

HYDROGEN SULFIDE (H₂S) DRILLING OPERATIONS PLAN

Hydrogen Sulfide Training:

All regularly assigned personnel, contracted or employed by Apache Corporation will receive training from qualified instructor(s) in the following areas prior to commencing drilling possible hydrogen sulfide bearing formations in this well:

- The hazards and characteristics of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S)
- The proper use and maintenance of personal protective equipment and life support systems.
- The proper use of H₂S detectors, alarms, warning systems, briefing area, evacuation procedures & prevailing winds.
- The proper techniques for first aid and rescue procedures.

Supervisory personnel will be trained in the following areas:

- The effects of H₂S on metal components. If high tensile tubulars are to be utilized, personnel will be trained in their special maintenance requirements.
- Corrective action & shut-in procedures when drilling or reworking a well & blowout prevention / well control procedures.
- The contents and requirements of the H₂S Drilling Operations Plan

There will be an initial training session just prior to encountering a known or probable H₂S zone (within 3 days or 500') and weekly H₂S and well control drills for all personnel in each crew. The initial training session shall include a review of the site specific H₂S Drilling Operations Plan and the Public Protection Plan. This plan shall be available at the well site. All personnel will be required to carry documentation that they have received proper training.

H₂S SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS:

Well Control Equipment that will be available & installed if H₂S is encountered:

- Flare Line with electronic igniter or continuous pilot.
- Choke manifold with a minimum of one remote choke.
- Blind rams & pipe rams to accommodate all pipe sizes with properly sized closing unit.
- Auxiliary equipment to include: annular preventer, mud-gas separator, rotating head & flare gun with flares

Protective Equipment for Essential Personnel:

- SCBA units located in dog house & at briefing areas, as indicated on wellsite diagram.

H₂S Detection and Monitoring Equipment:

- Two portable H₂S monitors positioned on location for best coverage & response. These units have warning lights & audible sirens when H₂S levels of 10 ppm are reached.
- One portable H₂S monitor positioned near flare line.

H₂S Visual Warning Systems:

- Wind direction indicators are shown on wellsite diagram.
- Caution / Danger signs shall be posted on roads providing direct access to location. Signs will be painted a high visibility yellow with black lettering of sufficient size to be readable at a reasonable distance from the immediate location. Bilingual signs will be used when appropriate.

Mud Program:

- The Mud Program has been designed to minimize the volume of H₂S circulated to the surface. Proper mud weights, safe drilling practices & the use of H₂S scavengers will minimize hazards when penetrating H₂S bearing zones.
- A mud-gas separator and H₂S gas buster will be utilized as needed.

Metallurgy:

- All drill strings, casing, tubing, wellhead, blowout preventers, drilling spool, kill lines, choke manifold & lines, & valves will be suitable for H₂S service.
- All elastomers used for packing & seals shall be H₂S trim.

Communication:

- Cellular telephone and 2-way radio communications in company vehicles, rig floor and mud logging trailer.

HYDROGEN SULFIDE (H₂S) CONTINGENCY PLAN

Assumed 100 ppm ROE = 3000'

100 ppm H₂S concentration shall trigger activation of this plan.

Emergency Procedures

In the event of a release of gas containing H₂S, the first responder(s) must

- Isolate the area and prevent entry by other persons into the 100 ppm ROE.
- Evacuate any public places encompassed by the 100 ppm ROE.
- Be equipped with H₂S monitors and air packs in order to control the release.
- Use the "buddy system" to ensure no injuries occur during the response
- Take precautions to avoid personal injury during this operation.
- Contact operators and/or local officials to aid in operation. See list of phone numbers attached.
- Have received training in the :
 - Detection of H₂S, and
 - Measures for protection against the gas,
 - Equipment used for protection and emergency response.

Ignition of Gas source

Should control of the well be considered lost and ignition considered, take care to protect against exposure to Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂). Intentional ignition must be coordinated with the NMOCD and local officials. Additionally the NM State Police may become involved. NM State Police shall be the Incident Command on scene of any major release. Take care to protect downwind whenever this is an ignition of the gas.

Characteristics of H₂S and SO₂

Common Name	Chemical Formula	Specific Gravity	Threshold Limit	Hazardous Limit	Lethal Concentration
Hydrogen Sulfide	H ₂ S	1.189 Air = 1	10 ppm	100 ppm/hr	600 ppm
Sulfur Dioxide	SO ₂	2.21 Air = 1	2 ppm	N/A	1000 ppm

Contacting Authorities

Apache Corporation personnel must liaison with local and state agencies to ensure a proper response to a major release. Additionally, the OCD must be notified of the release as soon as possible but no later than 4 hours. Agencies will ask for information such as type and volume of release, wind direction, location of release, etc. Be prepared with all information available including directions to site. The following call list of essential and potential responders has been prepared for use during a release. Apache's response must be in coordination with the State of New Mexico's "Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan" (HMER).