



NEWS RELEASE

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Oil and Gas Commission

INSPECTIONS SHOW OPERATOR COMPLIANCE NEAR 100 PERCENT

VICTORIA – The British Columbia Oil and Gas Commission released two reports today, both showing oil and gas operators are close to achieving 100 per cent compliance with regulations, said Ross Curtis, Commissioner of the Oil and Gas Commission.

“Both reports indicate nearly 100 per cent compliance,” said Curtis. “This shows that, despite the significant up turn in the oil and gas sector, industry is complying with our stringent rules – while both building and operating.”

The 2006 OGC Inspection and Compliance Report includes the results of the Oil and Gas Commission’s (OGC) operating inspections in 2005/06, and shows a compliance rate of 97.7 per cent. More than 116,000 items were included in operating inspections in 2005/06. The report addresses minor, major and serious compliance matters related to operating and suspended wells, pipelines and large and small facilities. The publication is the first of its kind and will be issued annually to support openness and transparency related to OGC activities and results.

The 2006 OGC Report on the Oil and Gas Construction Compliance Audit provides a snapshot of operator compliance with environmental regulations during spring construction season. It shows operators achieved a 92.1 per cent compliance rate at a time of intense activity when full compliance is most challenging to achieve. Of the 189 inspections conducted during the one-week audit period, 174 were in major compliance.

Produced annually, the audit report highlights operators’ progress over time. It shows an increase in construction compliance from 75 per cent in 2002 to over 92 per cent today.

The OGC conducts inspections as part of its efforts to ensure a safe, thriving oil and gas industry that maximizes benefits for British Columbians. It is part of the OGC’s commitment to regulate the province’s oil and gas industry in the best interests of all British Columbians.

For more information about the OGC, or to obtain copies of the reports, visit www.ogc.gov.bc.ca.

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