



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

BILL RICHARDSON
Governor
Joanna Prukop
Cabinet Secretary

Mark E. Fesmire, P.E.
Director
Oil Conservation Division

June 2, 2004

TO ALL OPERATORS AND OTHER PERSONS CONCERNED

Re: Proposed new rules to govern operations in the CHIHUAHUAN DESERT AREA of Otero and Sierra Counties, New Mexico

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On Thursday, July 17, commencing at 9:00 a.m., the Oil Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing concerning proposed new Rule 21 [to be codified as 19.15.1.21 NMAC] relating to operations in defined areas of Otero and Sierra Counties. The hearing will be conducted in Porter Hall at 1220 South St. Francis Drive in Santa Fe.

The Commission will first hear the technical presentation by the Oil Conservation Division staff. Members of the public wishing to comment, but not offering technical testimony, will be accorded that opportunity immediately following the staff presentation unless they choose to defer their comments until the Commission has heard any responsive technical presentations. After such opportunity for public comment, technical presentations from the public will be received.

Persons who propose to offer technical testimony at the hearing are requested to file notice of their intention with the Commission not later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 14, 2004, including in such notice identification of the witnesses who will testify and the probable length of their testimony.

Although all written comments received prior or at the hearing will be considered, persons submitting written comments are urged to file them by Monday, June 14 in order that such comments may be distributed to and reviewed by the commissioners prior to the hearing. The Commission will make a decision at the close of the hearing whether additional written comments will be accepted after the close of the hearing, and, if it decides to accept such submissions, will then fix a final closing date for submission thereof.

As Director of the Division, let me assure you that all public input will be welcome and thank you in advance for your participation.

Very truly yours,

Mark Fesmire, PE
Director

mf/db