



JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION

THOMAS F. HARRIS  
SECRETARY

RICHARD P. IEYOUB  
COMMISSIONER OF CONSERVATION

September 7, 2018

**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY AND DIRECTIVE**

**Pursuant to the authority** granted to the Commissioner of Conservation and Assistant Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources under La. R.S. 30:1, et seq., particularly La. R.S. 30:6.1;

**It is hereby declared** that thermogenic natural gas has been detected in, reported to have entered into, and currently remains present in the Carrizo-Wilcox aquifer (aquifer) in Sections 22, 27, 28 and 34 of Township 13N, Range 15W in DeSoto parish. Natural gas has also been reported to have been present in the Wilcox aquifer in Section 26, Township 13N, Range 15W, DeSoto Parish.

**It is hereby declared** that gas may have migrated laterally and be present in one or more water-bearing zones above the Midway Shale in the aquifer in at least Sections 21, 23, 33 and 35 of Township 13N, Range 15W, DeSoto Parish.

**It is hereby declared** that Comstock Oil & Gas, LLC (C332), Covey Park Gas, LLC (C3020), Indigo Minerals, LLC (60005), Nelson Energy, Inc. (N054), and XTO Energy, Inc. (X004) (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Operators") have permitted oil and gas wells in at least one of Sections 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34 and/or 35 of Township 13N, Range 15W, DeSoto Parish (Smyrna EMER18-003 Area of Investigation or "AOI") that one or more may be the source and/or migration pathway for thermogenic natural gas to enter into and charge the water-bearing zones of the aquifer in the AOI.

**It is hereby declared** that the source of the thermogenic gas in the aquifer in the AOI has not been determined at this time.

**It is hereby declared** that the presence of natural gas in formations and sands shallower than the Midway Shale and in the aquifer of the AOI has the potential to cause harm to people, environment, property and operations, sites and facilities under the regulatory authority of the Commissioner of Conservation.

**It is hereby declared** that the recent filing of a petition for damages by area landowners against Operators has caused delayed responses from Operators to agency requested information deemed pertinent and necessary to the source investigation and emergency response effort of this agency.

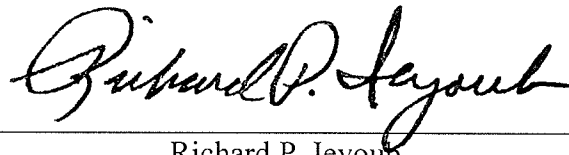
**Therefore, it is hereby declared** that Comstock Oil & Gas, LLC (C332), Covey Park Gas, LLC (C3020), Indigo Minerals, LLC (60005), Nelson Energy, Inc. (N054), and XTO Energy, Inc. (X004) be specifically directed and ordered to perform all of the following:

1) Provide on or before Monday, September 17, 2018 a written report of findings and conclusions of all well investigative work conducted and completed as of the date of this order for respective wells listed in the July 2, 2018 AOI Natural Gas Source/Subsurface O&G Migration Pathway Investigation Suggested Action Plan or a written explanation detailing why such action has not been taken at this time. The report should include at a minimum documentation of results for all a) casing integrity pressure tests, b) noise/temperature, cement bond, gamma and any other logs, and c) any other documentation pertinent to the natural gas source and migration pathway investigation.

2) Provide timely and expeditiously, by the deadlines set by this office, for items not otherwise describe above and subsequent hereto determined by the commissioner of Conservation to be necessary written, accurate and comprehensive information for continuation of ongoing efforts to identify the source and pathways of natural gas migration into the aquifer and corrective remedial actions thereafter.

**It is further declared** that, consistent with La. R.S. 30:6.B, if Comstock Oil & Gas, LLC (C332), Covey Park Gas, LLC (C3020), Indigo Minerals, LLC (60005), Nelson Energy, Inc. (N054), and/or XTO Energy, Inc. (X004) fail to comply with the actions set forth herein by respective deadlines set herein and hereafter, orders demanding compliance and civil penalties may be issued to respective non-compliant parties. R.S. 30:1, et seq.

SO DECLARED, ORDERED, AND DONE this 7th day of September 2018 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



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Richard P. Ieyoub  
Commissioner of Conservation