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September 24, 2009

**INFORMATION LETTER # OGC 09-27**

**Subject: Proposed Regulatory Adoption of Canadian Standard Association Standard CSA Z246.1-09 Security Management for Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry Systems**

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**To: Industry Clients**

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Background:**

In August 2009, the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) published a new standard entitled *CSA Z246.1-09 Security Management for Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry Systems* (CSA Z246.1 or standard). This consensus standard was developed by a Technical Committee composed of members of government, industry, and security consultants to provide a framework for the development, implementation and maintenance of security management programs intended to protect energy infrastructure from intentional damage.

The scope of the new standard as provided by the CSA is:

*This Standard specifies criteria for establishing a security management program for petroleum and natural gas industry systems to ensure security threats and associated risks are identified and managed. This Standard provides mitigation and response processes and procedures to prevent and minimize the impact of security incidents that could adversely affect people, the environment, assets, and economic stability.*

The BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) intends to adopt CSA Z246.1 through reference in regulation making the content mandatory for all permit holders under the Commission's authority.

The Commission will take a phased approach to compliance assessment and enforcement upon adoption. Permit holders will be provided with a self assessment tool setting out the Commissions' expectations regarding the content, implementation and measurements of the effectiveness of security management programs. The tool will be posted for comment prior to final issuance.

Once the self assessment tool is issued, permit holders will be asked to complete and submit the self assessment identifying their level of compliance with the standard. This submission will probably be required approximately 8 to 12 months after the adoption of the standard into regulation. The self assessments will be used by the Commission to prioritize compliance education and compliance assurance activities after that date.

Prior to proceeding with adoption of the standard, the Commission invites all interested parties to provide written comment. Copies of the standard are available for purchase from CSA at [www.shopcsa.ca](http://www.shopcsa.ca) or a viewing time may be arranged at the Commissions office in Fort St. John by contacting Mike Burzek of the Commission at 250-261-5706 or by e-mail at [Mike.Burzek@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mike.Burzek@gov.bc.ca).

The Commission invites comments on the proposed adoption of CSA Z246.1. Written comments will be accepted from the date of posting of this Notice until December 31, 2009 and may be directed by mail or fax to:

Office of the Chief Engineer  
Engineering Division  
BC Oil and Gas Commission  
100 10003 110th Avenue  
Fort St John, BC V1J 6M7  
Facsimile: 250-261-5744

**If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact:**

**Ken Paulson, P. Eng.**  
Deputy Commissioner and Chief Engineer  
BC Oil and Gas Commission  
[Ken.Paulson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ken.Paulson@gov.bc.ca)  
Ph: (250) 787-3456 (Fort St. John)  
Ph: (250) 419-4404 (Victoria)

***Original signed by:***

Alex Ferguson  
Commissioner  
BC Oil and Gas Commission

