



Disposal Well Pressure Testing Requirements

The BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) requests operators of active disposal wells perform a reservoir pressure test during the 2015 calendar year. Reservoir pressure tests require adequate shut-in time to either reach a stable pressure or provide sufficient fall-off data for meaningful analysis. Please note that the Spectra McMahon plant is going through a 35-day turnaround starting June 6, 2015. Disposal wells not receiving fluids during this time due to production shut-in may utilize this opportunity to obtain a reservoir pressure test.

BACKGROUND

The Commission is currently updating all approval Orders under Section 75 of the Oil and Gas Activities Act for produced water and non-hazardous waste disposal wells with conditions that reflect current standards for monitoring, measurement and reporting. Guidance on these standards can be found in the [Water Service Well Summary Information](#) and the [Application Guideline for Deep Well Disposal of Produced Water/Non-Hazardous Waste](#).

Reservoir pressure tests, both initial and annual (unless otherwise approved), are required for disposal wells as a condition of amended Orders, which also contain an ultimate formation “fill-up” pressure limit. Obtaining a reservoir pressure test for all disposal wells during 2015 will permit the Commission and operators to understand both the current state and potential remaining disposal capacity of the well.

Amended disposal Orders contain additional testing requirements, including:

- A cement bond log, if never performed on the well, and if the well is greater than 10 years in age.
- A casing inspection log, if not performed within the last 10 years.
- A hydraulic isolation temperature log.
- Annual packer isolation tests, performed as per Section 16(3) of the [Drilling and Production Regulation](#), are now required to be submitted as a condition of updated approvals.

Operators will be contacted by the Commission regarding the commencement of review of their active disposal wells, if not already. Operators are asked to make note of the additional testing requirements applicable to their well to proactively accommodate in operations planning, which may coincide with reservoir pressure testing.

More information specific to reservoir pressure testing and data submission can be found [here](#) in the Well Testing and Reporting Overview presentation and related well testing requirement documents.

For further information on this industry bulletin, please contact:

Michelle Harding, EIT
Reservoir Engineer
BC Oil and Gas Commission
Michelle.Harding@bcogc.ca
250-419-4493