TBPE
TEXAS BOARD of PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
Engineering For A Better Texas
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May 23, 2013

Mr. James H. Nye
c/o BakerHostetler
1000 Louisiana Street, Suite 2000
Houston, TX 77002-5018

RE: Policy Advisory Request Regarding Oil Well Casing Design, EAOR#35

Dear Mr. Nye:

On May 23, 2013, the Texas Board of Professional Engineers met in an open, public session and approved the following response to your policy advisory request.

Question:

"We have a client that installed production casing into an oil and gas well located in Texas. The client selected which casing and connections to use for the production string based on the connection manufacturer's specifications and physical properties for its patented connections. The casing was a standard grade of casing with published API physical properties, which physical properties were also published by the connection manufacturer.

Was the client required to have a Texas P.E. design the production casing string (not the component parts) under the Texas Board of Professional Engineers Rules Concerning the Practice of Engineering and Professional Engineering Licensure and the Texas Engineering Practice Act, Tex. Occ. Code Section 1001.001, et seq., specifically including Sections 1001.002-003, 1001.301, 1001.403, 1001.405, 1001.501-502, 1001.552, Board Rule 137.31-33, and Board Rule 139.35?"

Response:

After reviewing the question and sections of the Texas Engineering Practice Act and Board Rules cited in the above letter, it has been determined that licensure exemption in Sections 1001.057 (a) and (d) is most relevant in providing an answer.

Based on Sections 1001.057 (a) and (d) of the Texas Engineering Practice Act:

A Texas licensed professional engineer is not required to design the production casing string as described in the question above.

Sincerely,

Lance Kinney, P.E.
Executive Director

LK:CBP:dpt