



Governor Matthew H. Mead, Chairman    Mark Watson, State Oil & Gas Supervisor  
Commissioners Bridget Hill    Thomas A. Drean    Mark Doelger    Tom Fitzsimmons

Date: July 11, 2017

To: All Owners & Operators

From: Mark Watson, State Oil & Gas Supervisor

MW

Re: Protest Policy for Application's for Permit to Drill (APD)

The WOGCC has recently experienced a growing number of protested cases that involve APD's. The vast majority of these applications are continued on a month to month basis until the matter is eventually resolved by the parties involved. This process, however, creates a large burden on the staff because each individual APD is considered a separate application.

In order to reduce the stress on the staff, a new policy will be implemented. Starting with the August 2017 hearings, any protested APD application will be:

1. Date stamped and assigned a docket number. A filing fee is required at time of filing.
2. The protest will be placed on the active monthly hearing docket.
3. If a continuance is filed (and the fee paid), the matter will be continued for an indefinite period and placed on an inactive docket until the matter is either:
  - a. Resolved by the parties (withdrawn).
  - b. Set before the Commission at the request of either party. Any continuance requested after the matter is set for hearing will be determined by the Commission as a preliminary matter on hearing day. The parties shall have witnesses available for hearing that day in the event the matter is not continued.
  - c. Staff will file a request to dismiss the protest if there is no action by the parties within six (6) months of filing.