



Reporting Inter-Wellbore Communications

The BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) is requesting permit holders report all fracture communication events using the new [Inter-Wellbore Communication Report Form](#). Permit holders are expected to follow Enform's [Industry Recommended Practice 24](#) for specific methodology and procedures regarding the inter-wellbore communication management process.

Communication events should be reported even if contact did not reach the defined "incident" level. A database of all communication events will further the understanding of the resource and assist in the development of effective technology.

All fracture communication "incidents" must be reported in accordance with the Commission's [Incident Reporting Instructions and Guidelines](#). An incident means the communication resulted in a spill, equipment overpressure, equipment damage, injury or drilling kick. For inter-wellbore communications, a kick is defined as a pit gain of three cubic metres or greater, or a casing pressure of 85 per cent of the Maximum Allowable Casing Pressure (MACP).

Subject well permit holders (the well undergoing hydraulic fracture stimulation) are obligated to manage the risks of inter-wellbore communication between the subject well and an offset well. The subject well permit holder must have a documented hydraulic fracturing program that includes the following elements:

- (a) Identify all offset wells that could be affected.
- (b) Conduct a risk assessment of the identified offset wells.
- (c) Develop a well control plan for all offset wells that are at risk.
- (d) Modify the hydraulic fracturing program if risks cannot be mitigated.

The subject well permit holder must notify the permit holder of an at-risk offset well of its planned hydraulic fracturing program and make all reasonable efforts to develop a mutually-agreeable well control plan. The subject well permit holder must maintain a copy of the at-risk well control plan for the duration of hydraulic fracturing operations.

The permit holder of an at-risk offset well, upon receiving notification of a planned hydraulic fracturing program, is expected to engage and work cooperatively with the subject well permit holder in development of well control plans.

During the design and execution of the fracturing program, the subject well permit holder must ensure the fracture will not extend into any unintended formations. Any communications with either unintended formations or offset wells caused by this will contravene Section 22 of the [Drilling and Production Regulation](#).

If you have any questions regarding this Industry Bulletin, please contact:

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