
40 C.F.R. § 60.5432a

How do I determine whether a well is a low pressure well using the low pressure well equation?

(a) To determine that your well is a low pressure well subject to § 60.5375a(f), you must determine whether the characteristics of the well are such that the well meets the definition of low pressure well in § 60.5430a. To determine that the well meets the definition of low pressure well in § 60.5430a, you must use the low pressure well equation below:

$$P_L \text{ (psia)} = 0.495 \times P_R - \frac{q_g}{q_g + q_o + q_w} [0.05 \times P_R + 0.038 \times L - 67.578] - \left[\frac{q_o}{q_g + q_o + q_w} \times \frac{\rho_o}{144} + \frac{q_w}{q_g + q_o + q_w} 0.433 \right] \cdot L$$

Where:

(1) P_L is the pressure of flowback fluid immediately before it enters the flow line, expressed in pounds force per square inch (psia), and is to be calculated using the equation above; (2) P_R is the pressure of the reservoir containing oil, gas, and water at the well site, expressed in psia; (3) L is the true vertical depth of the well, expressed in feet (ft); (4) q_o is the flow rate of oil in the well, expressed in cubic feet/second (cu ft/sec); (5) q_g is the flow rate of gas in the well, expressed in cu ft/sec; (6) q_w is the flow rate of water in the well, expressed in cu ft/sec; (7) ρ_o is the density of oil in the well, expressed in pounds mass per cubic feet (lbm/cu ft).

(b) You must determine the four values in paragraphs (a)(4) through (7) of this section, using the calculations in paragraphs (b)(1) through (b)(15) of this section.

(1) Determine the value of the bottom hole pressure, P_{BH} (psia), based on available information at the well site, or by calculating it using the reservoir pressure, P_R (psia), in the following equation:

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