

Sandoval County Draft Oil and Gas Ordinance
Public Input Meeting September 6, 2016

Attendees:

Alan Friedman
Cindy Patterson
Carla Sonntag
Wally Drangmeister
Jackie Cooms
Virgil Chavez
Eddie Paulsgrove
Tom Ruhl
Bob Wellesly
Eleanor Bravo
Matthew Gonzales
Lois Ramsey
Mary Feldbloom
Jose Varela Lopez
Stephen Adams
Mark Mikelsen
Tom Mullins
Elaine Cimino
Alex Jimenez
Ken Lytle
Jennifer Bradfute
Ernest Torres
Larry Sonntag
Lynda Hayes
Dr. Daniel Fine, NM Institute of Mining and Technology (NM Tech)
Makita Hill, Long Range Senior Planner, Sandoval County Planning and Zoning Division

Notes:

- Proposed ordinance an attempt to take mineral rights from property owners.
- Public meetings are of only token value
- NM Tech's participation is about politics and money.
- Do agree with protecting water quality.

- Protect environmental health and safety (Oil and Gas Accountability Project/OGAP).
- Public meetings on ordinance are of value. (OGAP)
- Proposed ordinance does not deal with environmental impacts, is inadequate for addressing environmental and cultural resource impacts. (OGAP)
- Financial, legal consequences for County. (OGAP)
- Oil accident in Carlsbad: what were costs to the State? (OGAP)
- Need more time, more time to review proposed ordinance. Revise current draft based on citizen's comments. (OGAP)
- Guidance on proposed ordinance from oil industry also important. (OGAP)

- State does not pre-empt County on permitting, land use issues. (OGAP)
- Gaps in Federal, State regulations can be addressed by counties. (OGAP)
- State Pit-Rule changes result in less State regulation. (OGAP)
- Rio Arriba County's oil and gas ordinance has county regulations more stringent than State regulations. (OGAP)
- NM Tech can assist in establishing stringent drilling standards. (OGAP)
- State penalties to oil and gas industry date back to 1930's, need updating. (OGAP)
- Should County have its own oil and gas operator permits? (OGAP)
- OCD should consider out-of-state track record for oil and gas companies applying for permits in NM. (OGAP)
- State records had to locate in OCD data information. (OGAP)
- Industry impacts vary widely, contamination does not respect property boundaries. (OGAP)
- NM is too financially dependent on oil and gas industry. (OGAP)
- Additional experts needed at State level. (OGAP)

- Proposed ordinance interferes with property rights, will be litigation.
- 37% of northern county residents live at poverty level. Rural living very different from southern County living.
- Environmental actions suppress money, jobs.
- North County area wants out of Sandoval County, should be in another county.

- Exploratory oil and gas activity should be more separate in regulations, view production as to be determined.
- Geology of Rio Rancho Estates area still active.
- Water bearing zones well defined in area, should be mapped.
- Fracking during exploratory drilling vertical only, not horizontal.
- Look at geology and water supply. More fracking requires more water.
- Drilling in geologic fault areas may result in contamination.
- More geologic studies needed.

- So many negative comments about proposed oil and gas ordinance, yet ordinance is still going forward.
- Who benefits from the revenue of oil and gas?
- Where does oil go that is collected in New Mexico, where is it shipped?
- Concerns over flaring of methane.
- Why drill in New Mexico? Why drill in Sandoval County?

- Do the ordinance "right".
- Protect property and mineral rights.
- Economic development vs. potential harm industry creates.
- Look to Eddy County as an example of economic benefit from oil and gas industry.

- Support oil industry (NM Business Coalition/NMBC).
- Oil industry a major employer in NM. (NMBC)
- Operators do care about water, air, wildlife. Industry is responsible. (NMBC)

- Industry provides 30% of State revenue, best paying jobs, majority of funding for schools. (NMBC)
- Work with the oil and gas industry. (NMBC)
- Take more time to develop oil and gas regulations. Proposed oil and gas ordinance setting a precedent in NM. (NMBC)

- In Oklahoma, 37 waste wells closed due to well-related seismic activity.
- Industry not concerned with community welfare, only profits.
- County must represent health and safety.
- San Miguel, Santa Fe counties have health and safety oriented oil and gas ordinances.
- Other industries such as eco-tourism and alternative energy development can be profitable in NM.
- NM is a scenic nature state, protect NM natural resource.

- 500 oil and gas wells currently in operation in Sandoval County.
- Oil and gas regulations should balance industry with needs of community.
- In San Juan County, County and State agencies work together on oil and gas.
- Safety is important.
- Protecting the environment is a good thing. Oil and gas industry not credited enough with the good things it does with environment.
- Don't rush oil and gas ordinance development. Standards are important.
- Input from northern County communities is needed in this process, many people there rely on oil and gas industry for their livelihood.

- Health, safety, welfare provides for many needs across all other industries. (NMOGA)
- There is no modern economy without industry. (NMOGA)
- Energy still largely imported. (NMOGA)
- U.S. standards on energy development are the most strict internationally. (MNOGA)
- Definitions: check State, Federal laws, avoid overlaps and confusion. (NMOGA)
- Delineation: overlap leads to uncertainty, costs to industry and regulators. (NMOGA)
- Details are important in regulation development. (NMOGA)
- Duration: industry does well to implement regulations. Industry needs more time for input on regulation development. (NMOGA)
- Oil and gas employees live and work here in NM. (NMOGA)
- Oil and gas industry seeks to do voluntary water quality testing with private land owners. (NMOGA)

- Do not interfere with property owner subsurface rights. Keep regulations fair.

- What are the social costs of an industry that is not regulated for health and safety? Is this a social crime? (Food and Water Watch/FWW)
- NM Tech does not address social crime issues. (FWW)
- What is the impact of oil and gas industry on property values? (FWW)
- All people are important. (FWW)
- County should pursue development of renewable clean energy. (FWW)
- County should adopt a public participation policy on all planning projects. (FWW).