

Kansas Administrative Regulations

Kansas Corporation Commission

Article 3.—Production and Conservation of Oil and Gas

82-3-602. Closure of pits; disposal of pit contents; closure form; drilling fluid management; surface restoration.

(a) Closure of pits.

(1) Unless otherwise specified in writing by the commission, each operator shall close the following:

(A) Drilling pits or haul-off pits within 365 calendar days after the spud date of a well;

(B) work-over pits within 90 days after workover operations have ceased; and

(C) settling pits, burn pits, and emergency pits within 30 days after cessation or abandonment of the lease.

(2) Any operator may request a pit permit extension of not more than three months, and the request may be granted by the director. An extension may be granted due to pit conditions or for other good cause shown by the operator. Any pit permit extension may be renewed upon additional request by the operator, but no pit permit extension shall be extended beyond six months after the original deadline. Failure to close any pit or to file an extension within the prescribed time limits specified in paragraphs (1)(A) through (C) of this subsection shall be punishable by a \$250 penalty.

(b) Disposal of pit contents. Before backfilling any pit, each operator shall dispose of the pit contents according to K.A.R. 82-3-607 and shall submit the required form pursuant to K.A.R. 82-3-608.

(c) Closure form. Each operator of a pit shall file a pit closure form prescribed by the commission within 30 days after the closure of the pit. Failure to file the pit closure form in accordance with this subsection shall be punishable by a \$100 penalty.

(d) Drilling fluid management. Each operator of a reserve pit shall report the drilling fluid management methods utilized for the reserve pit, including the chloride concentration of the drilling fluids, on the affidavit of completion required by K.A.R. 82-3-130.

(1) Except as specified in paragraph (d)(2), the chloride concentration shall be calculated according to the following portions of the American petroleum institute's "recommended practice: standard procedure for field testing water-based drilling fluids," second edition, dated September 1997, which are hereby adopted by reference:

(A) Section 10.3 on pages 21-22;

(B) appendix A; and

(C) tables 1 and 5.

(2) An alternate test for measuring the chloride concentration may be approved by the director if the alternate test is at least as accurate and precise as the required test.

(e) Surface restoration. Upon abandonment of any pit, the operator shall grade the surface of the soil as soon as practicable or as required by the commission. The surface of the soil shall be returned, as nearly as practicable, to the condition that existed before the construction of the pit.

(Authorized by K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 55-152, K.S.A. 74-623; implementing K.S.A. 55-171; effective, T-87-46, Dec. 19, 1986; effective May 1, 1987; amended May 1, 1988; amended July 29, 1991; amended April 23, 2004; amended Aug. 16, 2013.)

***** Authenticated Kansas Administrative Regulation *****