



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Managing California's Working Lands

Division of Oil, Gas, & Geothermal Resources

801 K STREET • MS 18-05 • SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

PHONE 916 / 445-9686 • FAX 916 / 323-0424 • TDD 916 / 324-2555 • WEB SITE conservation.ca.gov

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NOTICE TO OPERATORS

Subject: Senate Bill 1281, New Water Reporting Requirements

On September 25, 2014, Governor Brown signed into law Senate Bill 1281 (Pavley, Ch 561, Stats of 2014) which adds Section 3226.3 to, and amends Section 3227 of, the Public Resources Code (PRC), as it relates to Oil and Gas. The new law becomes effective on January 1, 2015.

Under existing law, the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (Division) in the Department of Conservation regulates the drilling, operation, maintenance, stimulation, and abandonment of oil and gas wells in the state. The addition of PRC Section 3226.3 requires the Division to furnish annually to the State Water Resources Control Board, and the California regional water quality control boards, an inventory of all unlined oil and gas field sumps.

PRC 3227 requires the owner of any well to file with the State Oil and Gas Supervisor a monthly statement that provides certain information relating to the well, including what disposition was made of the water produced from each well. The amendment to PRC 3227 now additionally requires the owner of any well to file an online quarterly water report with the Division. The quarterly water report requires specifics as to the source, quality, and treatment of all injected waters; the quality, treatment, and disposal method of all produced waters; and the source, quality, and use of all other treated and recycled waters used in oil and gas field activities.

The Division is in the process of developing an interim solution for collecting required information under the new provisions of PRC 3227. The interim solution will be a water report form which is required to be submitted quarterly to designated email account, SB1281Reporting@conservation.ca.gov. The report form can be found at <http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/SB%201281/Pages/OperatorRequirements.aspx>.

This will not be the permanent solution for online reporting, but allows the Division to meet specified requirements of the law by the implementation date of January 1, 2015, while working towards a permanent online reporting method.

The quarterly report dates are:

QUARTER	WATER REPORTING PERIOD	REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE
1st Quarter	January 1 - March 31	April 30th, 2015
2nd Quarter	April 1 - June 30	July 31st, 2015
3rd Quarter	July 1 - September 30	October 31st, 2015
4th Quarter	October 1 - December 31	January 31st, 2016

During the initial implementation period, the Division will be working with select operators to refine the reporting process. Therefore, the final version of the water report form and data dictionary may change, with anticipation of the final version being available in February 2015. For more information regarding the Division's implementation of SB 1281, please review the Division's website at <http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/SB%201281/Pages/Index.aspx>.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the implementation of SB 1281, please email the Division at DOGGR_Headquarters@conservation.ca.gov, or call (916) 445-9686.



Dr. Steven R. Bohlen
State Oil and Gas Supervisor