The board of the Oil and Gas Commission orders that the Geothermal Operations Regulation, B.C. Reg. 79/2017, is amended as set out in the attached Appendix.
APPENDIX

1 Section 1 of the Geothermal Operations Regulation, B.C. Reg. 79/2017, is amended
   (a) in the definition of “ASME B31.1” by striking out “the the” and substituting “the”,
   and
   (b) by repealing the definition of “Enform”.

2 Section 9 is amended
   (a) in subsection (1) by adding “or artesian flows” after “blowouts”, and
   (b) by adding the following subsection:
      (3) A well authorization holder must design and implement a pressure control system capable of managing all anticipated pressure environments during well operations.

3 Section 10 (1) (b) is amended by striking out “blowout prevention” and substituting “well control”.

4 Section 10 (2) is amended by striking out “blowout prevention” and substituting “well control” and by striking out “in accordance with the Blowout Prevention Manual issued by Enform”.

5 Section 13 is amended
   (a) by repealing subsections (2) and (3) and substituting the following:
      (2) During drilling operations and well servicing operations, the following persons must be trained in well control and in the operation of equipment installed for well control:
         (a) the driller;
         (b) the rig manager;
         (c) the well authorization holder’s representative.
      (3) The persons referred to in subsection (2) must provide evidence of the person’s qualifications to the commission on the commission’s request, and
   (b) by repealing subsection (4).

6 Section 20 is amended by striking out “well control or”.

7 Section 31 (2) is repealed and the following substituted:
   (2) A well authorization holder must use non-toxic drilling fluid during the drilling of a well until, in the opinion of a qualified professional, all usable groundwater has been isolated from the drilling fluid.

8 Section 31 (3) (a) is amended by adding “at a depth sufficient to provide a competent anchor” after “competent formation”.

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Section 31 (8) is repealed and the following substituted:

(8) A well authorization holder must ensure that a well is configured so that the annulus between the surface casing and the next casing can freely vent.

Section 37 (1) (d) is amended by striking out “or blowouts reported”.

The following section is added:

Exemption

48 (1) An official may exempt a well authorization holder from complying with one or more provisions of this regulation if the official is satisfied that, in the circumstances,

(a) compliance with the provision or provisions is not reasonably practicable, or

(b) the exemption is in the public interest.

(2) In granting an exemption under subsection (1), the official may impose any conditions on the exemption the official considers necessary.