

Notice of Adopted Changes to Regulations

On August 31, 2006 the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission adopted regulation changes in Title 20 of the Alaska Administrative Code, Chapter 25 dealing with Permit to Drill requirements and blowout prevention equipment requirements. The affected regulations are 20 AAC 25.005(c)(4)(A), 20 AAC 25.035(e)(1), 20 AAC 25.035(e)(2), 20 AAC 25.035(e)(4), 20 AAC 25.035(e)(10), 20 AAC 25.036(c)(1), 20 AAC 25.036(c)(2), 20 AAC 25.036(c)(4)(H), 20 AAC 25.036(d), 20 AAC 25.280(b), 20 AAC 25.285(c)(2), 20 AAC 25.285(c)(3), 20 AAC 25.285(c)(9)(A), 20 AAC 25.285(c)(10), 20 AAC 25.285(f), 20 AAC 25.286(d)(1), 20 AAC 25.286(d)(3), 20 AAC 25.286(e). The regulation changes were reviewed and approved by the Department of Law, signed and filed by the Lieutenant Governor on November 28, 2006, and will go into effect on December 28, 2006. The new regulations will be printed in Register 180, January 2007 of the Alaska Administrative Code.

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(c)(4)(A) is amended to read:

(A) the maximum downhole pressure that may be encountered, criteria used to determine it, and maximum potential surface pressure based on a **pressure gradient to surface of 0.1 psi per foot of true vertical depth, unless the commission approves a different pressure gradient that provides a more accurate means of determining the maximum potential surface pressure** [METHANE GRADIENT];

(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 1/5/2006, Register 177; am ___/___/___, Register ___)

Authority: AS 31.05.030 AS 31.05.090

20 AAC 25.035(e)(1) is amended to read:

(1) in rotary drilling rig operations,

(A) for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 3,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK LESS THAN API 5K], BOPE must have at least three preventers, including

(i) one equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of drill pipe, tubing, liner or casing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to bottom-hole assemblies (BHAs) or drill collars;

(ii) one with blind rams, except that a subsea BOPE assembly must have blind/shear rams in place of blind rams; and

(iii) one annular type; and

(B) for an operation, **other than a casing or liner operation, with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP

STACK EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN API 5K], BOPE must have at least four preventers, including

(i) two equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the drill pipe or [,] tubing [, OR CASING] being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars;

(ii) one with blind rams, except that a subsea BOPE assembly must have blind/shear rams in place of blind rams; and

(iii) one annular type;

(C) for a casing or liner operation with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi, BOPE must have at least four preventers, including

(i) one equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the drill pipe or tubing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars;

(ii) one equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of casing or liner being used;

(iii) one with blind rams, except that a subsea BOPE assembly must have blind/shear rams in place of blind rams; and

(iv) one annular type;

20 AAC 25.035(e)(2) is amended to read:

(2) in coiled tubing unit operations, the well control equipment must include

(A) for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 5,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN API 5K],

(i) BOPE rams providing for pipe, slip, cutting, and blinding operations on the coiled tubing in service;

(ii) a high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer;

(iii) if pressure deployment of tools, tubing, liner, or casing is planned, a riser or lubricator sized to the BHA and providing for pressure integrity from the BOPE rams to the high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer; and

(iv) at least one preventer equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of tubing, liner, or casing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars; and

(B) for an operation, **other than a casing or liner operation, with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK GREATER THAN API 5K],

(i) BOPE rams providing for pipe, slip, cutting, and blinding operations on the coiled tubing in service;

(ii) two high pressure pack-offs, strippers, or annular type preventers;

(iii) if pressure deployment of tools, tubing, liner, or casing is planned, a riser or lubricator sized to the BHA **and** providing for pressure integrity from the BOPE rams to the high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer; and

(iv) at least two preventers equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of tubing[, LINER, OR CASING] being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars;

(C) for a casing or liner operation with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi,

(i) BOPE rams providing for pipe, slip, cutting, and blinding operations on the coiled tubing in service;

(ii) two high pressure pack-offs, strippers, or annular type preventers;

(iii) if pressure deployment of tools, tubing, liner, or casing is planned, a riser or lubricator sized to the BHA and providing for pressure integrity from the BOPE rams to the high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer;

(iv) at least one preventer equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the tubing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars; and

(v) at least one preventer equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of casing or liner being used,

20 AAC 25. 035(e)(4)(F) is amended to read:

(F) a kill line and a choke line each connected to a flanged or hubbed outlet on a drilling spool or on the BOP body with two full-opening valves on each outlet, conforming to the following specifications:

(i) the outlets must be at least two inches in nominal diameter, except that for rotary drilling rig operations, if the **operation has a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi** [REQUIRED BOP IS RATED EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN API 5K], the nominal diameter of the choke outlets must be at least three inches;

(ii) each valve must be sized at least equal to the required size of the outlet to which it is attached;

(iii) the outer valve on the choke side must be a remotely controlled hydraulic valve;

(iv) the inner valve on both the choke and kill sides may not normally be used for opening or closing on flowing fluid;

20 AAC 25. 035(e)(4)(H) is amended to read:

(H) a choke manifold equipped with

(i) two or more adjustable chokes, one of which must be hydraulic and remotely controlled from near the driller's station if the operation **has a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi** [REQUIRES A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN API 5K];

(ii) a line at least two inches in nominal diameter downstream of each choke;

(iii) immediately upstream of each choke, at least one full-opening valve for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 3,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK LESS THAN API 5K], or at least two

full-opening valves for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN API 5K]; and

(iv) a bypass line, at least the diameter of the choke line, with at least one full-opening valve for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 3,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK LESS THAN API 5K], or at least two full-opening valves for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN API 5K];

20 AAC 25.035(e)(10) is amended to read:

(10) the BOPE must be tested as follows:

(A) when installed, repaired, or changed on a development or service well and at time intervals not to exceed each 14 days thereafter, BOPE, including kelly valves, emergency valves, and choke manifolds, must be function pressure-tested to the required working pressure specified in the approved Permit to Drill, using a non-compressible fluid, except that an annular type preventer need not be tested to more than 50 percent of its rated working pressure; however, the commission will require that the BOPE be function pressure-tested weekly, if the commission determines that a weekly BOPE pressure test interval is indicated by a particular drilling rig's BOPE performance;

(B) when installed, repaired, or changed on an exploratory or stratigraphic test well and at least once a week thereafter, BOPE, including kelly valves, emergency valves, and choke manifolds, must be function pressure-tested to the required

working pressure specified in the approved Permit to Drill, using a non-compressible fluid, except that an annular type preventer need not be tested to more than 50 percent of its rated working pressure;

(C) if **any** BOP [SEALING RAM TYPE] equipment **components have** [HAS] been used **for well control or other equivalent purpose, or when routine use of the equipment may have compromised its effectiveness, the components used** [IT] must be function pressure-tested, before the next wellbore entry, to the required working pressure specified in the approved Permit to Drill, using a non-compressible fluid, except that an annular type preventer need not be tested to more than 50 percent of its rated working pressure;

(D) BOP ram and annular components except blind rams must be function-tested weekly, and all BOP ram and annular components must be function-tested after an action that disconnects the hydraulic system lines from the BOPE, except that if the workstring is continuously in the well, function-testing of blind rams must be performed as soon as possible after the workstring is pulled out of the well and the BHA clears the BOP;

(E) **for each BOPE test during drilling and completion operations, variable bore rams must be function pressure-tested to the required pressure on the smallest outside diameter (OD) and largest outside diameter (OD) tubulars that may be used during that test cycle, except that variable bore rams need not be tested on BHAs and drill collars;**

(F) **after installing casing rams in the BOP stack, the ram bonnets must be tested to the required pressure before running casing;**

(G) BOPE test results must be recorded as part of the daily record required by 20 AAC 25.070(1), **and must be provided to the commission, in a format approved by the commission, within five days after completing the test;**

(H) [(F)] at least 24 hours notice of each BOPE function pressure test must be provided to the commission so that a commission representative can witness the test;

(Eff. 4/13/80, Register 74; am 2/22/81, Register 77; am 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am 10/24/2004, Register 172; am ___ / ___ / ___, Register ___)

Authority: AS 31.05.030

20 AAC 25.036(c)(1) is amended to read:

(1) in rotary drilling rig operations,

(A) for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 5,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN API 5K],

BOPE must have at least three preventers, including

(i) one equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of drill pipe, tubing, liner, or casing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to bottom-hole assemblies (BHAs) and drill collars;

(ii) one with blind rams, except that a subsea BOPE assembly must have blind/shear rams in place of blind rams; and

(iii) one annular type; [AND]

(B) for an operation **other than a casing or liner operation, with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP

STACK GREATER THAN API 5K], BOPE must have at least four preventers, including

(i) two equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the drill pipe or [.] tubing[, OR CASING] being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars;

(ii) one with blind rams, except that a subsea BOPE assembly must have blind/shear rams in place of blind rams; and

(iii) one annular type; and

(C) for a casing or liner operation with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi, BOPE must have at least four preventers, including

(i) one equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the drill pipe or tubing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars;

(ii) one equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of casing or liner being used;

(iii) one with blind rams, except that a subsea BOPE assembly must have blind/shear rams in place of blind rams; and

(iv) one annular type;

20 AAC 25.036(c)(2) is amended to read:

(2) in coiled tubing unit operations, the well control equipment must include

(A) for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 5,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN API 5K],

- (i) BOPE rams providing for pipe, slip, cutting, and blinding operations on the coiled tubing in service;
- (ii) a high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer;
- (iii) if pressure deployment of tools, tubing, liner, or casing is planned, a riser or lubricator sized to the BHA and providing for pressure integrity from the BOPE rams to the high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer; and
- (iv) at least one preventer equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the tubing, liner, or casing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars; [AND]

(B) for an operation, **other than a casing or liner operation with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK GREATER THAN API 5K],

- (i) BOPE rams providing for pipe, slip, cutting, and blinding operations on the coiled tubing in service;
- (ii) two high pressure pack-offs, strippers, or annular type preventers;
- (iii) if pressure deployment of tools, tubing, liner, or casing is planned, a riser or lubricator sized to the BHA and providing for pressure integrity from the BOPE rams to the high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer; and

(iv) at least two preventers equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the tubing [, LINER, OR CASING] being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars; and

(C) for a casing or liner operation with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi,

(i) BOPE rams providing for pipe, slip, cutting, and blinding operations on the coiled tubing in service;

(ii) two high pressure pack-offs, strippers, or annular type preventers;

(iii) if pressure deployment of tools, tubing, liner, or casing is planned, a riser or lubricator sized to the BHA and providing for pressure integrity from the BOPE rams to the high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer;

(iv) at least one preventer equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the tubing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars; and

(v) at least one preventer equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of casing or liner being used;

20 AAC 25.036(c)(4)(H) is amended to read:

(H) for conventional open loop fluid process drilling operations, a choke manifold equipped with

(i) two or more adjustable chokes, one of which must be hydraulic and remotely controlled from near the driller's or operator's station if the operation **has a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi** [REQUIRES A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN API 5K];

(ii) a line at least two inches in nominal diameter downstream of each choke;

(iii) immediately upstream of each choke, at least one full-opening valve for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 5,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN API 5K], or at least two full-opening valves for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK GREATER THAN API 5K]; and

(iv) a bypass line at least two inches in nominal diameter with at least one full-opening valve immediately upstream of each choke for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 5,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN API 5K], or with at least two full-opening valves immediately upstream of each choke for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK GREATER THAN API 5K];

20 AAC 25.036(d) is amended to read:

(d) A BOPE assembly must be tested as follows:

(1) when installed, repaired, or changed on a development or service well and at time intervals not to exceed each 14 days thereafter, BOPE, including kelly valves, emergency valves, and choke manifolds, must be function pressure-tested to the required working pressure specified in the approved Permit to Drill, using a non-compressible fluid, except that an annular type preventer need not be tested to more than 50 percent of its rated working pressure; however, the commission will require that the BOPE be function pressure-tested weekly, if the commission determines that a weekly BOPE pressure test interval is indicated by a particular drilling rig's BOPE performance;

(2) when installed, repaired, or changed on an exploratory or stratigraphic test well and at least once a week thereafter, BOPE, including kelly valves, emergency valves, and choke manifolds, must be function pressure-tested to the required working pressure specified in the approved Permit to Drill, using a non-compressible fluid, except that an annular type preventer need not be tested to more than 50 percent of its rated working pressure;

(3) other well control equipment must be pressure-tested to the maximum potential wellhead pressure after each installation of the well control equipment and before wellbore entry, except that an annular type preventer need not be tested to more than 50 percent of its rated working pressure;

(4) if **any** BOP [SEALING RAM TYPE] equipment **components have** [HAS] been used **for well control or other equivalent purpose, or when routine use of the equipment may have compromised its effectiveness, the components used** [IT] must be function pressure-tested, before the next wellbore entry, to the required working pressure specified in the approved Permit to Drill, using a non-compressible fluid, except that an annular type preventer need not be tested to more than 50 percent of its rated working pressure;

(5) BOP ram and annular components except blind rams must be function-tested weekly, and all BOP ram and annular components must be function-tested after an action that disconnects the hydraulic system lines from the BOPE, except that if the workstring is continuously in the well, function-testing of blind rams must be performed as soon as possible after the workstring is pulled out of the well and the [BHA] clears the BOP;

(6) **for each BOPE test during drilling and completion operations, variable bore rams must be function pressure-tested to the required pressure on the smallest outside diameter (OD) and largest outside (OD) tubulars that may be used during that test cycle, except that variable bore rams need not be tested on BHAs and drill collars;**

(7) **BOPE** test results must be recorded as part of the daily record required by 20 AAC 25.070(1), **and must be provided to the commission, in a format approved by the commission, within five days after completing the test;**

(8) [(7)] at least 24 hours notice of each **BOPE** function pressure test must be provided to the commission so that a representative of the commission can witness the test.
(Eff. 11/7/99, Register 152; am 10/24/2004, Register 172; am ___/___/___, Register ___)

Authority: AS 31.05.030

20 AAC 25.280(b) is amended to read:

(b) The Application for Sundry Approvals must set out

- (1) the current condition of the well;
- (2) a copy of the proposed program for well work;

(3) unless already on file with the commission, a diagram and description of the well control equipment to be used, including if applicable a list of the blowout prevention equipment (BOPE) with specifications;

(4) **the maximum downhole pressure that may be encountered, criteria used to determine it, and the maximum potential surface pressure based on a pressure gradient to surface of 0.1 psi per foot of true vertical depth, unless the commission approves a different pressure gradient that provides a more accurate means of determining the maximum potential surface pressure, such as using a stabilized shut-in tubing pressure;**

(5) a description of any wellbore fluid to be used for primary well control; and

(6) [(5)] the current bottom-hole pressure, or, if data setting out the actual pressure are not available, an estimate of the current bottom-hole pressure.

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

Authority: AS 31.05.030

20 AAC 25.285(c)(2) is amended to read:

(2) in rotary drilling rig operations,

(A) for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 3,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK LESS THAN API 5K], at least three preventers, including

(i) one equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of drill pipe, tubing, **liner** or casing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to bottom-hole assemblies (BHAs) and drill collars;

(ii) one with blind rams, except that a subsea BOPE assembly must have blind/shear rams in place of blind rams; and

(iii) one annular type; [AND]

(B) for an operation, **other than a casing or liner operation, with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN API 5K], at least four preventers, including

(i) two equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the drill pipe or [.] tubing[, OR CASING] being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars;

(ii) one with blind rams, except that a subsea BOPE assembly must have blind/shear rams in place of blind rams; and

(iii) one annular type; and

(C) **for a casing or liner operation, with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi, at least four preventers, including**

(i) one equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the drill pipe or tubing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars;

(ii) one equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of casing or liner being used;

(iii) one with blind rams, except that a subsea BOPE assembly must have blind/shear rams in place of blind rams; and

(iv) one annular type;

20 AAC 25.285(c)(3) is amended to read:

(3) in coiled tubing unit operations,

(A) for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 5,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN API 5K],

(i) BOPE rams providing for pipe, slip, cutting, and blinding operations on the coiled tubing in service;

(ii) a high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer;

(iii) if pressure deployment of tools is planned, a riser or lubricator sized to the BHA and providing for pressure integrity from the BOPE rams to the high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer; and

(iv) at least one preventer equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the tubing, liner, or casing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars; [AND]

(B) for an operation, **other than a casing or liner operation, with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK GREATER THAN API 5K],

(i) BOPE rams providing for pipe, slip, cutting, and blinding operations on the coiled tubing in service;

(ii) two high pressure pack-offs, strippers, or annular type preventers;

(iii) if pressure deployment of tools is planned, a riser or lubricator sized to the BHA and providing for pressure integrity from the BOPE rams to the high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer; and

(iv) at least two preventers equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the tubing [, LINER, OR CASING] being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars; and

(C) for a casing or liner operation with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi,

(i) BOPE rams providing for pipe, slip, cutting, and blinding operations on the coiled tubing in service;

(ii) two high pressure pack-offs, strippers, or annular type preventers;

(iii) if pressure deployment of tools is planned, a riser or lubricator sized to the BHA and providing for pressure integrity from the BOPE rams to the high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer;

(iv) at least one preventer equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the tubing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars; and

(v) at least one preventer equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of casing or liner being used;

20 AAC 25.285(c)(9)(A) is amended to read:

(9) a kill line and a choke line each connected to a flanged or hubbed outlet on a drilling spool or on the BOP body with two full-opening valves on each outlet, conforming to the following specifications:

(A) the outlets must be at least two inches in nominal diameter, except that for rotary drilling rig operations, if the **operation has a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi** [REQUIRED BOP IS RATED EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN API 5K], the nominal diameter of the choke outlets must be at least three inches;

(B) each valve must be sized at least equal to the required size of the outlet to which it is attached;

(C) the outer valve on the choke side must be a remotely controlled hydraulic valve;

(D) the inner valve on both the choke and kill sides may not normally be used for opening or closing on flowing fluid; and

20 AAC 25.285(c)(10) is amended to read:

(10) a choke manifold equipped with

(A) two or more adjustable chokes, one of which must be hydraulic and remotely controlled from near the driller's station if the operation **has a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi** [REQUIRES A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN API 5K];

(B) a line at least two inches in nominal diameter downstream of each choke;

(C) immediately upstream of each choke, at least one full-opening valve for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 3,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK LESS THAN API 5K], or at least two full-opening

valves for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN API 5K];
and

(D) a bypass line, at least two inches in nominal diameter, with at least one full-opening valve for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 3,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK LESS THAN API 5K], or at least two full-opening valves for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 3,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN API 5K].

20 AAC 25.285(f) is amended to read:

(f) The BOPE must be tested as follows:

(1) when installed, repaired, or changed, and at least once a week thereafter, BOPE, including emergency valves and choke manifolds, must be function pressure-tested, using a non-compressible fluid, to the required working pressure specified in an approved Application for Sundry Approvals under 20 AAC 25.280 or, if that application is not required, to the maximum potential surface pressure to which the BOPE may be subjected, except that an annular type preventer need not be tested to more than 50 percent of its rated working pressure;

(2) if **any** BOP [SEALING RAM TYPE] equipment **components have** [HAS] been used **for well control or other equivalent purpose, or when routine use of the equipment may have compromised its effectiveness, the components used** [IT] must be function pressure-tested before the next wellbore entry, using a non-compressible fluid, to the required working pressure specified in an approved Application for Sundry Approvals under

20 AAC 25.280 or, if that application is not required, to the maximum potential surface pressure to which that equipment may be subjected, except that an annular type preventer need not be tested to more than 50 percent of its rated working pressure;

(3) non-sealing equipment must be function-tested weekly, after a repair or change, and after an action that disconnects the hydraulic system lines from the BOPE, except that if the workstring is continuously in the well, function-testing must be performed as soon as possible after the workstring is pulled out of the well and the BHA clears the BOP;

(4) **for each BOPE test during drilling and completion operations, variable bore rams must be function pressure-tested to the required pressure on the smallest outside diameter (OD) and largest outside diameter (OD) tubulars that may be used during that test cycle, except that variable bore rams need not be tested on BHAs and drill collars;**

(5) after installing casing rams in the BOP stack, the ram bonnets must be tested to the required pressure before running casing;

(6) **BOPE** test results must be recorded as part of the daily record required by 20 AAC 25.070(1), **and must be provided to the commission, in a format approved by the commission, within five days after completing the test;**

(7) [(5)] at least 24 hours notice of each **BOPE** function pressure test must be provided so that a representative of the commission can witness the test;

(8) the operator shall report to the commission within 24 hours any instance of BOPE use to prevent the flow of fluids from a well.

(Eff. 4/2/86, Register 97; am 11/7/99, Register 152; am ___/___/___, Register ___)

Authority: AS 31.05.030

20 AAC 25.286(d)(2) is amended to read:

(2) in rotary drilling rig operations,

(A) for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 5,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN API 5K],

at least three preventers, including

(i) one equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of drill pipe, tubing, liner or casing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to bottom-hole assemblies (BHAs) and drill collars;

(ii) one with blind rams, except that a subsea BOPE assembly must have blind/shear rams in place of blind rams; and

(iii) one annular type; and

(B) for an operation, **other than a casing or liner operation, with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK GREATER THAN API 5K], at least four preventers, including

(i) two equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the drill pipe or[,] tubing[, OR CASING] being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars;

(ii) one with blind rams, except that a subsea BOPE assembly must have blind/shear rams in place of blind rams; and

(iii) one annular type;

(C) for a casing or liner operation with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi, at least four preventers, including

(i) one equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of the drill pipe or tubing being used, except that pipe rams need not be sized to BHAs and drill collars;

(ii) one equipped with pipe rams that fit the size of casing or liner being used;

(iii) one with blind rams, except that a subsea BOPE assembly must have blind/shear rams in place of blind rams; and

(iv) one annular type;

20 AAC 25.286(d)(3) is amended to read:

(3) in coiled tubing unit operations,

(A) for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of 5,000 psi or less** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN API 5K],

(i) BOPE rams providing for pipe, slip, cutting, and blinding operations on the coiled tubing in service;

(ii) a high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer;
and

(iii) if pressure deployment of tools is planned, a riser or lubricator sized to the BHA and providing for pressure integrity from the BOPE rams to the high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer; and

(B) for an operation **with a maximum potential surface pressure of greater than 5,000 psi** [REQUIRING A BOP STACK GREATER THAN API 5K],

- (i) BOPE rams providing for pipe, slip, cutting, and blinding operations on the coiled tubing in service;
- (ii) two high pressure pack-offs, strippers, or annular type preventers; and
- (iii) if pressure deployment of tools is planned, a riser or lubricator sized to the BHA and providing for pressure integrity from the BOPE rams to the high pressure pack-off, stripper, or annular type preventer;

20 AAC 25.286(e) is amended to read:

(e) The operator shall test the BOPE assembly as follows:

- (1) at least once a week, and after each [USE,] repair, [OR] change, **or use for well control or other equivalent purpose, or when routine use of the equipment may have compromised its effectiveness, BOP equipment** [BOPE PIPE AND BLIND RAMS] must be function pressure-tested, using a non-compressible fluid, to the required working pressure specified in an approved Application for Sundry Approvals under 20 AAC 25.280 or, if that application is not required, to the maximum potential surface pressure to which they may be subjected, except that the annular type preventer need not be tested to more than 50 percent of its rated working pressure;
- (2) after each installation of BOPE or other well control equipment, the equipment must be pressure-tested, before wellbore entry, to the maximum potential wellhead pressure to which it may be subjected, except that when testing against the annular type preventer, pressure testing need not exceed 50 percent of the rated working pressure of the annular type preventer;

(3) non-sealing equipment must be function-tested weekly, after a repair or change, and after an action that disconnects the hydraulic system lines from the BOPE, except that if the workstring is continuously in the well, function-testing must be performed as soon as possible after the workstring is pulled out of the well and the BHA clears the BOP;

(4) after each well installation of the BOPE, the BOPE hydraulic connections to the rams must be visually verified before wellbore entry;

(5) for each BOPE test during drilling and completion operations, variable bore rams must be function pressure-tested to the required pressure on the smallest outside diameter (OD) and largest outside diameter (OD) tubulars that may be used during that test cycle, except that variable bore rams need not be tested on BHAs and drill collars;

(6) BOPE test results must be recorded as part of the daily record required by 20 AAC 25.070(1), and must be provided to the commission, in a format approved by the commission, within five days after completing the test;

(7) at least 24 hours notice of each BOPE function pressure test must be provided so that a representative of the commission can witness the test;

(8) the operator shall report to the commission within 24 hours any instance of BOPE use to prevent the flow of fluids from a well.

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

Authority: AS 31.05.030