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Regarding the OGAA Implementation: All necessary regulations, documents and background information on OGAA can be found at www.ogc.gov.bc.ca/OGAA/
For any questions pertaining to the status of this document, please contact the Commission at (250) 261-5700.

October 17, 2007

INFORMATION LETTER #OGC 07-17

SUBJECT: Emergency Response Plan (ERP) Classification Requirements of Sour Wells, Drilling and Initial Completion

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 17, 2007

To: Industry Clients

BACKGROUND:

Further to the release of the Wells and Test Holes Manual, the Oil and Gas Commission (OGC) is implementing a change to the current Emergency Response Plan (ERP) classification requirements for sour wells. This change is designed to provide greater public protection while ensuring key ERP information is readily available on location.

REQUIREMENTS:

The change affects all sour wells not meeting special sour or site-specific ERP classification. Wells that have potential for an H₂S release rate equal to or greater than 0.01m³/s and not classed as site-specific or special sour now require supplemental information be submitted and approved prior to drilling past the surface casing shoe.

Supplemental information is to be used in conjunction with the Corporate ERP Plan, and both documents must be on location for drilling and initial completion operations. For wells left cased, supplemental information is now required for initial completion and testing.

Information must be approved prior to the commencement of completion operations. For a list of supplemental requirements, please refer to the Emergency Response Plan checklist at:

https://www.ogc.gov.bc.ca/documents/guidelines/Emergency_Response_Plans/Industry%20Drilling%20ERP%20Review%20Checklist.pdf

In addition to new supplemental requirements, the OGC is taking this opportunity to change the ERP classification notification process. Email notifications are no longer being sent to applicants, except for well applications classed as special sour. Referring to the Well Authorization approval letter is the most efficient way for companies to determine a well's ERP classification.

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