

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
REGULATION OF THE OIL AND GAS COMMISSION

*Geothermal Resources Act*

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.

**DEPOSITED**

March 8, 2019

B.C. REG. 44/2019

Date

*March 7 / 2019*

Chair, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*[Signature]*

*(This part is for administrative purposes only and is not part of the Order.)*

Authority under which Order is made:

Act and section: *Geothermal Resources Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 171, s. 23*

Other:

R10296927

## 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- 7 *Section 31 (2) is repealed and the following substituted:*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”.*

**9**     *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.

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

**11**    *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.