

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE
REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources proposes to adopt regulations for authorizing oil and gas exploration and development within oil and gas lease sale areas to implement new legislation enacted in 2013, and to amend application requirements for oil and gas lease plans of operations.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 11, Chapter 83 of the Alaska Administrative Code dealing with oil and gas exploration and development by geographical area, and oil and gas lease plans of operations.

The DNR proposes to amend its regulation on oil and gas lease plans of operations, **11 AAC 83.158**, to clarify when plans of operations are required; to specify additional information required to be submitted with an application; and to define terms used in the regulation.

The DNR proposes to adopt a new article at 11 AAC 83.650 through 11 AAC 83.695, entitled “**Article 7. Exploration and Development by Geographical Area,**” to establish procedures and criteria for authorizing oil and gas exploration and development activities within existing oil and gas lease sale areas.

This is a SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE to the NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES that was issued on July 12, 2013 concerning these proposed regulation revisions. This SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE is being issued because the Department of Natural Resources has decided to extend the public comment period until **Friday, September 20, 2013** and to hold a public workshop on the proposed revisions.

The workshop will be held in **room 602 in the Atwood Building, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska on Friday, September 6, 2013 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, and might be extended to accommodate those present before 2 pm who did not have an opportunity to comment.** The workshop will begin with a brief presentation by DNR, followed by specific questions from member of the public regarding the proposed regulations. All questions will be considered as public comments.

Each member of the public will be given three minutes to ask a question. The DNR response does not count towards that time. Follow-up questions are allowed, as long as total question time for the member does not exceed the allotted three minutes.

DNR encourages, but does not require, written submission of questions about the regulations that members of the public intend to ask at the workshop. This will facilitate DNR’s ability to provide responses when the questions are asked at the workshop. Questions may be submitted in writing by mail received by September 4, 2013, or through the Division of Oil and Gas comment website at <http://dog.dnr.alaska.gov/ContactUs/PublicComment.htm>. Questions submitted through the website should be marked “Areawide oil and gas exploration public meeting” and should be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 4, 2013. Questions received in this manner will be considered public comments.

The workshop will be transcribed by a court reporter. DNR’s initial presentation documents will be posted after the workshop on the Division of Oil and Gas website at <http://dog.dnr.alaska.gov>. The documents may also be obtained in paper copy by contacting the Division at 907-269-8800.

Interested parties who wish to participate by conference call should contact the Division of Oil and Gas at 907-269-8800 to obtain the conference call number and access code.

The public is invited to continue to comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil and Gas, Attention: Bob Pawlowski, 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1100, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3560. Comments may be submitted on-line at: <http://dog.dnr.alaska.gov/ContactUs/PublicComment.htm>; or by e-mail to DOG.Comments@alaska.gov; or by facsimile at 907-269-8938. **Written comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 20, 2013.** Comments received after this date will not be considered in final action on these regulations. Commenters who submitted comments during the first comment period need not resubmit their comments. Additionally, comments received between the end of the first comment period and the start of the second comment period (the time period between August 19 and August 21) will be accepted as timely.

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process (workshop or comments), please contact the Division of Oil and Gas at 907-269-8800 no later than September 4, 2013 to ensure that necessary accommodations can be provided.

For a copy of the proposed regulation changes, go to <http://dog.dnr.alaska.gov/AboutUs/PublicNotices.htm#pnother>; or contact Bob Pawlowski, Division of Oil and Gas, Department of Natural Resources, 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1100, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3560; by phone at (907) 269-8800; by facsimile at (907) 269-8938; or by e-mail at bob.pawlowski@alaska.gov. The proposed regulations are also available on the Alaska Online Public Notices website at: <http://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/View.aspx?id=169008>.

After the **public comment period ends on September 20, 2013**, the DNR will either adopt these or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action on them. The language of the final regulations may be different from that of the proposed regulations. **YOU SHOULD COMMENT DURING THE TIME ALLOWED IF YOUR INTERESTS COULD BE AFFECTED.** Written comments received are public records and are subject to public inspection.

Statutory Authority: AS 38.05.020, AS 38.05.035, AS 38.05.130, AS 38.05.131, AS 38.05.145, AS 38.05.180, AS 38.05.945

Statutes Being Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: AS 38.05.035(o)

Fiscal Information: The legislature appropriated funds for FY 2014 to implement the legislation authorizing oil and gas exploration and development by geographical area, CSHB-129(FIN). The proposed regulation changes are not expected to require an additional appropriation.

DATE: August 21, 2013

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William C. Barron, Director
Division of Oil and Gas