NOTICE TO OPERATORS

Recently, there have been some accidents or incidents associated with oilfield operations that have not been reported to the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (Division). Because of that, staff have not been able to follow up on the unreported situation to ensure the operator responds to the accident or incident effectively. In addition, the Division has not been able to evaluate the incident near the time of occurrence and determine what could be done to prevent recurrence.

Division regulations specify that such things as:

- blowouts,
- fires,
- serious accidents,
- and significant oil, gas or water leaks;

resulting from or associated with an oil or gas drilling or producing operation, or related facility, must be promptly reported by the operator to the appropriate Division district office.

Furthermore, the operator shall promptly report oil spills to the Office of Emergency Services and by contacting the agencies specified in the operator’s oil spill contingency plan.

Your compliance with these reporting requirements will enable the Division to perform its duties in a more timely and effective manner.

Hal Bopp
State Oil and Gas Supervisor