

RULE 61. FIREWALLS.

(a) Each permanent oil and/or saltwater tank or battery of oil and/or saltwater tanks now or hereafter located in the State of Mississippi shall be surrounded by a dike (or firewall) or retaining wall of sufficient height and size so that the volume enclosed shall be equal to one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the capacity of the largest tank in said battery OR the total volume of fluids produced into the said battery during any twenty-four (24) hour period, whichever is the greater. The dike (or firewall) or retaining wall shall be constructed of impermeable material approved in advance by the Field Inspector or Field Director. If there is more than 150% of the volume of the largest vessel in the tank battery produced into the battery in a twenty-four (24) hour period, the Operator may, in lieu of extending the size of the firewall to accommodate the excess of the 150% of the volume of the largest vessel in the tank battery, install a high level shutdown device or system inside the firewall that would, in the event of a spill, shut down all production coming to the tank battery at a level that would not allow the fluid level to reach within six (6) inches of the top of the firewall.

(b) In water, swamp or marsh areas where the building of firewalls is impractical or impossible, and the requirement thereof has been waived by the Supervisor upon proper written application, permanent tanks shall be placed on an impervious base and surrounded by an impervious gutter to catch all of the oil and other waste products which, upon escape, may cause a fire hazard or pollution. A sump shall be provided to catch the runoff from the gutters.

Provided, however, if upon proper written application to the Supervisor, the operator has devised a plan which serves the same purposes, the Supervisor may, after being presented with said plan and approving same, waive this requirement in whole or in part.

(c) Tanks for the accumulation of liquid hydrocarbons not falling into the above categories (A and B above) and all facilities for the loading and transportation of liquid hydrocarbons by truck must be surrounded by a retaining wall or must be suitably ditched to a collecting sump, either to be of sufficient capacity to contain the potential spillage to prevent the possibility of pollution of surrounding areas.

(d) With respect to tank batteries and loading facilities existing on the effective date of this rule, the operator shall have a period of six (6) months from the effective date of this rule in which to comply with this rule.

Source: MCA Section 53-1-17(3) (1972)

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~~(a) Each permanent oil tank or battery of oil tanks now or hereafter located in the State of Mississippi, other than provided for in B and C below, must be surrounded by a dike (or firewall) or retaining wall of sufficient height and size so that the volume enclosed shall be equal to one hundred fifty (150) percent of the capacity of the largest tank in said battery; provided, however, that in such areas where such dikes (or firewalls) or retaining walls would be impractical or impossible to construct, and the operator has devised a plan which serves the same purposes, the Supervisor of the Oil and Gas Board may, upon proper written application, waive in whole or in part the requirement of the construction of such walls.~~

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