

BULLETIN

Date	Subject	Notice
December 22, 2022	New hydraulic fracturing directive in effect	BT2022-012

On December 22, 2022, *Directive PNG048: Hydraulic Fracturing Requirements* came into effect. The in-force version of this new directive may be found at [Directive PNG048](#). Please ensure that your organization is aware of and follows the requirements outlined in the directive.

The Ministry of Energy and Resources (ER) held public consultations on the directive from August 8 to September 6, 2022. The directive clarifies ER’s expectations for management of hydraulic fracturing (i.e. fracking) operations and features requirements for:

- developing fracture planning and well control programs prior to initiating fracking;
- notifying licensees of offsetting wells within 600 metres of a proposed fracking operation and providing 15 days’ notice to allow offsetting parties to prepare their well operations;
- licensees of fracking wells and offsetting wells to establish a mutually-agreeable risk mitigation program where a high risk of impacts from a fracking operation has been determined to occur; and
- reporting a communication events involving a fracking well and an offset well.

Please note that *Directive PNG013: Well Data Submission Requirements* is presently being amended to support the directive regarding fracking data reporting requirements. These amendments were [shared](#) in connection with consultations on the directive earlier this year and are expected to take effect early in 2023 along with other changes to Directive PNG013 currently being consulted on. In the meantime, licensees are to use fracking data reporting functionality now available within ER’s Integrated Resource Information System (IRIS) to ensure more consistent and easily manageable data for ER.

Please also note that licensees that complete a fracking operation on or before January 31, 2023 are allowed 60 days from the date the operation was completed to report it in IRIS without penalty. As well, ER will not assess licensees’ compliance with Directive PNG048 until January 31, 2023.



Questions?

Information on the results of the consultation process on Directive PNG048 can be found at [*Notice of Accepted Amendments: Directive PNG048: Hydraulic Fracturing Requirements.*](#)

If you have any questions or concerns contact the ER Service Desk at 1-855-219-9373 or ER.servicedesk@gov.sk.ca.