

Monthly Summary
Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
February 1 to February 28, 2011

Commission Business

1. The monthly public meeting of the Commission was held on the 2nd of February in the Commission hearing room.
2. Commissioner Norman attended a meeting of the national Ground Water Protection Council in Austin, Texas. Principal topics discussed at the meeting were issues related to hydraulic fracturing and carbon capture and sequestration. Also training was given concerning new EPA rules regulating Class VI UIC wells.
3. The Commission is waiting for a response from E.P.A. regarding the Commission's denial of their imagined jurisdiction over Gas Storage Aquifer Exemptions.
4. The Commissioners reviewed and provided comments on SB 85 to Department of Law.
5. The Commission is continuing to provide support to DNR with plans for a new Alaska Earth Science Center.
6. Commissioner Foerster made a presentation to Begich Middle School students on career opportunities in the field of engineering.
7. Commission Chair Seamont travelled to Juneau to testify before the House Finance Subcommittee. He also visited 13 legislators.
8. Commissioners Seamont and Foerster met with U.S. Department of Interior managers to discuss compliance issues relating to U.S.G.S. and BLM drilling violations and BLM well abandonments.
9. Commission Chair Seamont travelled to Juneau to testify before the Senate Finance Subcommittee.
10. Commission staff traveled to Denver, Co to attend a Shale Oil conference.
11. Commission staff attended a conference on Cook Inlet Basin sponsored by the USGS.

Orders

1. The Commission at the request of BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. ("BPXA") has issued Administrative Approval AIO 22D.003 allowing the continued water injection in PBU S-111(PTD 2050510) Prudhoe Bay Field, Aurora Oil Pool.
2. The Commission issued a revised Administrative Approval AIO 2B.058.
3. The Commission issued a corrected Administrative Approval AIO 22D.003.
4. The Commission issued Administrative Approval Area Injection Order 13A.001 granting the request of Union Oil Company of California (UNOCAL) to revise the authorized injection strata for Class II oil field wastes in the Swanson River Unit (SRU) well No. 32-33 (SRU 32-33).

5. The Commission issued Conservation Order 643 granting a spacing exception to allow Cook Inlet Energy, LLC (CIE) to allow the drilling and testing of the Stingray No. 2 exploratory well.

Regulatory Activities Completed / Continuing

1. The Commission upheld Commission approval of the Cook Inlet Natural Gas Storage Project.
2. Commission staff have completed the review of the Hawk Consulting Oooguruk operations report.
3. Commission staff are reviewing the National Commission report on the Macondo oil spill.

Projects Completed / Continuing

1. Commission staff continues to update the web published Statistical Report.
2. Twenty Three (23) well histories and 883 digital well logging/data files were released to the public.
3. Five Hundred (500) GigaBytes of Well logging/analysis data were delivered to the public.

Permitting

1. Drilling Permit Approvals (January) – 18 (Exp/Strat Test 3, Dev 11, Ser 4)
2. Rig count – 15; North Slope – 12; Cook Inlet – 3; Coal Core – 0; Geothermal - 0; (Up 4 from last month)
3. Total Permit/Sundry Applications and Sundry Reports to date:
401's = 33; 403's = 55; 404's = 50; 407's = 39; Total 177.