



Change to ePASS Requirements for Subsequent Wells

TO: Industry Clients

EFFECTIVE DATE: Dec. 21

The BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) has implemented a change to ePASS requirements for subsequent well applications. When no new land is required to drill a second, or subsequent well, an ePASS submission is no longer required. Previously, spatial data was required for all well applications submitted to the Commission including subsequent wells, but in cases of additional wells on a multi-well pad, there are often no changes to the associated surface area.

REQUIREMENTS:

The ePASS requirements for well applications are as follows:

1. Application for a primary well (the first well on a wellpad):
 - An ePASS submission is required for a primary well application. It must include the wellsite polygon and any other features (road, ancillary features, water course crossings and/or stream survey locations).
2. Application for a subsequent well with no new area:
 - No ePASS submission is required.
3. Application for a subsequent well with new area:
 - In order to manage all land for a multi-well pad under one file, the Commission requires that additional area required for a subsequent well be applied for with the original well application where the Land Act tenure is held. The original well application may require an amendment or revision to include the new area. However, where the Land Act tenure on the original file cannot be amended because of a statutory right-of-way, a new application for a subsequent well may include new area for the wellsite and/or ancillary sites.
 - In situations where a new application is required for a subsequent drill with new area, an ePASS submission is required identifying only the new area. The spatial data must be submitted as a “New Well” application type in ePASS.
 - If the new area includes a well extension, submit the extension in ePASS as a wellsite shapefile. Any new ancillary features included with the well extension must be provided as an ancillary shapefile.
 - If the new area is for an ancillary feature only (for example, a borrow pit) submit only the new area for the ancillary feature in ePASS. A wellsite shapefile is not required in this case because the new area is for the ancillary feature only. The shapefile for the ancillary feature must be submitted as a “New Well” application type in ePASS.
4. To submit spatial data for a subsequent drill within the ePASS application, set the Application Type as “Well” and choose “Yes” when prompted if the submission is for a subsequent drill.

Amendments or Revisions

There are no changes to ePASS requirements for amendments or revisions to an existing application. The current requirements are summarized below:

- If there is a change to the spatial data, provide a new ePASS submission to receive a new ePASS number. Include the entire spatial area (for example, for a well application include the wellsite, road, ancillary features, water course crossings and/or stream surveys).
- If there is an increase in the project area, the original area plus the proposed amended/revised area must be included.
- If there is a decrease in area and/or a change in the project location, the proposed total project area must be included.
- If there is no change to the spatial data, the ePASS number from the original application can be used.
- If the previous application does not have an ePASS number (for example, the original was applied for before ePASS came into effect), then an ePASS submission showing the entire area is required (for example, for a well application include the wellsite, road, ancillary features, water course crossings and/or stream surveys).

Section 2 of the ePASS Submission Standards describes all attributed data components that must be submitted using ePASS for permit applications.

Reference Information

- The [Well Permit Application Manual](#) and [Subsequent Well Application Form](#) (with no new area) have been updated.
- The web report ePASS Submissions for Wells (accessible through [Web Applications](#)) has been created to enable operators to search for wells located on a wellpad. The report will search based on operator, location and/or well authority number and will contain information on the ePASS submission made for each application.
- For subsequent wells with a surface location in a legal subdivision or quarter unit of an existing well permit, the letter in the well name indicating the next well in the sequence can be determined by using the Well Lookup application (accessible through [Web Applications](#)). A search by location will return all wells at a particular location, allowing the next well in the sequence to be determined.
- ePASS can be accessed from the Commission [website](#).

For more information on this information bulletin please contact,

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