



Fee and reporting requirements for operators of an operating plant used to drill a petroleum well

Overview

Section 155 of the Petroleum and Gas (Safety) Regulation 2018 (P&G Regulation) makes liable the operator of an operating plant used to drill a petroleum well, geothermal well (other than a well drilled for wet geothermal production), greenhouse gas (GHG) well or UCG well. This is Category 1 of the petroleum and gas safety and health fee (the fee).

Section 158 of the P&G Regulation requires drilling operators to report the total distance (km) drilled in all petroleum wells, geothermal wells, GHG wells or UCG wells drilled.

Under section 157 P&G Regulation drilling operators must lodge a **petroleum and gas safety and health fee return for each financial year by 31 July**.

The annual fee payable by drilling operators helps fund the activities of the Petroleum & Gas Inspectorate, Resources Safety and Health Queensland in regulating and promoting safety for businesses and the community.

What operating plants are subject to this fee?

A facility used to explore for, produce or process petroleum, including machinery used for completing, maintaining, repairing or converting a petroleum well e.g. drilling rig used to drill a petroleum well.

What operating plant is not subject to this fee?

1. Ancillary equipment used by a drilling rig not integral to the rig itself such as fracking, water and cementing trucks (usually provided by a third party contractor) including all its constituent parts e.g. pumps, pressure control equipment, pipes and storage vessels, when setting up, operating and pulling down at a drilling site.
2. Drilling rig used to decommission (plug and abandon) a petroleum well.

When do you need to pay the fee as the operator of a drilling rig?

You will be required to pay the fee for each kilometer that is drilled where you are the operator in the reporting period. The fee is an annual invoice and will be issued to you on or before 10 November after the end of the financial year.

Payment terms are detailed on the invoice. Interest and late penalties apply for late payment of invoices.

What is the reporting period?

The reporting periods are broken up into financial years (1 July to 30 June). If you are the operator of a drilling rig that was used at any time during a financial year you are liable to pay the fee.

More information

For more information regarding the fee and reporting requirements, please email the Safety and Health Fee Unit via safetyandhealthfee@rshq.qld.gov.au.

Phone: 07 3199 8014 or 07 3199 8019

Office Hours: 8:30am – 4:30pm

To make a technical enquiry, or to register your interest to receive regular safety updates, please contact the Petroleum and Gas Inspectorate via gassafety@rshq.qld.gov.au.

Phone: 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

Web: www.business.qld.gov.au