



BCER Operational Pipeline Change – Notification Permission Clause

Effective July 10, 2023, a notification permission clause will be included in all new pipeline permits. It will also be added to all pipeline amendments and new permits that are issued because of a segment split due to a transfer or reconciliation. This is being implemented to provide Permit holders a means of notifying the Regulator of administrative and/or operational activity where an amendment is not necessary. Permit holders must ensure the notification permission has been added to each permit prior to submitting a notification for operational pipeline change through a historical pipeline submission or eSubmission.

Operational changes made to adjust the outside diameter, adjust the wall thickness, change the pipe grade, change pipeline product, reduce H₂S, reduce maximum operating pressure, change the flow direction, minor modifications to an installation or to split a segment to a pipeline do not require an amendment to the permit providing the pipeline permit includes the notification permission and:

- *the notice of the change is provided, as directed by the Regulator;*
- *the change does not affect direct connections to pipelines and facilities;*
- *there are no changes to approved pressure protection, H₂S protection or isolation;*
- *there is no substantive impact to any aspect of the project that was included in the consultation;*
- *the design and operation of the pipeline continues to meet all regulatory requirements and the requirement of CSA Z662.*

Drilling and Production Regulation (DPR) update for BCER

BCER has proactively updated their regulations to adhere to federal guidelines to further reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas sector. The goal is to achieve the provincial target of 75% reduction in methane emissions from the oil and gas sector by 2030, and near elimination of methane emission by 2035.

By January 1, 2035, no routine venting will be allowed from the following sources:

- *Compressor seals*
- *Pneumatic devices*
- *Pneumatic pumps*
- *Production tanks*
- *Dehydrators*





BCER has outlined the initial proposed regulatory policy and modeling and more changes are expected in the future with further engagement. An overview of these proposed changes is outlined [online](#). The proposed policy builds on the existing sources-based approach and:

- *Increases the stringency of design and operating standards for sources of methane emissions at new facilities.*
- *Requires more leak detection surveys to be conducted at facilities and wells.*
- *Expands the scope of the regulations to include some operational activities where methane emissions may occur.*
- *Enables flexibility in achieving outcomes, by allowing for the use of alternative leak and detection program (Alt-LDAR) and introducing a phased approach for the elimination of venting, where it is feasible.*

