



State of Louisiana

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE OF MINERAL RESOURCES

CERTIFICATION OF INABILITY TO MEET IN PERSON DUE TO COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR STATE MINERAL AND ENERGY BOARD

In accordance with La. Acts 2020, No. 302 and Executive Proclamations JBE 2020-159 and JBE 2020-168, this notice shall serve as a certification of the Louisiana State Mineral and Energy Board's ("Board") inability to otherwise operate in accordance with the Louisiana Open Meetings Law as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Board will provide for attendance and quorum at its essential government meeting on December 9, 2020, via video conference. Pursuant to La. Acts 2020, No. 302, the Board must meet because:

- 1) Matters that, if they are delayed, will cause curtailment of vital public services or severe economic dislocation and hardship. Because the Board must administer the state's proprietary interest in minerals by granting leases on state owned lands, has full supervision of all mineral leases granted by the state, and has general authority to take any action for the protection of the interests of the state under Louisiana Revised Statute 30:121 *et seq.*, its continued function during this pandemic is essential and, failing timely meeting, would result in the curtailment of vital public services or severe economic dislocation and hardship.
- 2) Matters that are critical to continuation of the business of the public body and that are not able to be postponed to a meeting held in accordance with the other provisions of this Chapter due to a legal requirement or other deadline that cannot be postponed or delayed by the public body. The Board's operations must follow statutorily-mandated deadlines. It is impossible to postpone or delay the matters of the Board.

Considering the foregoing, and in accordance with La. Acts 2020, No. 302 and Executive Proclamations JBE 2020-159 and JBE 2020-168, the Board's meeting on Wednesday, December 9, 2020, at 9:15 a.m. will be held via video conference and in a manner that allows for observation and input by members of the public, as set forth in the Notice posted on December 4, 2020.


JAMIE S. MANUEL, SECRETARY
State Mineral and Energy Board