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State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION

STEPHEN CHUSTZ
SECRETARY
JAMES H. WELSH
COMMISSIONER OF CONSERVATION

August 10, 2015

Senator John A. Alario, Jr., President
Senator Gerald Long, Natural Resource Committee Chairman
Representative Chuck Kleckley, Speaker
Representative Gordon E. Dove, Sr., Natural Resources and Environment Committee Chairman

Via Statutorily Prescribed E-mail

Re: Report of Proposed Amendment to
Office of Conservation Rules and Regulations
LAC 43:XIX.Subpart 20
Expedited Permit Processing Program

Dear Oversight Authorities:

The Commissioner of Conservation proposes to amend LAC 43:XIX.Subpart 20 in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act R.S. 49:950 et seq., and pursuant to the power delegated under the laws of the state of Louisiana. The proposed amendment is made to implement an Expedited Permit Processing Program as authorized by Act 362 of the 2015 legislative session.

I. Copy of the rule as it is proposed for amendment per La R.S. 49:968.C(1):

See the attached Notice of Intent.

II. Statement of the proposed action per La R.S. 49:968.C(2):

The Louisiana Office of Conservation proposes to amend LAC 43:XIX.Subpart 20 in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., and pursuant to the power delegated under the laws of the State of Louisiana. The proposed amendment is made to implement an Expedited Permit Processing Program as authorized by Act 362 of the 2015 legislative session.

III. The specific citation of the enabling legislation purporting to authorize amendment of the rule per La R.S. 49:968.C(3):

La R.S 30:4et seq.

IV. Statement of the circumstances requiring amendment of the rule per La R.S. 49:968.C(4):

Conservation currently has a backlog of applications for the construction of salt dome brine production wells and storage caverns, for which each application may take approximately 1000 man hours to review. Industry requested that Conservation establish an expedited permit process similar to that currently employed by La DEQ, which allows for industry to compensate the state for the overtime cost of employees who volunteer to work overtime hours to process the applications. The legislature passed Act 362 of the 2015 legislative session to authorize Conservation to implement the Expedited Permit Processing Program.

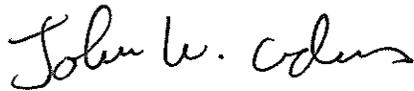
V. Statement of the fiscal and economic impact of the proposed rule amendment per La R.S. 49:968.C(5):

The fiscal and economic impact statement is attached to this report.

A notice of intent to initiate rule-making will be published in the Louisiana Register on August 20 2015, with a public hearing on the proposal scheduled for September 28, 2015 at 9 AM.

Please contact me at 225-342-7889 if there are any questions.

Yours very truly,



John W. Adams
Attorney, Office of Conservation

JWA:jwa

Attachments