

WorkSafe Services

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Services de travail sécuritaire

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September 26, 2008

“The Employer”

This is in reply to the employer's fax dated September 17, 2008, requesting a deviation from Section 147 (1) and 148 (1) of the General Regulation 91-191 to allow the employer to perform blasting while the employer does not possess a blasting certificate from the Apprenticeship and Occupational Certification Branch to carry out and supervise perforating blasting operations in the Province of New Brunswick.

In rendering the Chief Compliance Officer's decision, the Chief Compliance Officer has considered the following information:

1. The Province of New Brunswick does not provide training and certification in the field of Perforated Blasting, therefore the supervision and operation of blasting operations involving perforating oil wells is outside the field of expertise of a New Brunswick certified blaster and obtaining such certification would not be of substantial benefit to the employer;
2. The employer has provided the Chief Compliance Officer with a current Oil/Well Blasting Permit/Certificate which allows the employer to handle, prepare, load and fire oilwell explosives for the purpose of oil and gas well blasting within the Province of Alberta, British Columbia and Manitoba as well as the Northwest Territories and Yukon with an expiry date of May 20, 2013.
3. A copy of a Certificate confirming that the employer has satisfactorily completed Seismic Field Operations Supervisor;
4. A copy of a Certificate confirming that the employer has satisfactorily completed General Oilfield Driver Improvement;
5. A copy of a Certificate confirming that the employer has satisfactorily completed Buried Facilities Locator Training;
6. A copy of a TDG Training Certificate confirming that the employer has completed the training required by the transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG) Regulations;
7. H&S Awareness Orientation dated September 24, 2008;
8. Alberta Operator's Licence which expires March 30, 2013;
9. A copy of a Certificate confirming that the employer has satisfactorily completed the WHMIS Training;
10. Advanced First Aid Training with Canadian Red Cross; and
11. A copy of Atlantic Geophysical Services Ltd. OHS & Environment Manual.

As a result of the above information, a deviation from Sections 147 (1) and 148 (1) is granted to allow the employer to carry out perforating blasting operations until such time as the Oilwell Blasting Permit/Certificate expires or is renewed.

By copy of this letter, the Chief Compliance Officer has advised WHSCC staff of the decision.

Yours truly,

Chief Compliance Officer

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