

**RULES  
OF THE  
OIL AND GAS PROGRAM  
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES**

**CHAPTER 0400-54-01  
POLLUTION AND SAFETY CONTROLS**

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**0400-54-01-.01 OPERATOR'S RESPONSIBILITY.**

Each operator shall so conduct his operations and maintain his equipment as to reduce to a minimum the danger of explosion, fire, or waste.

**Authority:** T.C.A §§ 4-5-201, et seq. and 60-1-201, et seq. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 20, 2013; effective June 18, 2013.

**0400-54-01-.02 PROPER HANDLING OF DRILLING FOAM.**

When it becomes necessary to use detergents during air-rotary drilling operations, the foam generated by such activity shall be directed into a containment pit and retained there until it has been degraded to a harmless form.

**Authority:** T.C.A §§ 4-5-201, et seq. and 60-1-201, et seq. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 20, 2013; effective June 18, 2013.

**0400-54-01-.03 PROPER DISPOSAL OF WASTE.**

No waste oil, oil field waste, or any other fluid substance shall be discharged to or disposed of in any way into any stream, lake, or other body of water, or into any ditch or surface drainage depression leading to any stream, lake, or other body of water, except in accordance with a discharge permit obtained from the Department. No solid waste, including but not limited to contaminated soils at a well site, shall be disposed of except as allowed by the Solid Waste Disposal Control Act T.C.A. §§ 68-211-101, et seq.

Any Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) or Technically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (TENORM) produced at a well site shall be disposed of in accordance with the Tennessee State Regulations for Protection Against Radiation, Chapter 0400-20-05.

**Authority:** T.C.A §§ 4-5-201, et seq. and 60-1-201, et seq. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 20, 2013; effective June 18, 2013.

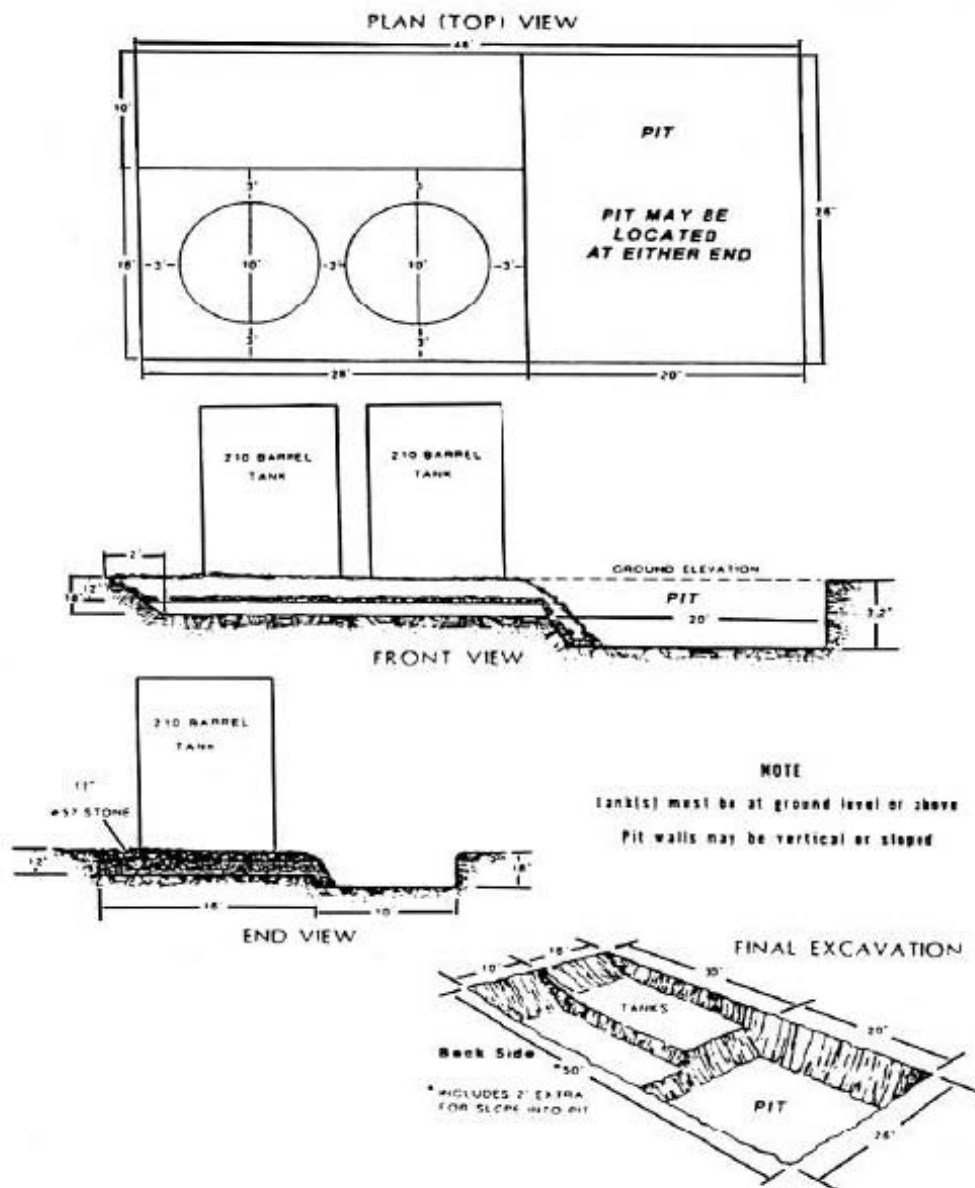
**0400-54-01-.04 REMOVAL OF DEBRIS.**

Any rubbish or debris that might constitute a fire hazard shall be removed to a distance of at least 100 feet from the vicinity of wells, tanks and pump stations.

**Authority:** T.C.A §§ 4-5-201, et seq. and 60-1-201, et seq. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 20, 2013; effective June 18, 2013.

**0400-54-01-.05 CONTAINMENT PIT AT TANK BATTERIES.**

A containment pit is required at each permanent oil tank or battery of tanks, and such pits shall be surrounded by a retaining wall or suitably ditched to a collecting sump, each of sufficient capacity and construction to contain potential spillage. No oil tank or battery of tanks shall be located closer than 50 feet from any state highway or county road

**CONSTRUCTION DETAILS FOR TANK PAD AND PIT**

**Authority:** T.C.A §§ 4-5-201, et seq. and 60-1-201, et seq. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 20, 2013; effective June 18, 2013. Amendments filed September 16, 2019; effective December 15, 2019.

**0400-54-01-.06 VENTS REQUIRED.**

All storage facilities shall be vented.

**Authority:** T.C.A §§ 4-5-201, et seq. and 60-1-201, et seq. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 20, 2013; effective June 18, 2013.

**0400-54-01-.07 IMPROPER LOADING.**

Oil transporters and producers shall not load oil from oil storage facilities into vehicles parked on public roads.

**Authority:** T.C.A §§ 4-5-201, et seq. and 60-1-201, et seq. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 20, 2013; effective June 18, 2013.

**0400-54-01-.08 GATHERING LINES.**

All gathering lines shall be buried beneath the surface wherever no blasting is required, and shall be steel or weather resistant black plastic wherever outcropping, resistant rock makes it necessary to lay the pipe on top of the ground. Lines crossing streams, rivers, intermittent streams or other drainways shall be constructed in such a fashion as to bridge the drainage features and protect the gathering lines from damage due to lack of adequate support. Failure of support may result in rupture of or discharge from the line. If the line is to be installed below the stream bed or below ground level and shall cross state waters an Aquatic Resources Alteration Permit shall be obtained prior to the activity occurring. Burial is not required, however, in those instances where this would conflict with the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act and rules at 40 CFR Part 192.

**Authority:** T.C.A §§ 4-5-201, et seq. and 60-1-201, et seq. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 20, 2013; effective June 18, 2013.

**0400-54-01-.09 IMPROPER CASING.**

All producing wells that are not properly cased and/or cemented shall cease production. The operator is required to perform corrective work before production can be resumed.

**Authority:** T.C.A §§ 4-5-201, et seq. and 60-1-201, et seq. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 20, 2013; effective June 18, 2013.

**0400-54-01-.10 DISPOSAL OF SALT WATER.**

- (1) Underground injection is the preferred form of disposal of salt water, provided, however, that such injection is permitted by appropriate State and Federal agencies.
- (2) Produced salt water may either be injected into a subsurface formation(s) productive of hydrocarbons, if part of an approved secondary recovery project, into a subsurface formation(s) not productive of hydrocarbons, if through an approved salt water disposal well, or else may be transported off-lease to an authorized salt water disposal facility if prior approval has been granted by the Department.
- (3) Produced salt water shall not be put in any unlined pit, pond, lake or depression, or in any other place in a manner that shall constitute a pollution hazard to the waters of the State including ground water.
- (4) No salt water or fracturing liquids shall be discharged to or disposed of at the land surface where they can enter surface water or ground water, unless such discharge is permitted by

(Rule 0400-54-01-.10, continued)

appropriate State and Federal agencies. Salt water or fracturing liquids discharged to and temporarily stored in lined pits shall be removed before they can leak into underground water.

- (5) All pits or ditches used for temporary storage or transport of salt water shall be lined with an impermeable man-made liner in accordance with the liner requirements specified in subparagraph (2)(g) of Rule 0400-53-03-.02.

**Authority:** T.C.A §§ 4-5-201, et seq. and 60-1-201, et seq. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 20, 2013; effective June 18, 2013.