

20 AAC 25.529 Emergency well control contingency plan.

- (a) Before performing any activities authorized by an application for a Permit to Drill (Form 10-401) or an application for Sundry Approvals (Form 10-403), the operator must submit and obtain the commission's approval of an emergency well control contingency plan (Plan). The commission may approve a Plan for an area or field basis, rather than for each well individually.
- (b) The Plan must include location information, site-specific procedures, methods, equipment, personnel, logistics, and time frames proposed to be employed to regain control of the well within 15 days. The Plan must also include certification, signed by a person with appropriate authority, committing the resources necessary to implement the Plan.
- (c) The commission will, in its sole discretion, require the operator to hold a formal drill, with the commission present, to demonstrate the operator's ability to satisfactorily implement the Plan.
- (d) A Plan is a controlled document. The operator shall detail how the Plan is controlled and updated. The operator shall, annually or at an interval acceptable to the commission, certify that the Plan covers all current and proposed operations, and that information and best engineering practices are current.
- (e) A copy of the approved Plan must be maintained at each covered exploration or production facility and be made available to the commission upon request.
- (f) For any existing wells approved prior to the effective date of this regulation, the operator shall submit a proposed Plan to the commission for approval within 60 days of the effective date of this regulation.
- (g) Upon written request of the operator, the commission may, in its discretion, approve a variance from the requirements of this section if the variance provides at least an equally effective means of complying with the requirement.
- (h) In this section,
 - (1) "emergency well control contingency plan" means a written, site-specific description of the procedures, methods, equipment, personnel, logistics, and time frames that will be employed to regain control of an uncontrolled flow of oil, gas, drilling mud, and other substances from a well, including surface blowout;
 - (2) "surface blowout" means an uncontrolled flow of oil, gas, drilling mud, and other substances from a well to the surface.

(Eff. __/__/__, Register __.)

Authority: AS 31.05.030