Regulatory Citation(s):

78.84. Casing standards.

(d) New or used plain end casing, except when being used as conductor pipe, that is welded together for use must meet the following requirements:

(3) The casing shall be welded by a person trained and certified in the applicable American Petroleum Institute, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, American Welding Society, or equivalent standard for welding casing and pipe or an equivalent training and certification as approved by the Department. The certification requirements of this paragraph shall take effect August 5, 2011. A person with 10 or more years of experience welding casing as of February 5, 2011, who registers with the Department by November 7, 2011, is deemed to be certified.

Question:

Is welding certification or registration required for welders working on equipment around the wellhead?

Response:

The regulation only prescribes welding certification requirements for personnel welding new or used plain end casing. The wellhead and surrounding area is not covered/addressed under this provision. However, in situations where threaded casing is cut to make the length consistent with an operator's casing program and a guide shoe is welded in place, the welder certification/registration requirements apply.