

## Changes to Fuel, Flare and Vent BCOGC Definitions

Jurisdiction	Release/Revision Date	Location of Change in this Document	Comment
BC	Nov 19, 2019		Initial Release

**Audience:** BC Operators

**Purpose:** To notify operators that new definitions of fuel, flare, and vent will come into effect on January 1, 2020.

**Background:** After a review of the current definitions in BC for fuel gas, flare gas, and vent gas, the BCOGC has decided to update the Flaring and Venting Reduction Guideline and the Measurement Guideline for Upstream Oil and Gas Operations with the following definitions for reporting efficiencies and to harmonize with Alberta.

**Key Principles:** The definitions in BC become mandatory effective January 1, 2020; however, operators are strongly encouraged to adopt these new definition changes prior to that date so they can test their systems and be prepared for when this reporting becomes mandatory.

### Fuel gas:

Gas that is combusted and the released energy is used in upstream oil and gas operations. Types of gas that must be reported as fuel gas include gas burned by the following;

- engines,
- catalytic heaters and other building heaters,
- process vessel burners,
- sulphur recovery unit reaction furnaces,
- line heaters, and
- thermoelectric generators.

### Flare gas:

Gas that is combusted in a flare or incinerator at upstream oil and gas operations. Types of gas, if combusted in a flare or incinerator (including an enclosed combustor), that must be reported as flare gas include the following;

- waste gas,
- pilot gas,
- dilution and makeup gas added to a flare gas stream before flaring or incineration,
- acid gas (routine and non routine),

- blanket gas, purge gas, and sweep gas,
- gas used to operate pneumatic devices (instruments, pumps, and compressors starters),
- gas from dehydrator still columns,
- gas produced during well completions,
- gas produced during well unloading operations; and
- gas that is flared or incinerated as a result of equipment failures or plant upsets.

### **Vent gas:**

Un-combusted gas that is released to the atmosphere at upstream oil and gas operations. Vent gas does not include fugitive emissions, but does include the following:

- waste gas,
- gas used to operate pneumatic devices,
- gas from compressor seals, starters, and blowdowns,
- gas from facility upsets and emergency shutdowns,
- gas from dehydrator still columns,
- gas from production tanks, not including methanol and chemical tanks,
- gas released during pigging operations,
- gas produced during well completions,
- gas produced during well unloading volumes, and
- blanket gas.

For more details on the fuel gas, flare gas, and vent gas definitions, please refer to the Flaring and Venting Reduction Guideline and the Measurement Guideline for Upstream Oil and Gas Operations, found under Industry Zone / Documentation at <https://www.bcogc.ca>

### **More information:**

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