September 6, 2011

NOTICE TO OPERATORS

Subject: Facilities Regulations Critical Due Dates

Assembly Bill (AB) 1960, (Nava, statutes 2008) implementation regulations were approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on December 30, 2010. The regulatory changes become effective on January 29, 2011. The final text of these regulations has been incorporated into Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources (Division) publication PRCG4 California Code of Regulations (CCR). The Division held 5 facility program informational workshops throughout the state this year. Critical time frames were explained during the workshops. Spill Contingency Plans and Secondary Containment were required by regulation to be completed by July 29, 2011. To date, there has been minimal response to the Spill Contingency Plan filing requirement. There is a Spill Contingency Plan Template available on the Division website at: http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/Pages/index.aspx. Continuing with the Division’s educational approach for the facilities program requirements, this notice outlines facility regulations due dates.

The critical due dates are summarized as follows:

1. By July 29, 2011, Spill Contingency Plans Filed (CCR 1722 (b)).
2. By July 29, 2011, Secondary Containment needed for all production facilities storing and/or processing fluids (except for valves, headers, manifolds, pumps, compressors, wellheads, pipelines, flowlines and gathering lines) (CCR 1773.1).
3. By January 29, 2013, tank WALL thickness needs to be tested if corrosion rate is unknown and the tank has NOT been tested in the last 5 years (CCR 1773.4 (a) (1)).
4. If corrosion rate of tank wall thickness is known, use corrosion rate calculations to determine, but not greater than 15 Years (CCR 1773.4 (a) (2)).
5. By January 29, 2013, tank BOTTOM plate thickness needs to be tested for in-service tanks not internally inspected within the last 20 Years (CCR 1773.4 (d)).
6. By January 29, 2013, operators shall prepare a pipeline management plan for ALL pipelines (CCR 17742). A pipeline management plan template will be available soon on the Division website.

Further information on these new regulations can be found on the Division website:
ftp://ftp.consrv.ca.gov/pub/oil/laws/Final%20Text%20of%20Regulations.pdf

If you have any questions, please contact a local Division office at:

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The Department of Conservation’s mission is to balance today’s needs with tomorrow’s challenges and foster intelligent, sustainable, and efficient use of California’s energy, land, and mineral resources.