

to the Regional Supervisor which demonstrates, in the judgment of the Regional Supervisor, that projected emissions from an otherwise exempt facility will, either individually or in combination with other facilities in the area, significantly affect the air quality of an onshore area, then the Regional Supervisor shall require the lessee to submit additional information to determine whether control measures are necessary. The lessee shall be given the opportunity to present information to the Regional Supervisor which demonstrates that the exempt facility is not significantly affecting the air quality of an onshore area of the State.

(g) *Emission monitoring requirements.* The lessee shall monitor, in a manner approved or prescribed by the Regional Supervisor, emissions from the facility following the installation of emission controls. The lessee shall submit this information monthly in a manner and form approved or prescribed by the Regional Supervisor.

(h) *Collection of meteorological data.* The Regional Supervisor may require the lessee to collect, for a period of time and in a manner approved or prescribed by the Regional Supervisor, and submit meteorological data from a facility.

[53 FR 10690, Apr. 1, 1988; 53 FR 26067, July 11, 1988. Redesignated and amended at 63 FR 29479, 29485, May 29, 1998; 64 FR 72794, Dec. 28, 1999]

### Subpart D—Oil and Gas Drilling Operations

#### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

#### § 250.400 Who is subject to the requirements of this subpart?

The requirements of this subpart apply to lessees, operating rights owners, operators, and their contractors and subcontractors.

[68 FR 8423, Feb. 20, 2003]

#### § 250.401 What must I do to keep wells under control?

You must take necessary precautions to keep wells under control at all times. You must:

(a) Use the best available and safest drilling technology to monitor and evaluate well conditions and to mini-

mize the potential for the well to flow or kick;

(b) Have a person onsite during drilling operations who represents your interests and can fulfill your responsibilities;

(c) Ensure that the toolpusher, operator's representative, or a member of the drilling crew maintains continuous surveillance on the rig floor from the beginning of drilling operations until the well is completed or abandoned, unless you have secured the well with blowout preventers (BOPs), bridge plugs, cement plugs, or packers;

(d) Use personnel trained according to the provisions of subpart O; and

(e) Use and maintain equipment and materials necessary to ensure the safety and protection of personnel, equipment, natural resources, and the environment.

[68 FR 8423, Feb. 20, 2003]

#### § 250.402 When and how must I secure a well?

Whenever you interrupt drilling operations, you must install a downhole safety device, such as a cement plug, bridge plug, or packer. You must install the device at an appropriate depth within a properly cemented casing string or liner.

(a) Among the events that may cause you to interrupt drilling operations are:

- (1) Evacuation of the drilling crew;
- (2) Inability to keep the drilling rig on location; or
- (3) Repair to major drilling or well-control equipment.

(b) For floating drilling operations, the District Supervisor may approve the use of blind or blind-shear rams or pipe rams and an inside BOP if you don't have time to install a downhole safety device or if special circumstances occur.

[68 FR 8423, Feb. 20, 2003]

#### § 250.403 What drilling unit movements must I report?

(a) You must report the movement of all drilling units on and off drilling locations to the District Supervisor. This includes both MODU and platform rigs. You must inform the District Supervisor 24 hours before:

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- (1) The arrival of an MODU on location;
  - (2) The movement of a platform rig to a platform;
  - (3) The movement of a platform rig to another slot;
  - (4) The movement of an MODU to another slot; and
  - (5) The departure of an MODU from the location.
- (b) You must provide the District Supervisor with the rig name, lease number, well number, and expected time of arrival or departure.
- (c) In the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, you must report drilling unit movements on form MMS-144, Rig Movement Notification Report.

[68 FR 8423, Feb. 20, 2003]

### § 250.404 What are the requirements for the crown block?

You must have a crown block safety device that prevents the traveling block from striking the crown block. You must check the device for proper operation at least once per week and after each drill-line slipping operation and record the results of this operational check in the driller's report.

[68 FR 8423, Feb. 20, 2003]

### § 250.405 What are the safety requirements for diesel engines used on a drilling rig?

You must equip each diesel engine with an air take device to shut down the diesel engine in the event of a runaway.

- (a) For a diesel engine that is not continuously manned, you must equip the engine with an automatic shutdown device;
- (b) For a diesel engine that is continuously manned, you may equip the engine with either an automatic or remote manual air intake shutdown device;
- (c) You do not have to equip a diesel engine with an air intake device if it meets one of the following criteria:
- (1) Starts a larger engine;
  - (2) Powers a firewater pump;
  - (3) Powers an emergency generator;
  - (4) Powers a BOP accumulator system;
  - (5) Provides air supply to divers or confined entry personnel;

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- (6) Powers temporary equipment on a nonproducing platform;
- (7) Powers an escape capsule; or
- (8) Powers a portable single-cylinder rig washer.

[68 FR 8423, Feb. 20, 2003]

### § 250.406 What additional safety measures must I take when I conduct drilling operations on a platform that has producing wells or has other hydrocarbon flow?

You must take the following safety measures when you conduct drilling operations on a platform with producing wells or that has other hydrocarbon flow:

- (a) You must install an emergency shutdown station near the driller's console;
- (b) You must shut in all producible wells located in the affected wellbay below the surface and at the wellhead when:

(1) You move a drilling rig or related equipment on and off a platform. This includes rigging up and rigging down activities within 500 feet of the affected platform;

(2) You move or skid a drilling unit between wells on a platform;

(3) A mobile offshore drilling unit (MODU) moves within 500 feet of a platform. You may resume production once the MODU is in place, secured, and ready to begin drilling operations.

[68 FR 8423, Feb. 20, 2003]

### § 250.407 What tests must I conduct to determine reservoir characteristics?

You must determine the presence, quantity, quality, and reservoir characteristics of oil, gas, sulphur, and water in the formations penetrated by logging, formation sampling, or well testing.

[68 FR 8423, Feb. 20, 2003]

### § 250.408 May I use alternative procedures or equipment during drilling operations?

You may use alternative procedures or equipment during drilling operations after receiving approval from the District Supervisor. You must identify and discuss your proposed alternative procedures or equipment in your Application for Permit to Drill