**Attachment 1**

**18 AAC 75.434 - Response planning standards for exploration or production facilities**

**Source:** [**http://www.akleg.gov/basis/aac.asp#18.75.432**](http://www.akleg.gov/basis/aac.asp#18.75.432)

(a) For an exploration or production facility, the plan holder shall maintain or have available under contract within the plan holder's region of operation or another approved location, sufficient oil discharge containment, storage, transfer, and cleanup equipment, personnel, and other resources to

(1) contain or control and clean up within 72 hours that portion of the response planning standard volume that enters open water; and

(2) contain or control within 72 hours, and clean up within the shortest possible time consistent with minimizing damage to the environment, that portion of the response planning standard volume that enters a receiving environment other than open water.

(b) The response planning standard for an exploration facility is

(1) 16,500 barrels, unless relevant well data, exploration data, and other supporting technical documentation provided to the department and to the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission demonstrates to the satisfaction of the department that a lower response planning standard volume is appropriate; and

(2) an additional 5,500 barrels for each of 12 days beyond 72 hours, unless relevant well data, exploration data, and other supporting technical documentation provided to the department and to the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission demonstrates to the satisfaction of the department that a lower response planning standard volume is appropriate.

(c) Repealed 5/26/2004.

(d) If the actual flow rate of a well at an exploration facility exceeds 5,500 barrels per day, and the facility is to continue operations, the department will increase the response planning standard volume determined under (b) of this section for subsequent exploration wells drilled at that facility to a response planning standard volume taking into account the actual well flow rate of that well. The plan holder must submit a plan amendment under 18 AAC 75.415 addressing the increased response planning standard volume within 30 days after the department notifies the plan holder of the department's determination under this section. The department will review the plan amendment under 18 AAC 75.455.

(e) The response planning standard for a production facility is

(1) three times the annual average daily oil production volume for the maximum producing well at the facility; and

(2) for a production facility with wells without assisted lift, an additional volume equal to the annual average daily oil production volume for the maximum producing well at the facility for each of 12 days beyond 72 hours.

(f) The department may consult with the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission and other agencies as necessary to

(1) verify the production data submitted under (d) of this section; and

(2) determine, under (b) of this section, a lower response planning standard for exploration facilities.

(g) If an operator proposes the planned voluntary ignition of a well blowout, the operator shall submit data, analyses, and supporting documentation that indicates to the satisfaction of the department that any discharged oil would have an American Petroleum Institute (API) gravity of 35 or greater, a gas-oil ratio in excess of 2,000, and an anticipated combustion efficiency of at least 90 percent, that well ignition would not exceed national ambient air quality standards set under [42 U.S.C. 7409](https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/42/7409) (Clean Air Act), and that well ignition will be protective of human health, safety, and welfare, and of the environment. The department will adjust the response planning standard determined under (b) - (e) of this section based on the submitted data. The department may consult with the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission and other agencies in evaluating the data provided by the operator under this subsection.

(h) If exploration and production facilities are covered under a single plan accepted under 18 AAC 75.400(d), the department will consider the largest of the response planning standards determined under (b) - (e) of this section to be the response planning standard for that plan.

(i) The department will protect from public disclosure any data, analyses, or supporting documentation that is required under this section and held confidential by the department or another state agency under applicable constitutional law, statutes, and common law doctrines that protect trade secrets within the meaning of AS 45.50.940 and other commercially sensitive, confidential, and proprietary information. If disclosure of that information is required in an adjudicatory hearing under 18 AAC 15.185 - 18 AAC 15.340, the hearing officer shall limit and condition disclosure to the extent necessary to comport with applicable constitutional, statutory, and common law doctrines that protect trade secrets within the meaning of AS 45.50.940 and other commercially sensitive, confidential, and proprietary information. In limiting or conditioning disclosure under this subsection, the hearing officer shall or department will, as necessary

(1) review confidential information in-camera; and

(2) redact department decisions to protect confidential information.

(j) The department may reduce the requirements of (b) - (e) of this section, up to the limits set out in 18 AAC 75.430(c) (1), for prevention measures in place at the facility beyond those measures imposed by the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission or another agency.

(Eff. 5/14/92, Register 122; am 5/26/2004, Register 170)

**Authority:** AS 46.03.020

AS 46.04.030

AS 46.04.070