§ 250.804 Production safety-system testing and records.

(a) Inspection and testing. The safety-system devices shall be successfully inspected and tested by the lessee at the interval specified below or more frequently if operating conditions warrant. Testing must be in accordance with API RP 14C, Appendix D (as incorporated by reference in § 250.198), and the following:

(1) Testing requirements for subsurface safety devices are as follows:

(i) Each surface-controlled subsurface safety device installed in a well, including such devices in shut-in and injection wells, shall be tested in place for proper operation when installed or reinstalled and thereafter at intervals not exceeding 6 months. If the device does not operate properly, or if a liquid leakage rate in excess of 200 cubic centimeters per minute or a gas leakage rate in excess of 5 cubic feet per minute is observed, the device shall be removed, repaired and reinstalled, or replaced. Testing shall be in accordance with API RP 14C (as incorporated by reference in § 250.198) to ensure proper operation.

(ii) Each subsurface-controlled SSSV installed in a well shall be removed, inspected, and repaired or adjusted, as necessary, and reinstalled or replaced at intervals not exceeding 6 months for those valves not installed in a landing nipple and 12 months for those valves installed in a landing nipple.

(iii) Each tubing plug installed in a well shall be removed, inspected, and replaced, as necessary, and reinstalled or replaced at intervals not exceeding 6 months for those valves not installed in a landing nipple and 12 months for those valves installed in a landing nipple.

(2) When wells are disconnected from producing facilities and blind flanged, equipped with a tubing plug, or the master valves have been locked closed, you are not required to comply with the provisions of API RP 14C (as incorporated by reference in § 250.198) or this regulation concerning the following:

(i) Automatic fail-close SSV’s on wellhead assemblies, and

(ii) The PSH and PSL shut-in sensors in flowlines from wells.

(3) When pressure or atmospheric vessels are isolated from production facilities (e.g., inlet valve locked closed or inlet blind-flanged) and are to remain isolated for an extended period of time, safety device compliance with API RP 14C or this subpart is not required.

(4) All open-ended lines connected to producing facilities and wells shall be plugged or blind-flanged, except those lines designed to be open-ended such as flare or vent lines.

(d) Welding and burning practices and procedures. All welding, burning, and hot-tapping activities shall be conducted according to the specific requirements in §§ 250.109 through 250.113 of this part.

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(iv) Injection valves shall be tested in the manner as outlined for testing tubing plugs in paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of this section. Leakage rates outlined in paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of this section shall apply.

(2) All PSV’s shall be tested for operation at least once every 12 months. These valves shall be either bench-tested or equipped to permit testing with an external pressure source. Weighted disk vent valves used as PSV’s on atmospheric tanks may be disassembled and inspected in lieu of function testing.

(3) The following safety devices (excluding electronic pressure transmitters and level sensors) must be tested at least once each calendar month, but at no time will more than 6 weeks elapse between tests:

(i) All PSH and PSL,

(ii) All LSH and LSL controls,

(iii) All automatic inlet SDV’s which are actuated by a sensor on a vessel or compressor, and

(iv) All SDV’s in liquid discharge lines and actuated by vessel low-level sensors.

(4) The following electronic pressure transmitters and level sensors must be tested at least once every 3 months, but at no time may more than 120 days elapse between tests:

(i) All PSH and PSL, and

(ii) All LSH and LSL controls.

(5) All SSV’s and USV’s shall be tested for operation and for leakage at least once each calendar month, but at no time shall more than 6 weeks elapse between tests. The SSV’s and USV’s shall be tested in accordance with the test procedures specified in API RP 14H (as incorporated by reference in §250.198). If the SSV or USV does not operate properly or if any fluid flow is observed during the leakage test, the valve shall be repaired or replaced.

(6) All Flowline Flow Safety Valves (FSV) shall be checked for leakage at least once each calendar month, but at no time shall more than 6 weeks elapse between tests. The FSV’s must be tested for leakage in accordance with the test procedures specified in API RP 14C, Appendix D, section D4, table D2, subsection D (as incorporated by reference in §250.198). If the leakage measured exceeds a liquid flow of 200 cubic centimeters per minute or a gas flow of 5 cubic feet per minute, the FSV’s shall be repaired or replaced.

(7) The TSH shutdown controls installed on compressor installations which can be nondestructively tested shall be tested every 6 months and repaired or replaced as necessary.

(8) All pumps for firewater systems shall be inspected and operated weekly.

(9) All fire- (flame, heat, or smoke) detection systems shall be tested for operation and recalibrated every 3 months provided that testing can be performed in a nondestructive manner. Open flame or devices operating at temperatures which could ignite a methane-air mixture shall not be used. All combustible gas-detection systems shall be calibrated every 3 months.

(10) All TSH devices shall be tested at least once every 12 months, excluding those addressed in paragraph (a)(7) of this section and those which would be destroyed by testing. Burner safety low and flow safety low devices shall also be tested at least once every 12 months.

(11) The ESD shall be tested for operation at least once each calendar month, but at no time shall more than 6 weeks elapse between tests. The test shall be conducted by alternating ESD stations monthly to close at least one wellhead SSV and verify a surface-controlled SSSV closure for that well as indicated by control circuitry actuation.

(12) Prior to the commencement of production, the lessee shall notify the District Manager when the lessee is ready to conduct a preproduction test and inspection of the integrated safety system. The lessee shall also notify the District Manager upon commencement of production in order that a complete inspection may be conducted.

(b) Records. The lessee shall maintain records for a period of 2 years for each subsurface and surface safety device installed. These records shall be maintained by the lessee at the lessee’s field office nearest the OCS facility or other locations conveniently available to the District Manager. These records shall be available for review by a representative of BSEE. The records shall show the present status and history of each device, including dates and details of
installation, removal, inspection, testing, repairing, adjustments, and reinstallation.

§ 250.805 Safety device training.
Personnel installing, inspecting, testing, and maintaining these safety devices and personnel operating the production platforms shall be qualified in accordance with 30 CFR 250, subpart O.

§ 250.806 Safety and pollution prevention equipment quality assurance requirements.
(a) General requirements. (1) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, you may install only certified safety and pollution prevention equipment (SPPE) in wells located on the OCS. SPPE includes the following:
   (i) Surface safety valves (SSV) and actuators;
   (ii) Underwater safety valves (USV) and actuators; and
   (iii) Subsurface safety valves (SSSV) and associated safety valve locks and landing nipples.
(2) Certified SPPE is equipment the manufacturer certifies as manufactured under a quality assurance program BSEE recognizes. BSEE considers all other SPPE as noncertified. BSEE recognizes two quality assurance programs:
   (i) ANSI/ASME SPPE–1–1994 and SPPE–1d–1996 Addenda, Quality Assurance and Certification of Safety and Pollution Prevention Equipment Used in Offshore Oil and Gas Operations (as incorporated by reference in § 250.198); and
   (ii) API Spec Q1, Specification for Quality Programs for the Petroleum, Petrochemical and Natural Gas Industry (as incorporated by reference in § 250.198).
(3) All SSV’s and USV’s must meet the technical specifications of API Spec 6A and 6AV1. All SSSVs must meet the technical specifications of API Specification 14A (as incorporated by reference in § 250.198). However, SSSVs and related equipment planned to be used in high pressure high temperature environments must meet the additional requirements set forth in § 250.807.
(b) Use of noncertified SPPE. (1) Before April 1, 1998, you may continue to use and install noncertified SPPE if it was in your inventory as of April 1, 1988, and was included in a list of noncertified SPPE submitted to BSEE prior to August 29, 1988.
   (2) On or after April 1, 1998:
      (i) You may not install additional noncertified SPPE; and
      (ii) When noncertified SPPE that is already in service requires offsite repair, remanufacturing, or hot work such as welding, you must replace it with certified SPPE.
(c) Recognizing other quality assurance programs. The BSEE will consider recognizing other quality assurance programs covering the manufacture of SPPE. If you want BSEE to evaluate other quality assurance programs, submit relevant information about the program and reasons for recognition by BSEE to the Chief, Office of Offshore Regulatory Programs; Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement; MS–4020; 381 Ealden Street, Herndon, Virginia 20170–4817.

§ 250.807 Additional requirements for subsurface safety valves and related equipment installed in high pressure high temperature (HPHT) environments.
(a) If you plan to install SSSVs and related equipment in an HPHT environment, you must submit detailed information with your Application for Permit to Drill (APD), Application for Permit to Modify (APM), or Deepwater Operations Plan (DWOP) that demonstrates the SSSVs and related equipment are capable of performing in the applicable HPHT environment. Your detailed information must include the following:
   (1) A discussion of the SSSVs’ and related equipment’s design verification analysis;
   (2) A discussion of the SSSVs’ and related equipment’s design validation and functional testing process and procedures used; and
   (3) An explanation of why the analysis, process, and procedures ensure that the SSSVs and related equipment are fit-for-service in the applicable HPHT environment.

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