

April 2009

AFC 2.1.5.1.(1)

Page 1 of 1

**Penn West Energy
Portable Fire Extinguishers**

ISSUE:

Penn West Energy is experiencing theft and vandalism of their portable fire extinguishers at unmanned facilities and cannot guarantee the required portable fire extinguishers will be on-site if required.

BACKGROUND:

Penn West Energy has initiated a company policy to ensure that all of their service vehicles are equipped with at least an 80-B:C rated portable fire extinguisher. The extinguishers on these vehicles are serviced and maintained in operating condition and are easily accessible. Penn West Energy service staff travel to unmanned facilities to perform routine maintenance on equipment. In addition all contractors hired by Penn West Energy are required to provide at least an 80-B:C rated portable extinguisher and ensure that contractor personnel are trained in the use of the fire extinguisher. In the event of a fire all service staff have immediate access to the vehicle mounted extinguisher.

CODE REQUIREMENT: (Alberta Fire Code (AFC), Division B)

2.1.5.1.(1). Portable extinguishers shall be installed in all buildings except dwelling units.

VARIANCE:

After examining policies implemented by Penn West Energy for unmanned facilities it has been determined the portable fire extinguisher supplied on service vehicles will satisfy Sentence 2.1.5.1.(1) of the AFC. Service vehicle extinguishers are to be inspected, tested and maintained in accordance with Section 6.2 of the AFC.

This VARIANCE applies to Penn West Energy unmanned facilities throughout Alberta.

NOTE: Any changes to the original standard operating procedures and policies examined by this office are to be submitted for re-examination and approval to ensure they meet the intent of this Variance.