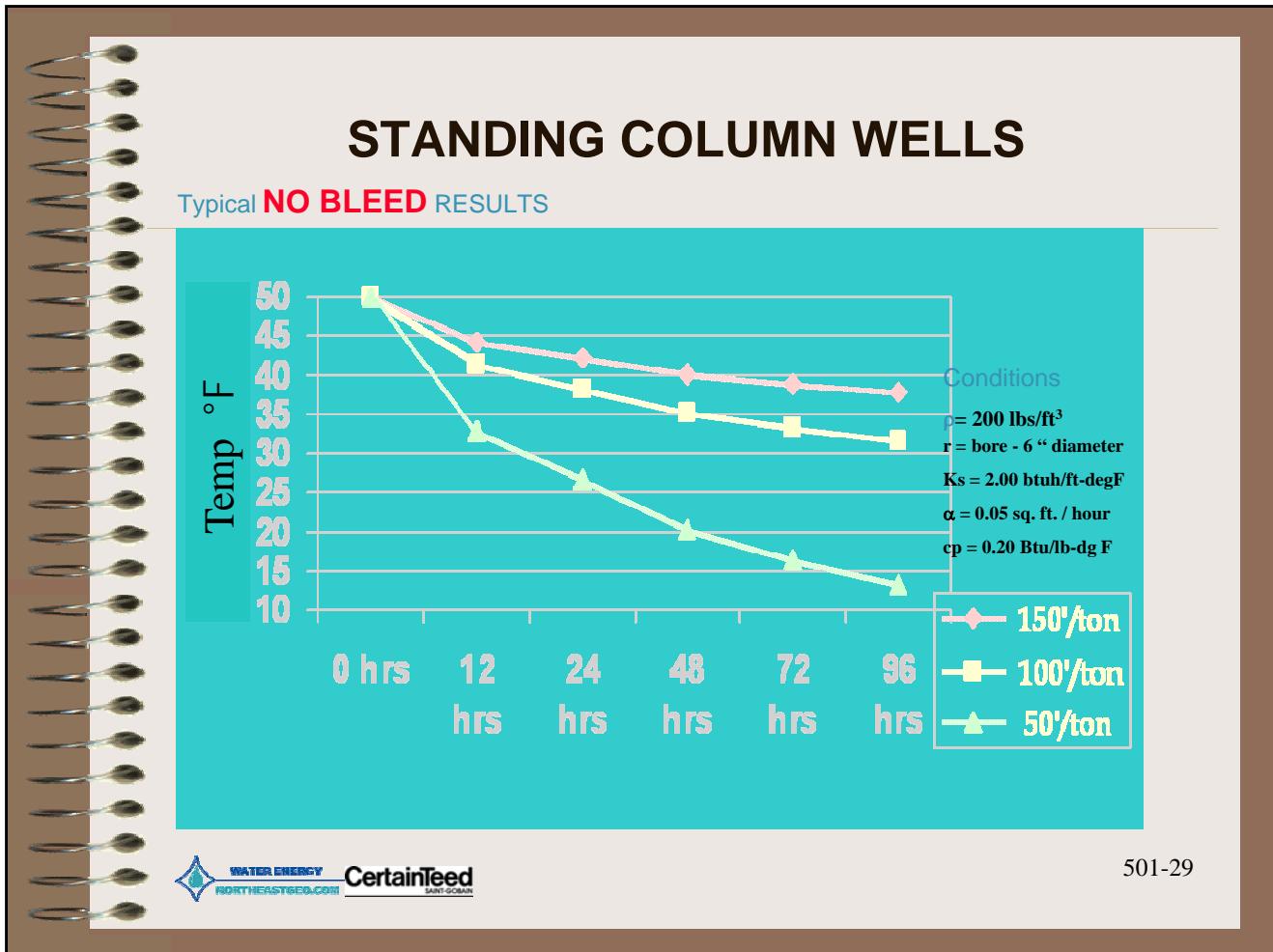
a = Thermal Diffusivity - sqft/hr

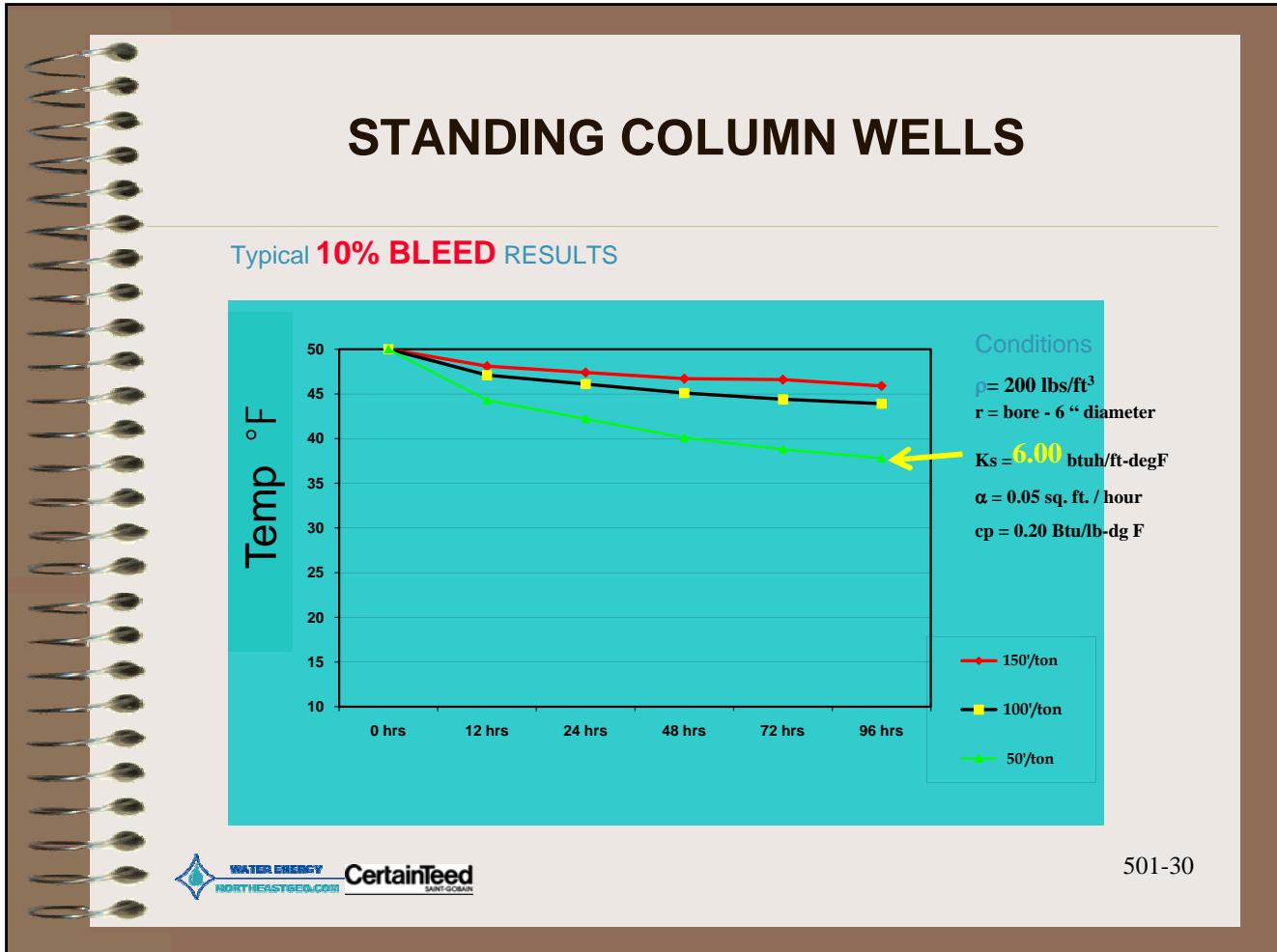
ρ = Rock Density - lb/cuft

C_p = Rock Specific Heat = btu/lb-deg

t = Heat Pump Run time - hours

B = Integration Variable





Specification Bid/Drill

Consider a Drilling of Test Well?

- The “First Well” is the “Test” Well

Drill it as if it were the ***first*** well, not a test well to be abandoned. Drilled as a water supply well.

From that well determine:

- ***Rock Characteristics***
- ***Well Yields & Locations***
- ***Ambient Static***
- ***Draw Down Statics****



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LIBERTY - Standing Column Well

- **Depth** 1,550 feet
- **Over burden** -17 feet
- **Water Zones** -600 to 1,300 feet
- **Bedrock Schist** ~150 #/ft³
- **Ambient Static** - 12 feet
- **Drawdown Static** - 183 feet*
- **Water Quality**
- Brackish
Cu-Ni HX Required



501-32

What it Takes

- **Capability of the Rig**
 - Pull Back
 - Air Compressor
- **Capability of Driller**
 - Deep Bore Experience
- **Bore Rod**
 - 1,500 feet
- **Handling of Water**
 - Temporary Run Off



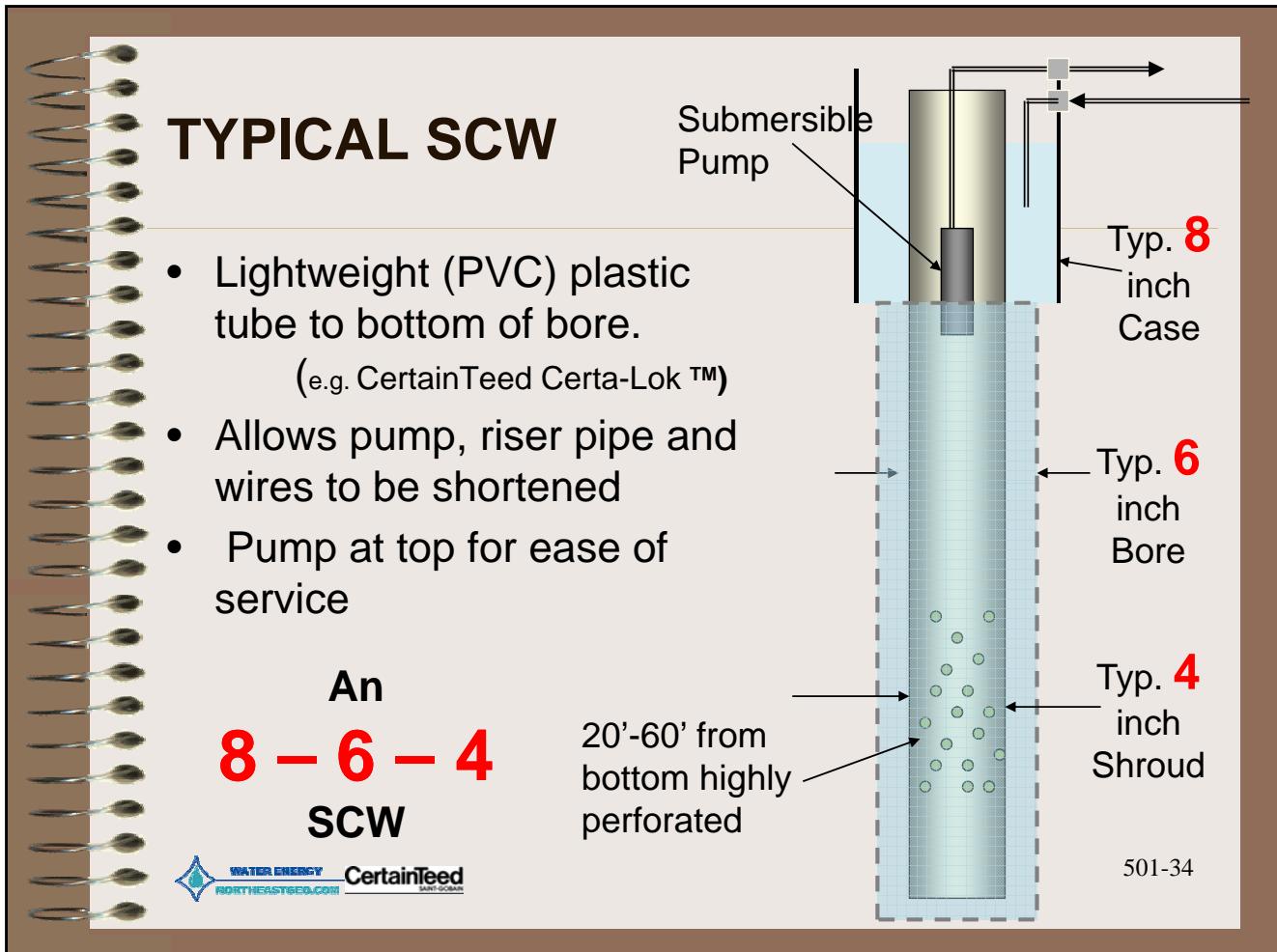
Liberty Island

501-33



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Shroud

- **8-6-4-** Residential & Light Commercial

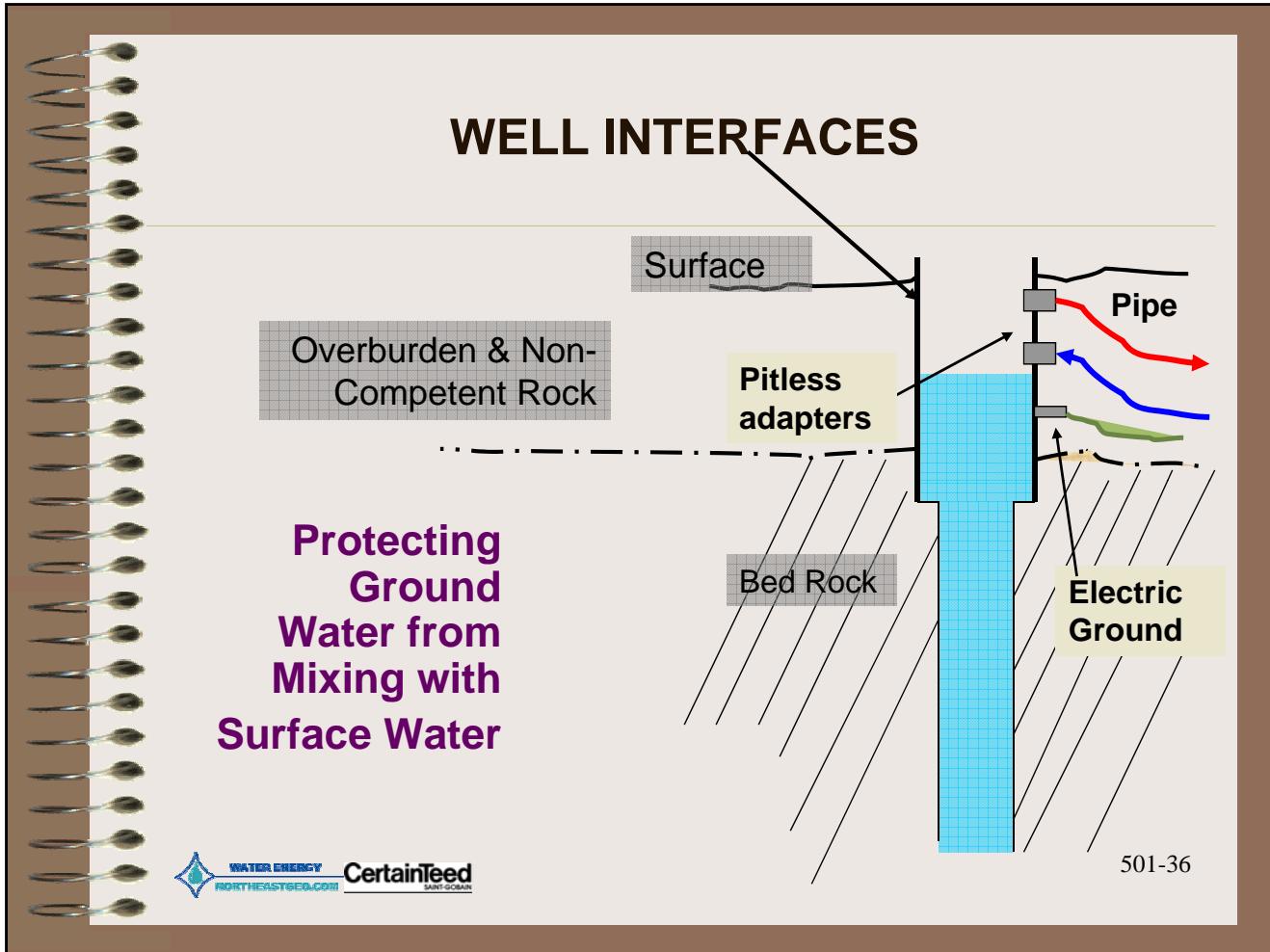
Typically up to 80 gpm pumping –
typical 2-8 gpm bleed –

4” submersible pump

- **10-8-6 –** Commercial

Typically up to 130 gpm –
13-35 gpm bleed

6” Submersible Pump



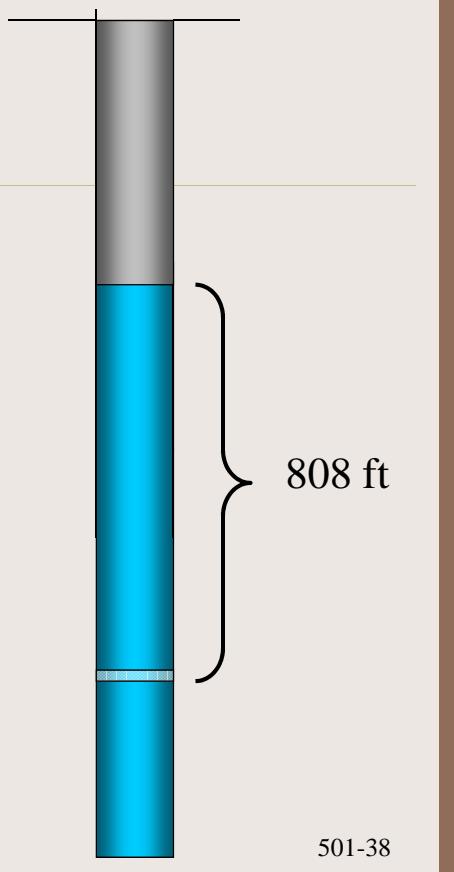
CASING OPTIONS

STEEL – 8 inch casing 19#/ft minimum and 26#/ft desirable on large commercial

PVC –recommended if water has conductivity greater than 3,000-5,000+ $\mu\text{mho}/\text{cm}$ (10% sea water)

EXCESS WATER

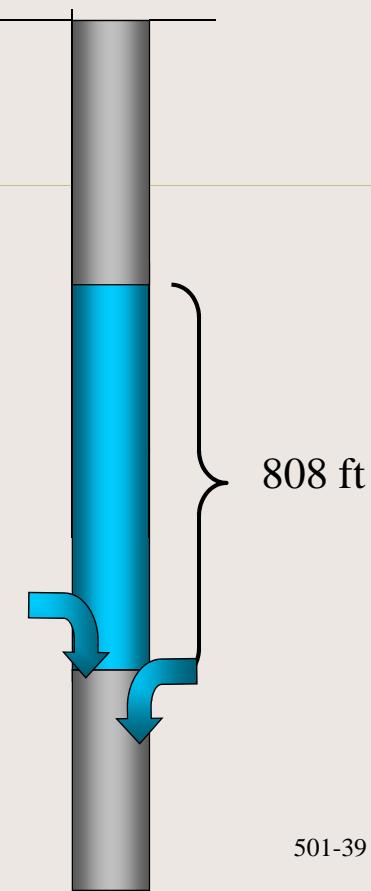
- Typical On-Rig Compressor = 350 psig
- Water Lift = 808 feet
- How to drill a 1,500 foot bore?



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GROUT SYSTEMS

HANDLING EXCESS WATER

- Auxiliary Compressor
>350 psig
- Temporary Dewatering
- Skill – Staying Ahead of
inflow water



FIRST WELL IS THE “TEST” WELL

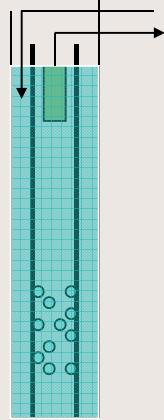
- Logging
- Draw Down Test at Bleed Rate
- Taking Rock Spoils Samples
 - Typical 3-4 ozs of Spoils for Density Analysis



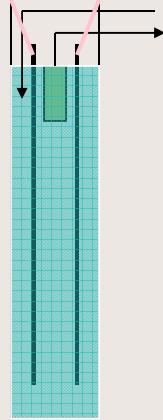
TYPES OF SHROUDS USED

The CASING, SUPPORT & ADAPTERS

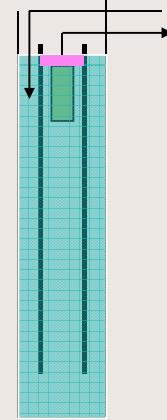
Bottom Set



Hanging



Supported





**Shroud
Connections**

**GLUE
&
SCREW**

501-42



**Shroud, Riser &
Drop Connections**



**SPLINE
CONNECTION**

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 CertainTeed Certa Lok™

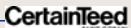
501-43



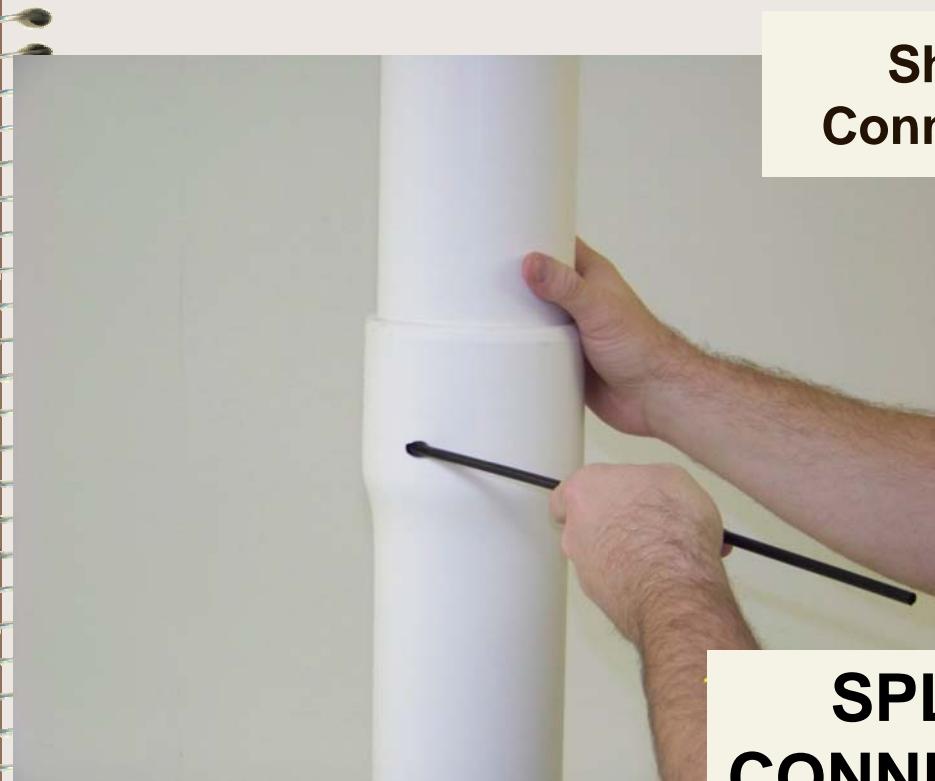
**Shroud
Connections**

**SPLINE
CONNECTION
Clean & Align**

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 CertainTeed Certa Lok™

501-44



**Shroud
Connections**

CertainTeed Certa Lok™

**SPLINE
CONNECTION
Inserting**

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CERTALOK



Shroud Connections

Certa-Lok Riser (Drop Pipe) Connection

SPLINE CONNECTION Connected

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CertainTeed Certa-Lok™

501-46

The diagram illustrates a Certa-Lok Riser (Drop Pipe) Connection. On the left, a vertical stack of shrouds is shown. In the center, a white Certa-Lok riser pipe is connected to a white shroud. A hand is shown using a tool to tighten a spline connection on the side of the riser. To the right, a separate shroud is shown with a spline connection. The text "SPLINE CONNECTION Connected" is displayed in a box. Logos for "WATER ENERGY" and "CERTA-LOK" are present at the bottom.

Shroud, Riser & Drop Connections

GLUE & SCREW SPLINE

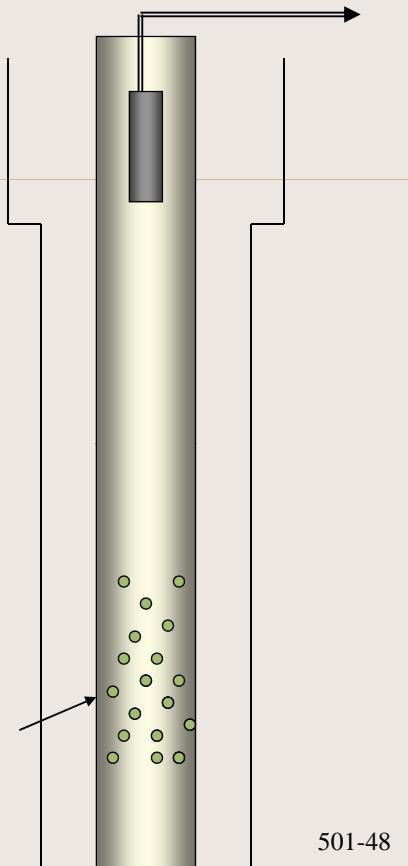
- **FREE of GLUE VOC** NO YES
- **DIS-ASSEMBLY** NO YES
- **ASSEMBLY** SLOW FAST
- **GLUE SENSITIVITY** Temperature

Shroud DIFFUSION

**8-6-4 120 1 INCH HOLES
OVER 40 FEET**

**10-8-6 180 1 ¼ INCH
HOLES OVER 60 FEET**

**20'-60' or
80' FROM
BOTTOM**



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COMMERCIAL SUBMERSIBLE PUMP SELECTION

Pump Rate & Pump Head:

- Total Dynamic Head (TDH)
 - Static Lift – at bleed rate*
 - Riser Pipe PD
 - Both Offset Pipes PD
 - Solids Trapper PD, If used
 - Building Riser, if used
 - Heat Pump HX PD
 - Misc. Trim PD
 - Drop Pipe PD
 - Suction Effect –PD
- **TYPICAL 3 - 10 Hp Pump**

Liberty - 132 gpm@360 ft TDH = 20Hp

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GEOLOGIC

501-50

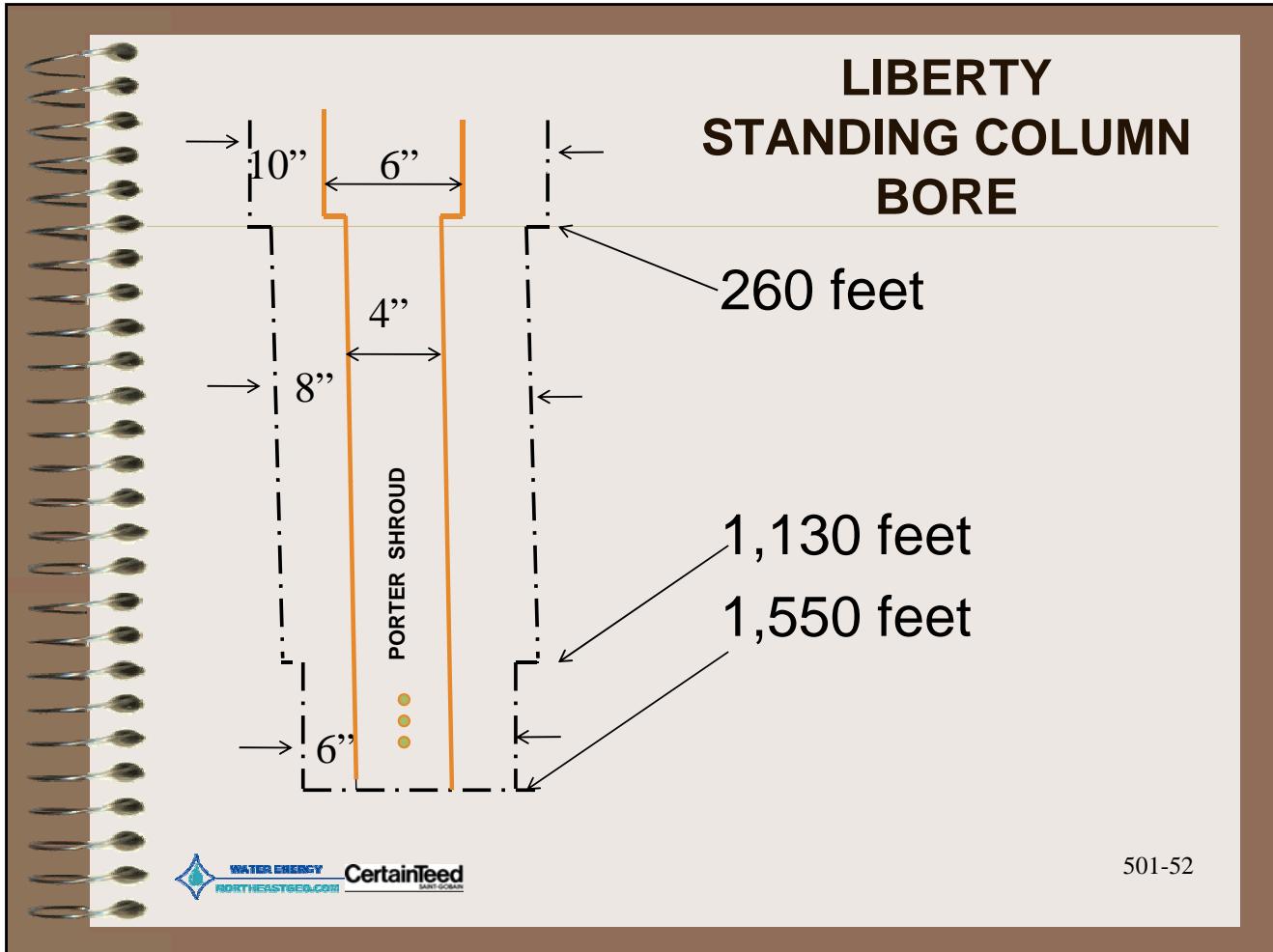


6" Shroud to 4" Shroud
an Unusual Requirement
Easily Met with
the Spline
Connection
Method

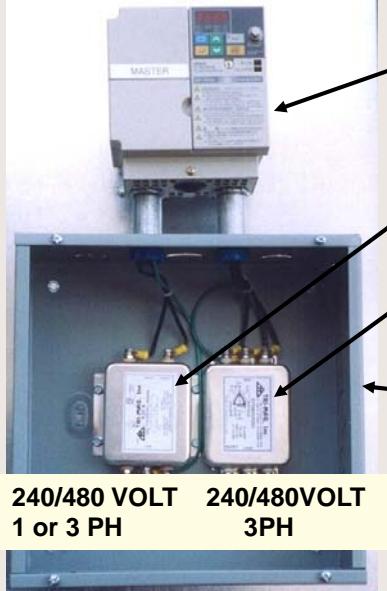
501-51

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Variable Frequency Drive



- **VFD Must Have:**
 - Power Service RFI **FILTER**
 - Well Pump Cable
 - **REACTOR**
 - Programmed for ≥ 30 Hz.
 - Over Pressure Inhibit
 - Electric Ground Plane Connected to HP, Well Casing & Well Pump
 - Shielded Load Cable

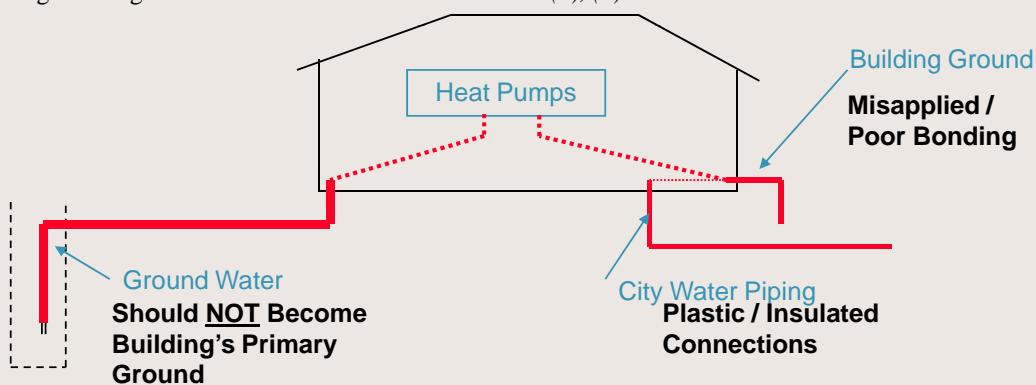
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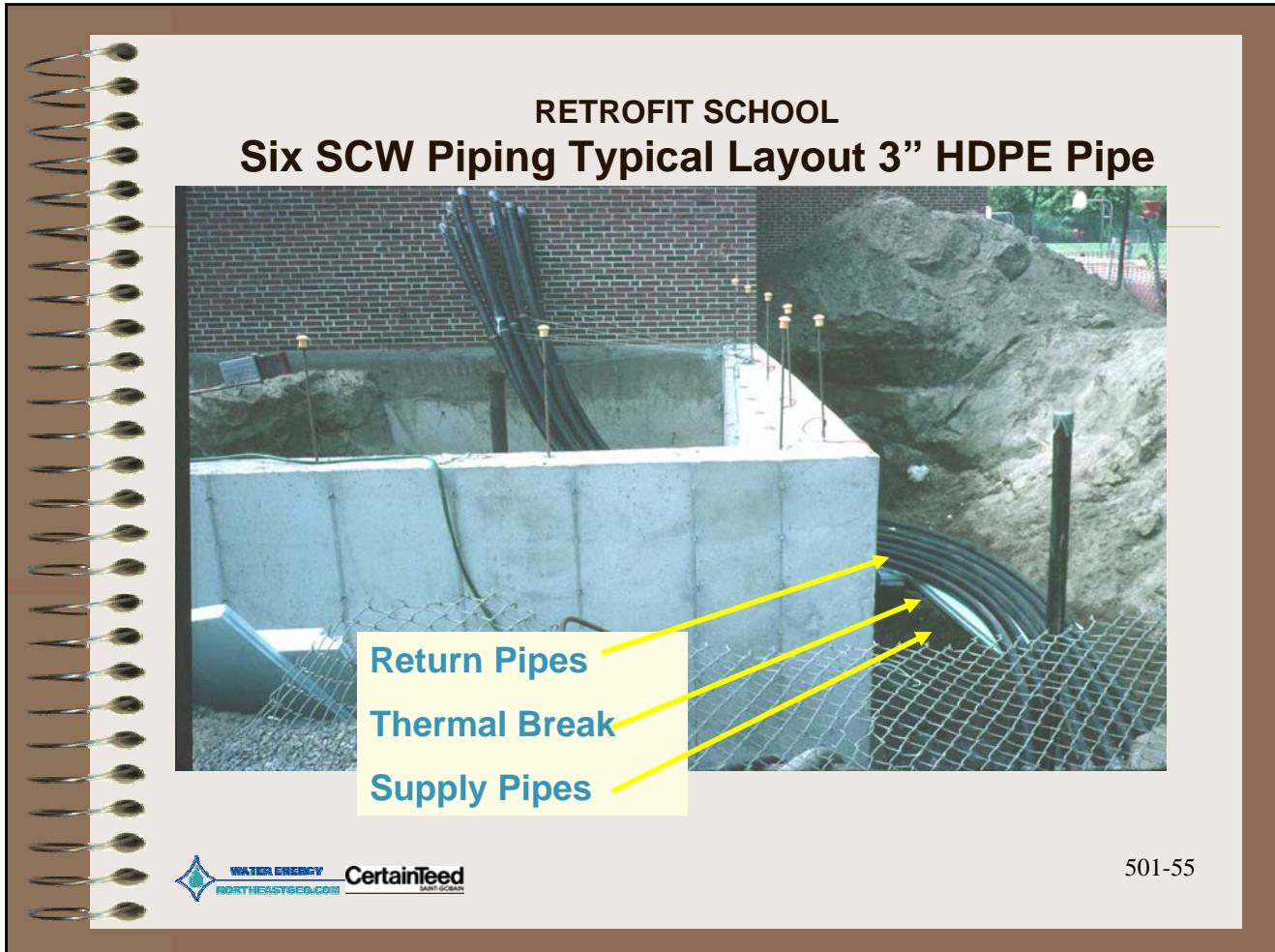
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GROUT SYSTEMS

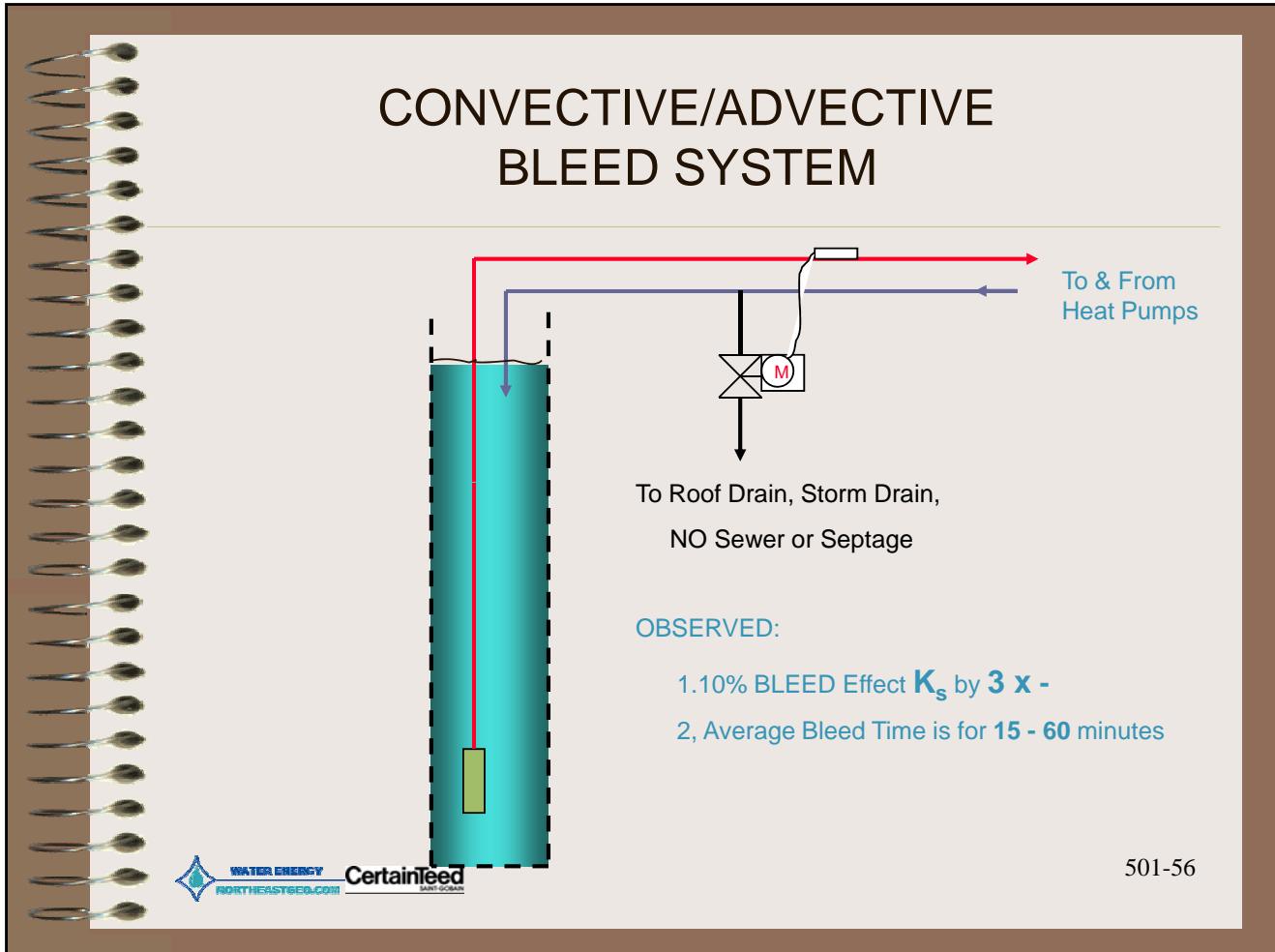
501-53

IMPORTANCE of EARTH BOND

- **EARTH BOND - National Electric Code Section 1999**
 - “shall be grounded...(when)...located in a wet or damp location and not isolated” - *section 250-110(2)*
 - “....non-current-carrying metal parts of equipment and enclosures....shall be grounded regardless of voltage.” - *section 250-112(4)(a)*
 - “The (grounding) connection shall be made by bonding the equipment grounding conductor to the grounding electrode conductor” - *section 250-130(a), (b)*

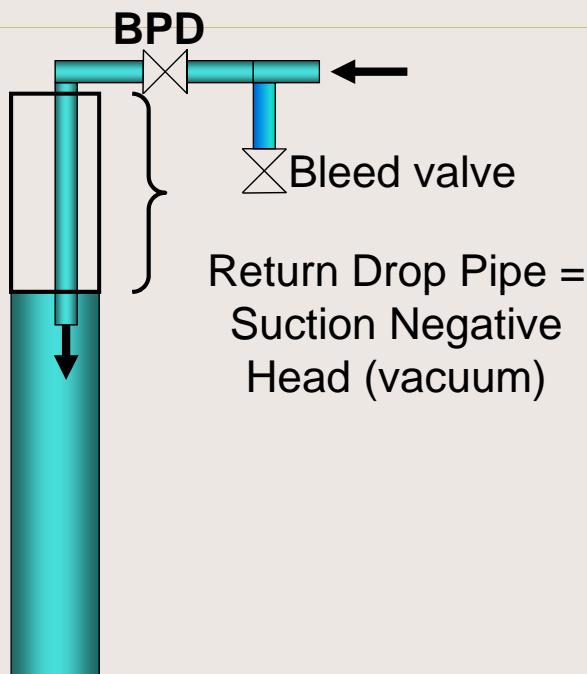






SUCTION EFFECT on DROP PIPE

- **Suction Drop can be as much as a complete vacuum, i.e. 34 feet**
- **Insure return to well line has adequate back pressure devices (BPD) to permit use of bleed circuit**



REGULATORY

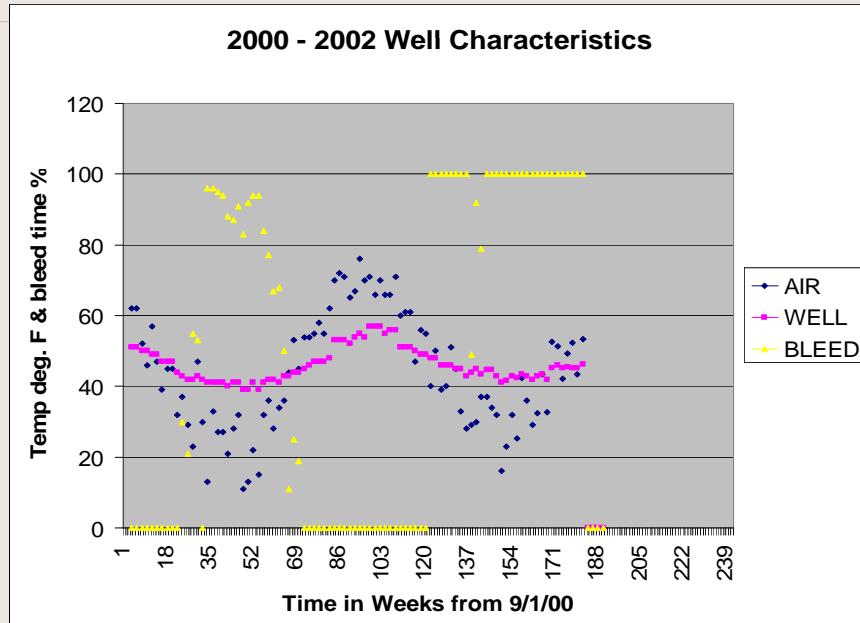
CLASS V Underground Injection Control (UIC)

- Class V is a re-injection of “non-contact” drinking quality water to the earth via injection well(s)
- Re-injection of Heat Pump water is specifically allowed as a “non-contact cooling water” – type 5A7 under Federal & many State Regs.
- Varies from State to State – many States do not require any registration or permits for residential re-injection
- Usually requires registration for medium installations & permit information for large commercial & **SOME LARGE RESIDENTIAL FOR DOUBLETS**



501-58

Effects of Low Bleed Rate – 2 Years Raymond Maine

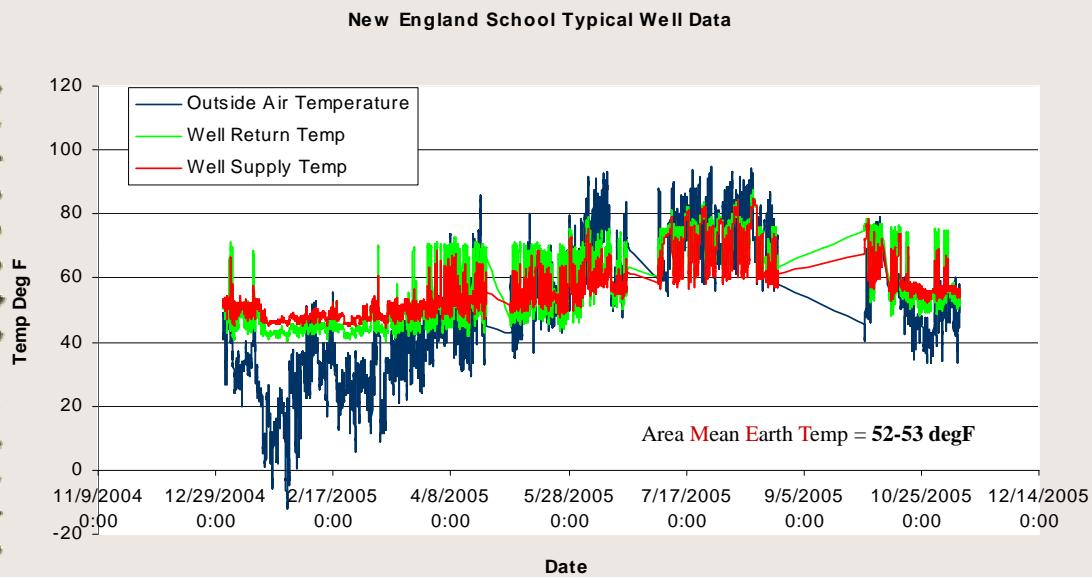


Total 7 tons,
Low
Production
Well, 600ft
SCW
First Year, 5%
Bleed
when
Required
Second Year,
5% Bleed
winter
months
when HP
is On

501-59

Most Recent Standing Column Well Performance

note: After Ten Years MET is Retained



ASHRAE Transactions 006-06

501-60



WHAT to EXPECT from a PROPER DESIGN

- ***Relatively Small Annual Change in Entering Water Temperature***
- ***30-40 heating tons per 1,500 foot Bore (5%-10% Bleed)***
- ***Higher Heat Exchange with Higher Bleed Rates***

A PROPER DESIGN
AND
A
HAPPY
CUSTOMER



501-62

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GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMPS
Earth Coupling



Standing Column Wells

High Capacity
Lower First Cost
Higher Efficiency

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