



October 20, 2016

Industry Guidance Bulletin 16-001
Exploratory Well Pre-Permit to Drill Application Submittal Reviews

To expedite permitting of exploratory wells and reduce avoidable delays, operators are strongly encouraged to schedule a preliminary meeting with the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (AOGCC) staff. The purpose of the meeting is to provide an overview of the project with an eye toward avoidance of regulatory issues that could cause costly delays. The AOGCC recommends holding this review meeting about 6 months prior to spud for onshore exploratory wells and 9-12 months prior to spud for offshore exploratory wells. At the meeting, the operator should be prepared to address the following:

1. Shallow hazards survey
2. Site survey (if offshore)
3. Drilling hazards
4. Casing design and selection of casing points
5. Kick tolerance
6. Rig selection /diverter layout
7. Disposal plan for drilling waste and production-test fluids
8. Well testing plans
9. Spacing issues
10. Reservoir targets (primary and secondary)
11. Logging program
12. Variances

To schedule a preliminary meeting, contact the AOGCC at (907) 279-1433. Note: if a computer or overhead projector is required for the presentation, with advance notice the AOGCC will provide one.

Please distribute this Guidance Bulletin to all appropriate members of your organization. Questions should be directed to the AOGCC at (907) 279-1433.

Sincerely,

//signature on file//
Cathy P Foerster
Chair, Commissioner.