

STATE OF ALASKA

ALASKA OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

333 W. 7th AVENUE, SUITE 100
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3539
PHONE (907) 279-1433
FAX (907) 276-7542

October 29, 2008

AOGCC Industry Guidance Bulletin No. 08-001 Gas Detection Alarms

Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission ("Commission") regulations governing gas detection equipment for drilling and workover rigs are contained in 20 AAC 25.066. The audible and visual alarms are both critical components of the gas detection system. Recent Commission inspections indicate there are some drilling and workover rigs that rely on a single audible alarm for both hydrogen sulfide and methane gas detection warnings.

Operators are reminded that 20 AAC 25.066(a)(6) is clear on the requirements of audible alarms for gas detection:

(6) each detection system must include separate and distinct visual and audible alarms; the visual alarm must signal the low level gas alarm and the audible alarm the high level gas alarm; an audible alarm may have an "acknowledge" button;

All rigs operating in the State of Alaska must employ separate and distinct visual and audible alarms for both methane and hydrogen sulfide detection warnings.

To ensure regulatory compliance, please share this Guidance Bulletin with all appropriate members of your organizations. Please direct questions or discussion to Commission Senior Engineer James Regg at (907) 793-1236.

Sincerely,



Cathy P. Foerster
Commissioner