

KCC Opens Investigatory Docket on Abandoned Well Responsibility

The Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) opened an investigatory docket for abandoned well plugging responsibility (17-CONS-3362-CINV). The KCC will be holding an informal roundtable discussion on this docket on November 30th, but only for those parties who notify the KCC before November 21st that they wish to participate in the roundtable discussion.

Here is some background information. KIOGA and others, including EKOGA, had been talking and working with the KCC through the KCC Oil & Gas Advisory Committee on this issue for some time. As a matter of fact, KIOGA and EKOGA provided the KCC a draft industry abandoned well proposal. We provided this draft to the KCC in September 2015. The industry draft is a very early stage draft and we (KIOGA and EKOGA) understand that the draft will need work. However, we have been waiting for over a year for an informal gathering of industry and KCC staff to hash this out before we proceed. We have not been in a position yet to begin vetting these things. The KCC staff indicated that the intent of the docket and the November 30th roundtable discussion was to encourage the KCC Commissioners to authorize KCC staff to begin working with industry on abandoned well plugging responsibility rulemaking. It is unfortunate that the docket and roundtable announcement was made with a copy of KCC staff draft regulation without also including a copy of the industry proposal as well.

KIOGA, EKOGA, and the Wichita Association of Petroleum Landmen (WAPL) will be participating in the November 30th roundtable discussion. Others too will likely be participating. We will be emphasizing that industry has a different view than the KCC draft attached to the docket and will be urging the inclusion of the industry draft to the docket discussion. We will underscore our willingness and preparation to work with KCC staff to negotiate rules we can all learn to live with.

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Upcoming Events

**KDOR Appraisal
Guide Seminar**
December 5-9, 2016
Topeka, Kansas

**KIOGA
Board/General
Membership Meeting**
December 7, 2016
Wichita, Kansas

Suppliers Party
December 7, 2016
Wichita, Kansas

**Global Energy &
Environmental
Issues Conference**
December 8-11, 2016
Jackson, Wyoming