

Oil and Gas Conservation

Changes have been adopted to the regulations dealing with well branches, applications for a permit to drill, changes in a drilling program, and redrilling a well. The affected regulations are 20 AAC 25.005(e), 20 AAC 25.015(a)(1) and (b)(1), and 20 AAC 25.990(74). The Lieutenant Governor filed the regulation changes on December 6, 2005, with an effective date of January 5, 2006.

For further information or to obtain a copy of the amended regulations, contact Jody Colombie, Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, at (907) 793-1221, fax (907) 276-7542, or e-mail Jody_Colombie@admin.state.ak.us.

20 AAC 25.005(e) is amended to read:

(e) EACH [IF A] WELL [HAS MULTIPLE WELL BRANCHES, EACH] branch requires a separate Permit to Drill. If a previously drilled well is proposed to be redrilled below the structural or conductor casing to a new bottom-hole location, the application for a Permit to Drill must be accompanied by all items required under (c) of this section. If concurrent multiple well branches are proposed from a single conductor, surface, or production casing,

(1) the applicant shall designate one well branch as the primary wellbore and include all items [INFORMATION] required under (c) of this section with the application for a Permit to Drill for that well branch; and [.]

(2) for [FOR] each other [SUBSEQUENT] well branch, the application for a Permit to Drill need only include information under (c) of this section that is unique to that well branch and need not be accompanied by [INCLUDE] the \$100 fee.

(Eff. 4/13/80, Register 74; am 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am 6/4/2000, Register 154; am ___/___/_____, Register ___)

Authority: AS 31.05.030 AS 31.05.090

20 AAC 25.015(a)(1) is amended to read:

(1) submit and obtain the commission's approval of a new application for a Permit to Drill if the proposed surface location is changed, if the proposed bottom-hole location or the proposed location of an objective formation is changed by more than 500 feet laterally or vertically, or if the change requires a spacing exception under 20 AAC 25.055; however, no additional fee is required; or

20 AAC 25.015(b)(1) is amended to read:

(1) submit and obtain the commission's approval of a new application for a Permit to Drill, accompanied by a fee of \$100, if the proposed bottom-hole location or the proposed location of an

objective formation is changed by more than 500 feet laterally or vertically, or if the change requires a spacing exception under 20 AAC 25.055; or

(Eff. 4/13/80, Register 74; am 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am ___/___/_____,

Register _____)

Authority: AS 31.05.030 AS 31.05.090

20 AAC 25.990(74) is amended to read:

(74) "well branch" means that portion of a well drilled below the structural or conductor casing to access a **given** [SEPARATE] objective in a well with more than one bottom-hole location **or whose bottom-hole location is being or has been changed by plugging back and redrilling;**

(Eff. 11/7/99, Register 152; am, ___/___/_____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 31.05.030