Oil & Gas Activity UPDATE

Midwest Ground Water Conference Minneapolis, MN – October 1, 2012



OIL & GAS UPDATE

- North Dakota Update
- Hydraulic Fracing
- Disposal of Fluids

Bruce E. Hicks Assistant Director NDIC-DMR-OGD Bismarck, ND

North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources NDGS NORTH DAKOTA **Research** Arm CONTEN M NORTH DAKOTA OGD Regulatory OIL AND GAS DIVISION

https://www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/ https://www.dmr.nd.gov/ndgs/

Arm

600 East Boulevard Ave. - Dept 405 **Bismarck, ND 58505-0840** (701) 328-8020 (701) 328-8000

Department of Mineral Resources





7467 total wells – 4155 Bakken horizontal (55.6%)



North Dakota Daily Oil Produced and Price



Production 674,000 bopd (appr 607,000 from Bakken—90%)





NORTH DAKOTA – 190 DRILLING RIGS – SEP 2012



Current drilling activity is focused

in Mountrail, Dunn, McKenzie, and Williams Counties.

RIGS

- 190 rigs currently
- 225 rigs 1 year to secure leases
- 225 rigs another 16 years f/5H/SU
- Declining rig count?
 - walking rigs replace inefficiencies
 - drilling more wells w/less rigs

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

- Corridors for development
- Educate local and County officials

Small Footprint

- Developed 13,000 acres
- 14 wells
- rough topography
- LMR Confluence

Vern Whitten Photography











- Drill with fresh water
- Total depth below lowest potable water
- Run in hole with surface casing
 - 1st layer of surface water protection
- Cement casing back to surface of ground
 - 2nd layer of surface water protection



GeoSteering Tool





















Three-Dimensional Geologic Model of the Parshall Area







Performing hydraulic fracture stimulation south of Tioga

- all Bakken wells must be hydraulically fractured to produce
- > 2 million gallons of water
- > 3 million pounds of sand
- cost > \$3 million

WHY FRAC THE ROCK?

- already developed easy oil
 oil flows easily without fracking
- Unconventional Reserves
 - reservoirs are tight
 - uneconomic to produce w/o fracking
 - must create a path for oil to flow



Thousands of fractures are created

- pumping water at 6,000-9,000 psi
- millions of pounds of sand and ceramic beads are pumped with the water to hold the fractures open.









Hydraulic Fracturing: Mixture of water, sand and chemicals pressurized and pumped into the well to form microscopic fractures in shale.



Industrial Commission Regulation

Water flowback after frac
Flowback in lined pit allowed
Disposal wells permitted through Underground Injection Program
Disposal zone is 2,500 feet below potable waters





Disposal zone is 1/2 mile below fresh water zone

States have been regulating the full life cycle of hydraulic fracturing for decades

- Water Appropriation Regulation
- Oil & Gas Regulation
- Health Department Regulation
- Geologic setting in each basin different

Thirsty Horizontal Wells

2,500 wells / year
15 - 25 years duration
20 - 30 million gallons water / day

Commission supports surface water use

Lake Sakakawea best water resource
one inch contains 10 billion gal water
5000 wells @ 2mil gal wtr/well
2-year supply

Western North Dakota

- 1,050 to 2,700 wells / year = 2,000 expected
 - 85-225 rigs = 10,000 27,000 jobs = 21,000 expected
- 10 25 million gallons frac water / day
 Equal to 1" of water from Lake Sakakawea / yr
- 10 to 20 years
 - 28,000 new wells expected = $\pm 28,000$ long term jobs



North Dakota Monthly Gas Sold and Price



North Dakota Rigs and Wells





Prod jobs Gathering jobs Fracing jobs Drilling jobs

File No. 15092 Armstrong #1-5 Hanson Sec 5-T155N-R102W Williams County, ND

ESTIMATED MATURE AREA OF THE BAKKEN FORMATION



(Nordeng, 2010)

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE BEST PRACTICES

New Commission Rules
Eliminates 95% of reserve pits
smaller footprint
reclaim in 30 days

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

New Commission Rules
Fresh wtr ponds for frac wtr allowed
eliminates 100s of truck trips

EPA Guidance for HF using Diesel Fuel

Draft guidance presented 5-10-2012
Comment by 7-9-2012
Extended to 8-23-2012
NDIC commented on 6-25-2012

EPA Guidance for HF using Diesel Fuel

- States have effective HF regulations
- UIC permit not appropriate
- Definition of diesel too broad
- Allows biodiesel w/same chemicals
- EPA: N/A to Primacy States
 - Guidance appears to require it

BLM Proposed HF Rules

Draft rules presented 5-11-2012
Comment by 7-10-2012
Extended to 9-10-2012
NDIC commented on 6-25-2012

BLM Proposed HF Rules

- Rules eff on federal and Indian lands
- States have effective HF regulations
- Defines simple acid job as HF
- Duplication of North Dakota regs
- BLM short-staffed: Permit > 180 days

Hydraulic Fracturing Stimulation is Safe

• IOGCC survey—no contamination
• GWPC study verifies State's regs
• GWPC National Registry f/chemicals

North Dakota has been regulating the full life cycle of hydraulic fracturing for decades

- Water Comm—water withdrawls
- Industrial Comm—well permitting & disposal of flowback water
- Health Dept—spill cleanup