

## REGULATORY

### **ERCB – Bulletin 2012 - 01 – 2012 Orphan Fund Levy**

January 4, 2012 – The ERCB will allocate the Orphan Fund Levy among licensees and approval holders included within the Licensee Liability Rating (LLR) and Oilfield Waste Liability (OWL) programs based on the Feb 2012 monthly assessment. Each licensee's or approval holder's required Orphan Fund Levy is based on its ERCB licensed and approved properties, according to ERCB records, as of February 4, 2012. Facilities included under the Large Facility Program are excluded. Orphan Fund Levy invoices will be mailed no later than February 8, 2012. For more information, please refer to the [bulletin](#).

### **ERCB – Bulletin 2012 - 02 – Hydraulic Fracturing: Interwellbore Communication between Energy Wells**

January 23, 2012 – Licensees are reminded that in maintaining well control, they are required to prevent adverse effects to offset wellbores through appropriate planning. Such appropriate planning includes the following measures:

- Assessing the risks that hydraulic fracturing may have on offset energy wellbores and how those risks are influenced by geology and the completion practices being employed. Undertaking fracture propagation modeling prior to fracturing operations may assist in determining their potential area of influence.
- Understanding the area of influence that may be impacted by well stimulation operations and identifying all wellbores, including abandoned and suspended wells that may be in close subsurface proximity.
- Notifying offset well licensees of pending hydraulic fracturing that may impact offset wellbores.
- Collaborating with offset well licensees to ensure effective control of all wells.

The ERCB expects well licensees to immediately report an instance of unintended interwell communication to the nearest ERCB Field Centre. As part of incident reviews by ERCB staff, the effectiveness of a company's hydraulic fracturing communication and well control plan will be considered. The ERCB will initiate enforcement action against any licensee in noncompliance with ERCB requirements. For more information, please refer to the [bulletin](#).

### **ERCB – Bulletin 2012 - 03 – Directive 017: Measurement Requirements for Oil and Gas Operations – Draft Additions and Revisions Available for Stakeholder Review**

January 31, 2012 – [Directive 017: Measurement Requirements for Oil and Gas Operations](#) is being developed in stages with new sections added as they become available. This bulletin announces the release of [draft additions and revisions](#) to the directive for stakeholder feedback.

#### **New Sections**

- Section 1.9: Measurement Schematics – presents the requirements and exceptions for schematics used for measurement accounting, and reporting purposes.
- Section 1.10: Facility Delineation – describes how facilities should be delineated based on facility subtypes to conform with ERCB reporting requirements. The facility delineation scenarios will be added to the relevant sections elsewhere in the directive.
- Section 4.3.3.2: Gas Lift Systems for Both Oil and Gas Wells – presents the measurement and reporting requirements for any gas lift system used to enhance production.

#### **Revised Section**

- Section 7.4: Gas Multiwell Effluent Proration Batteries – sets out revised wet gas measurement and reporting requirements.

#### **New Appendices**

- Appendix 9: Schematic Example – shows an example of the measurement schematics described in Section 1.9
- Appendix 10: Gas Group Delineation – illustrates gas group delineation scenarios described in Sections 1.10 and 4.2.2.2.

Feedback will be received until March 16, 2012. For more information and how to submit feedback, please refer to the [bulletin](#).

### **OGC Industry Bulletin 2012-01 – Fee and Levy Changes Approved**

January 9, 2012 – Two regulation changes affecting fees and levies have been approved by the OGC Board of Directors. For more information, please see the [information bulletin](#).

**OGC Industry Bulletin 2012-02 – BC OGC to assume Responsibility for Core Storage**

January 26, 2012 – The OGC is taking over staffing responsibilities at the Charlie Lake core storage facility from the Ministry of Energy and Mines as of April 1, 2012. The Charlie Lake core storage facility is the provincial repository for oil and gas related core and drill cutting samples. This facility is critical tool and gas development and provides a public archive and access to cores and cuttings. For more information, please see the [information bulletin](#).

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**Alberta OHS – Notice of the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Regulation Review Public Consultation**

January 2012 – The OHS Regulation is due to expire on March 31, 2012. A review of the Regulation is now underway. Human Services is proposing a number of changes to the Regulation based on suggestions received from workers and employers. Workers and employers are invited to provide feedback on the [website](#) until March 20, 2012. For more information, please see the [notice](#).

**ENVIRONMENT**

**Alberta Government – Canada and Alberta Take Action to Implement World Class Monitoring System for the Oil Sands**

February 3, 2012 – Increased air, water, land and biodiversity monitoring in the oil sands will begin this year as the Government of Canada and Government of Alberta take a major step forward in their partnership to improve environmental monitoring in the oil sands region. The Joint Canada-Alberta Implementation Plan for Oil Sands Monitoring commits to a scientifically rigorous, comprehensive, integrated, and transparent environmental monitoring program for the region. The program is designed to provide an improved understanding of the long term cumulative effects of oil sands development. The three-year implementation plan begins this spring with increased sampling frequency, parameters, and locations. It will also integrate relevant parts of existing monitoring efforts and will give government and industry the scientific foundation necessary to continue to promote the environmentally sustainable development of the oil sands. Data from the new monitoring program, and the methods on which it is based, will be transparent, supported by necessary quality assurance, and will be made publicly available to allow independent scientific assessments and evaluations. This will encourage informed discussions and analysis on the impacts of oil sands development based on high-quality scientific information. More information can be found in the [news release](#).

<p><b>Safety Alerts</b></p> <p>No safety alerts were published in January 2012.</p>	<p><b>Questions regarding HSE?</b></p> <p>Please do not hesitate to call Jennifer Kot at (403) 237-7160</p>	<p><b>Newsletter Subscription</b></p> <p>If you are interested in a subscription to this newsletter please contact our Marketing Department at 403-237-7160 or by email at <a href="mailto:info@laurenconcise.com">info@laurenconcise.com</a>.</p>
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