

Received DC Office September 22, 2020

**From:** Reschke, Maria A

**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 1:50 PM

**Subject:** Regional Networking Group - Updates to Consultation and Notification Regulation

Good afternoon RNG Members,

This month we are providing an update on changes made to the regulation companies must follow when completing consultation and notification for oil and gas activities. The BC Oil and Gas Commission completed an in depth review of the current Consultation and Notification Regulation and took into consideration recommendations received from community members. We have highlighted the changes made to this regulatory piece and are making them available to you, the Regional Networking Group, a few months in advance.

There were so many edits needed to make this regulation easier to understand that it made more sense to replace it with a new re-organized regulation with a new name. It will be called the "Requirements for Consultation and Notification Regulation" and will come into effect in early 2021. While most policy will remain the same, the bigger changes are described below:

1. Increase response timelines for those who receive notices or invitations to consult from 21 to 30 days, and start counting days from date of service.
2. Require that invitations to consult contain information about the nature and extent of possible impacts and include light, in addition to information about noise, dust, odours and vehicle traffic.
3. Remove the definition of major amendment. This will remove a limit on the Commission's authority to require a permit holder to provide notifications or invitations to consult on an amendment application and avoid 'nuisance' notifications on amendments that people are often not interested in.
4. Update the definition of rights holder to include OGAA permit holders and the geothermal tenure holders.
5. Local authority will no longer be notified if the oil and gas activity is proposed within an official community plan area. Companies are required to follow municipal zoning bylaws and any policies falling under the OCP. No consultation with municipalities for a pressure regulating station on an applicant's own land.
6. Require additional consultation and notification if an application is revised to include a new well (even water source or water injection wells), pipeline or facility; or if the proposed capacity of a facility increases over a certain threshold.
7. Consultation distances have been reduced for compressors, and for those proposals - such as an LNG facility, petroleum refinery or gas processing plant - that have been approved through an environmental assessment under the BC Environmental Assessment Act.

We would like to hear your thoughts on the changes and any further questions you may have on the information presented. We will allow several days to collect all thoughts and questions applicable to the regulation, then provide one response back to the whole group.

At any time, you may opt out of any further contact by the Commission, or request an update or correction to your information by emailing [Stakeholder@bcogc.ca](mailto:Stakeholder@bcogc.ca) or calling 250-794-5200.



**Maria Reschke**  
Manager, Stakeholder Relations  
[Maria.Reschke@bcogc.ca](mailto:Maria.Reschke@bcogc.ca)

Fort St John BC  
[Office Address Directory](#)  
[bcogc.ca](http://bcogc.ca)

T. 250 794-5264  
F. 250-794-5390