

20 AAC 25.020 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(b) The operator shall notify the commission in writing not later than 30 days after any change in the operator's office address, primary telephone number, electronic mail address, or principal contact. (Eff. 4/13/80, Register 74; am 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am 02/10/2018, Register 225)

**Authority:** AS 31.05.030

20 AAC 25.030(d)(5) is amended to read:

(5) intermediate and production casing must be cemented with sufficient cement to fill the annular space from the casing shoe to a minimum of 500 feet measured depth or 250 feet true vertical depth, whichever is greater, above all significant hydrocarbon zones and abnormally geo-pressured strata or, if zonal coverage is not required under (a) of this section, from the casing shoe to a minimum of 500 feet measured depth or 250 feet true vertical depth, whichever is greater, above the casing shoe; if indications of improper cementing exist, such as lost returns, or if the formation integrity test shows an inadequate cement job,

(A) the operator shall notify the commission and obtain approval before drilling ahead; and

(B) the commission will require

(i) a cement quality log or other approved method to evaluate the adequacy of the cement to contain potential wellbore pressures and fluids; and

(ii) a plan of the remedial actions proposed to bring the well into compliance with (a) of this section;

20 AAC 25.030(d)(6) is amended to read:

(6) if the intermediate or production string is a liner, a minimum of 100 measured feet overlap between the outer and inner strings is required; the interval of overlap must be made pressure competent and must be pressure-tested in accordance with (e) of this section;

20 AAC 25.030(e) is amended to read:

(e) A casing pressure test must be performed if BOPE is to be installed on a casing. The casing must be tested to hold a minimum surface pressure equal to 50 percent of the casing internal yield pressure. The test pressure must show stabilizing pressure and may not decline more than 10 percent within 30 minutes. The results of this test and any subsequent tests of the casing must be recorded as required by 20 AAC 25.070(1).

20 AAC 25.030(g) is amended to read:

(g) Upon written request of the operator showing good cause, the commission may modify a deadline in this section, approve a variance from any requirement of this section if the variance provides at least an equally effective means of complying with the requirement, or approve a waiver of a requirement of this section if the waiver will not promote waste, is based on sound engineering and geoscience principles, will not jeopardize the ultimate recovery of hydrocarbons, will not jeopardize correlative rights, and will not result in an increased risk to health, safety, or the environment, including freshwater. (Eff. 4/13/80, Register 74; am 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am 02/10/2018, Register 225)

**Authority:** AS 31.05.030

20 AAC 25.065(c)(1) is amended to read:

(1) in addition to the automatic hydrogen sulfide detection system required in 20 AAC 25.066, at least three manual detectors must be available on the location; (Eff. 4/13/80, Register 74; am 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am 02/10/2018, Register 225)

**Authority:** AS 31.05.030

20 AAC 25.071 is amended to read:

20 AAC 25.071. Logs and geologic data. (a) An operator shall log the well from total depth to the base of conductor pipe by either a complete electrical or gamma-ray log unless the commission specifies the type of each log to be run.

(b) Not later than 90 days after completion, suspension, or plugging of a well or well branch, or not later than 90 days after the date of acquisition of the data, whichever occurs first, the operator shall file with the commission, unless previously filed,

(1) an electronic image file in formats acceptable to the commission of a complete mud log or a lithology log consisting of a detailed record and description of the sequence of strata encountered, including the kind and character of the rock and all shows of hydrocarbons;

(2) a complete set of washed and dried, legibly identified samples of all drill cuttings, as caught by the operator in accordance with good geological practices, consisting of a

minimum of one-quarter cup in volume or three ounces in weight of cuttings for each sample interval;

(3) a lithologic description and, if available, photographs of each conventional and sidewall core; conventional core descriptions must include apparent textural, fluid, and lithologic variations, including rock type, porosity, fractures, bedding plane attitudes, sedimentary structure, grain size, and presence of hydrocarbons;

(4) chips from each foot of recovered conventional core, except that chips need not be submitted until 30 days after the conventional core is analyzed; the chips must be representative of the one-foot interval, and must be approximately either one cubic inch in volume, or two ounces in weight;

(5) a list of the geologic markers and each formation top encountered and the measured and true vertical depths of each marker and formation top;

(6) an electronic image file in formats acceptable to the commission of all open-hole logs and mud logs run, including common derivative formats such as tadpole plots of dipmeter data and borehole images produced from sonic or resistivity data, and including composite log formats; however, copies of velocity surveys and experimental logs need not be included; the operator shall provide the commission the opportunity to examine open-hole logs for exploration or stratigraphic test wells not later than 72 hours after the logs are run and before abandonment;

(7) digital data and a verification listing for all open-hole logs, all mud logs, and all cased-hole formation evaluation and cement evaluation logs run, except velocity surveys and experimental logs; the logs shall be stored on electronic media and use file formats that are

acceptable to the commission;

(8) the following items, or a written request proposing a date for submitting those items, subject to commission approval of that date for timeliness, if those items are unavailable within the 90-day filing period set out in this subsection:

(A) copies of all drill stem tests and production test data and charts;

(B) a brief summary of production tests, drill stem tests, wireline formation tests, and other formation tests performed, including test date, time, depth, duration, method of operation, recovered fluid types, fluid amounts, gas-oil ratio, oil gravity, pressure, and choke size;

(C) conventional and sidewall core analysis determinations, if any, of porosity, permeability, and fluid saturation;

(D) geochemical and formation fluid analyses obtained, if any; and

(9) an electronic image file in formats acceptable to the commission of all cased-hole formation evaluation logs and cement evaluation logs run, including common derivative formats.

(c) The commission may waive or modify the requirements of this section for a well if those requirements would not significantly add to the geologic or engineering knowledge of the area in light of the information that is available from the well or other wells in the area.

(d) In this section,

(1) "experimental logs" means logs that are not commercially available from a well logging contractor;

(2) "velocity survey" means a survey, a purpose of which is to determine velocity

of seismic waves through formations penetrated by a well by measuring travel times of seismic pulses from or near the surface to geophones placed at various depths in the well. (Eff. 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am 02/10/2018, Register 225)

**Authority:** AS 31.05.030 AS 31.05.035

20 AAC 25.110(a) is amended to read:

(a) If allowed under 20 AAC 25.105, an operator may apply to the commission under this section to approve the suspension of a well or to renew the approval of the suspension of a well. The operator must

(1) state the reasons the well should be suspended, and why the well should not be completed or abandoned;

(2) demonstrate to the commission's satisfaction that

(A) the well

(i) is mechanically sound;

(ii) will not allow the migration of fluids;

(iii) will not damage freshwater or producing or potentially producing formations;

(iv) will not impair the recovery of oil or gas;

(v) is secure, safe, and not a threat to public health;

(vi) is located on a valid lease that authorizes the operator to drill for oil, gas, coal bed methane, gas hydrates, or shale gas, or to evaluate underground coal gasification or geothermal resources; and

(vii) is in compliance with all provisions of AS 31.05, this chapter, and any order, stipulation, or permit issued by the commission; and

(B) the well

(i) has future utility as an exploratory, development, or service well;

(ii) is a viable candidate for redrilling; or

(iii) is located on a pad or platform with active producing or service wells; and

(3) for a well that does not lie within a unitized area,

(A) provide the commission with a list of the leases that the wellbore traverses, from surface location to bottom-hole location, and the expiration date of each lease; and

(B) notify the commission not later than 30 days after the change, if the status of any lease changes.

20 AAC 25.110(h) is amended to read:

(h) Renewal of an existing suspension may be requested by the submission of an Application for Sundry Approvals (Form 10-403) meeting all requirements of (b) of this section. A renewal is not effective until approved by the commission. If a complete renewal application is submitted at least 60 days before the expiration of an existing suspension, the existing suspension continues until the commission acts on the application. Within 24 months before the submission of a request for suspension renewal, a well-site inspection must be completed. If the

well does not lie within a unitized area, the application to renew an existing suspension must include a list of all leases that the wellbore traverses, from surface location to bottom-hole location, and the expiration date of each lease.

(Eff. 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am 11/19/2008, Register 188; am 4/15/2010, Register 194; am 02/10/2018, Register 225)

**Authority:** AS 31.05.030 AS 31.05.040 AS 31.05.095

20 AAC 25.265(d)(4) is amended to read:

(4) an onshore well in a location described under (2) of this subsection and equipped with an electric submersible pump, velocity string, or capillary string run within the tubing is not required to be equipped with a subsurface safety valve; or

(Eff. 4/13/80, Register 74; am 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am 12/3/2010, Register 196; am 02/10/2018, Register 225)

**Authority:** AS 31.05.030 AS 31.05.040 AS 31.05.095

The section heading of 20 AAC 25.270 is changed to read:

20 AAC 25.270. Reservoir properties.

20 AAC 25.270(b) is amended to read:

(b) The operator shall obtain fluid samples from each new pool at the time of discovery or before regular production and determine

(1) crude oil composition;



- (2) pressure, volume, and temperature properties of the crude oil; and
- (3) solution or non-associated gas composition.

20 AAC 25.270 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(e) Annually and not later than April 1 or the date that the operator must submit a pool-specific annual surveillance report for the reservoir under 20 AAC 25.520, whichever date is later, the operator shall submit to the commission an Annual Reservoir Properties Report (Form 10-428). (Eff. 4/13/80, Register 74; am 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am 02/10/2018, Register 225)

**Authority:** AS 31.05.030

20 AAC 25.280 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(g) If workover operations are not commenced within 12 months after the commission approves an Application for Sundry Approvals, the Application for Sundry Approvals expires. (Eff. 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am 12/28/2006, Register 180; am 1/7/2015, Register 213; am 02/10/2018, Register 225)

**Authority:** AS 31.05.030

20 AAC 25.537(a) is amended to read:

(a) The commission will routinely make available to the public, by means of records or reports, in its offices or elsewhere, or by means of regular publication, the following information:

- (1) surface and proposed bottom-hole locations of each well after approval of the

Permit to Drill (Form 10-401);

(2) total depth, bottom-hole location and well status after the Well Completion or Recompletion Report and Log (Form 10-407) is filed;

(3) all reports and information required by this chapter for development and service wells;

(4) regular production data and regular production reports, as required to be filed by the operator each month;

(5) injection data and injection reports, as required to be filed by the operator each month; and

(6) all data filed on a well as required by this chapter upon expiration of the confidential period described in (d) of this section.

20 AAC 25.537(d) is amended to read:

(d) Except as provided by (a) of this section, the reports and information required by this chapter to be filed by the operator for exploratory and stratigraphic test wells will be kept confidential by the commission for 24 months following the 30-day filing period after well completion, suspension, or abandonment unless the operator gives written and unrestricted permission to release all of the reports and information at an earlier date. Upon notification that the commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources has made a finding that the required reports and information from a well contain significant information relating to the valuation of unleased land in the same vicinity, the commission will hold the reports and information confidential beyond the 24-month period and until notified by the commissioner of the

Department of Natural Resources to release the reports and information.

(Eff. 4/13/80, Register 74; am 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am 02/10/2018, Register 225)

**Authority:** AS 31.05.030 AS 31.05.035

20 AAC 25.556 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(b) Unless otherwise indicated in the order, each conservation order issued by the commission expires two years after activities authorized in that order cease.

(c) Unless otherwise indicated in the order, each enhanced recovery, area, storage, and disposal injection order issued by the commission expires

(1) two years after the date the order was adopted, if the operator has not commenced the injection operations authorized in the order; or

(2) two years after injection operations authorized in that order conclude.

(d) Upon proper application, or its own motion, and unless notice and public hearing are otherwise required, the commission may administratively waive or amend the requirements of any order issued by the commission if the change does not promote waste or jeopardize correlative rights, is based on sound engineering and geoscience principles, and will not result in an increased risk of fluid movement into freshwater aquifers. (Eff. 11/7/99, Register 152; am 02/10/2018, Register 225)

**Authority:** AS 31.05.011 AS 31.05.030 AS 31.05.040