

## INDUSTRY BULLETIN 2018-16

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## **Guidance for Special Sour Well De-classification**

The BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) is providing industry with guidance for special sour well de-classification. This guidance and supporting documents are available in the Operations Manual under section 8.3.10. This bulletin will summarize the guidance; however, permit holders should review the guidance prior to applying for de-classification.

The Commission determines special sour well status at the time of well permit approval. After the drilling phase, the special sour status may be de-classified to non-special sour under certain conditions.

## These conditions are:

- The original special sour status was determined based on the maximum cumulative drilling  $H_2S$  release rate. After the drilling phase, if the maximum completion  $H_2S$  release rate does not meet the criteria for special sour well, the special sour status can be removed.
- The special sour well is a legacy well and the original drilling or completion H<sub>2</sub>S release rate information is missing or incomplete. In this case, a new calculation of maximum completion H<sub>2</sub>S release rate is required.
- Any other situations where the Commission determines the well is no longer a special sour well based on the assessment of the updated sour well information.

To apply for the de-classification of a special sour well, the permit holder must submit a request via email to <a href="https://occupieling.production@bcogc.ca">OGCDrilling.Production@bcogc.ca</a>. For more detailed information regarding guidance for special sour well de-classification, please refer to the Operations Manual, section 8.3.10.

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

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The BC Oil and Gas Commission protects public safety and safeguards the environment through the sound regulation of oil, gas and geothermal activities in B.C. From exploration through to final reclamation, the Commission works closely with communities and land owners, and confirms industry compliance with provincial legislation. It also ensures there are close working relationships; consults with, and considers the interests of Indigenous peoples.

With more than 20 years' dedicated service, the Commission is committed to safe and responsible energy resource management for British Columbia.