PROCEDURE FOR DEVELOPING A PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM AT HYDROCARBON, CRUDE OIL, AND NATURAL GAS STORAGE WELL FACILITIES

Procedure #: UICLPG-13
(6/11)

Narrative:

K.A.R. 28-45-13(f), K.A.R. 28-45a-11(e), and K.A.R. 28-45b-11(f) require each permittee to establish a public educational program as part of the Emergency Response Plan. The purpose of the Public Education Program is to provide a means of informing the community about safety procedures and the Emergency Response Plan required at each facility. The Public Education Program should be specific for a given facility; hence, the nature of a facility’s operations and the characteristics of the surrounding communities should be considered when developing the program. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) believes the public education program should contain a minimum of seven (7) elements. The permittee need not present the program elements in the order listed below.

Elements:

1. The name and location of the facility.
2. A description of what the facility does.
3. A description of how the facility operates (pipelines, Class I disposal wells, brine ponds, caverns, fractionator, etc.)
4. A description of the role of the facility in the state and national energy system infrastructure.
5. A description of the contribution of the facility to the community (taxes; payroll; purchase of equipment, materials and services; community improvement activities, etc.)
6. A description of how the facility is operated in a safe and protective manner, including a general description of the emergency plan.
7. A discussion of the methods for disseminating to the public the information listed in elements 1 through 6. Some examples of educational materials include: brochures, videos, fact sheets, and presentations. Some examples of disseminating information include: public announcements, presentations to community and civic groups, chamber of commerce membership and participation, formation of community involvement groups, and presentations to schools – all levels.