

INDUSTRY BULLETIN 2017-27

Dec. 22, 2017



Emergency Management Regulation Amended

EFFECTIVE DATE: MAR. 1, 2018

The BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) is advising industry that amendments to the Emergency Management Regulation (EMR) were approved on Nov. 29, 2017. Highlights include:

Adoption of CSA Z246.2 – The amended EMR aligns with the standard published by the Canadian Standards Association, Emergency Preparedness and Response for Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry Systems.

Mandatory Use of Incident Command System (ICS) - A permit holder must adopt the Incident Command System as the permit holder's emergency management system. The ICS provides for an effective, standardized approach to the command, control and coordination of emergency response.

Increased Focus on Emergency Exercises - The amended EMR requires training plans be developed in accordance with CSA Z246.2 and requires permit holders to conduct a full-scale exercise at least once every three years. Tabletop or functional exercises must be conducted in each year that a major exercise is not conducted, or under other circumstances, such as when there is a change to at least one third of a permit holder's emergency response staff since its last tabletop or functional exercise.

Public Availability of Core Plans - Supporting the Commission's commitment to public transparency, permit holder Core plans will be made available online. To support this process, permit holders will be required to prepare response contingency plans in two parts; a Core plan will house non-confidential emergency management and incident response information, while supplementals will contain all confidential and personal data such as individual emergency responder or landowner contact information. This two-part structure will allow the Commission to further its transparency initiative by publicly posting Core plans received after Mar. 1, 2018 to www.bcogc.ca.

In support of best practices, permit holders are encouraged to adopt the new requirements prior to the Mar. 1, 2018 effective date.

A copy of the <u>amended EMR</u> is available online, and supporting resources can be found in the latest version of the <u>Emergency Management Manual</u> in the <u>Documentation</u> section of the Commission website.

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

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