

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

3 SENATE BILL 794

By: Quinn

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to oil and gas; amending 52 O.S.
8 2011, Section 139, as amended by Section 211, Chapter
9 304, O.S.L. 2012 (52 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 139),
10 which relates to jurisdiction, powers and authority
11 of Corporation Commission and Department of
12 Environmental Quality; modifying jurisdiction of
13 Corporation Commission over certain injection wells;
14 and providing an effective date.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 52 O.S. 2011, Section 139, as
17 amended by Section 211, Chapter 304, O.S.L. 2012 (52 O.S. Supp.
18 2016, Section 139), is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 139. A. The Corporation Commission is vested with
20 exclusive jurisdiction, power and authority, and it shall be its
21 duty, to make and enforce such rules and orders governing and
22 regulating the handling, storage and disposition of saltwater,
23 mineral brines, waste oil and other deleterious substances produced
24 from or obtained or used in connection with the drilling,
development, producing, and operating of oil and gas wells and brine
wells within this state as are reasonable and necessary for the

1 purpose of preventing the pollution of the surface and subsurface
2 waters in the state, and to otherwise carry out the purpose of this
3 act.

4 B. 1. Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, the
5 Corporation Commission is hereby vested with exclusive jurisdiction,
6 power and authority, and it shall be its duty to promulgate and
7 enforce rules, and issue and enforce orders governing and
8 regulating:

9 a. the conservation of oil and gas,

10 b. field operations for geologic and geophysical
11 exploration for oil, gas and brine, including seismic
12 survey wells, stratigraphic test wells and core test
13 wells,

14 c. the exploration, drilling, development, producing or
15 processing for oil and gas on the lease site,

16 d. the exploration, drilling, development, production and
17 operation of wells used in connection with the
18 recovery, injection or disposal of mineral brines,

19 e. reclaiming facilities only for the processing of salt
20 water, crude oil, natural gas condensate and tank
21 bottoms or basic sediment from crude oil tanks,
22 pipelines, pits and equipment associated with the
23 exploration, drilling, development, producing or
24 transportation of oil or gas,

- 1 f. injection wells known as Class II wells under the
2 federal Underground Injection Control Program, and any
3 aspect of any CO2 sequestration facility, including
4 any associated CO2 injection well, over which the
5 Commission is given jurisdiction pursuant to the
6 Oklahoma Carbon Capture and Geologic Sequestration
7 Act. Any substance from Oklahoma that the United
8 States Environmental Protection Agency allows to be
9 injected into a Class II well may continue to be so
10 injected,
- 11 g. tank farms for storage of crude oil and petroleum
12 products which are located outside the boundaries of
13 the refineries, petrochemical manufacturing plants,
14 natural gas liquid extraction plants, or other
15 facilities which are subject to the jurisdiction of
16 the Department of Environmental Quality with regard to
17 point source discharges,
- 18 h. the construction and operation of pipelines and
19 associated rights-of-way, equipment, facilities or
20 buildings used in the transportation of oil, gas,
21 petroleum, petroleum products, anhydrous ammonia or
22 mineral brine, or in the treatment of oil, gas or
23 mineral brine during the course of transportation but
24

1 not including line pipes associated with processing at
2 or in any:

3 (1) natural gas liquids extraction plant,

4 (2) refinery,

5 (3) reclaiming facility other than for those
6 specified within subparagraph e of this
7 paragraph,

8 (4) mineral brine processing plant, and

9 (5) petrochemical manufacturing plant,

10 i. the handling, transportation, storage and disposition
11 of saltwater, mineral brines, waste oil and other
12 deleterious substances produced from or obtained or
13 used in connection with the drilling, development,
14 producing and operating of oil and gas wells, at:

15 (1) any facility or activity specifically listed in
16 paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection as being
17 subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission,
18 and

19 (2) other oil and gas extraction facilities and
20 activities,

21 j. spills of deleterious substances associated with
22 facilities and activities specified in paragraph 1 of
23 this subsection or associated with other oil and gas
24 extraction facilities and activities, and

1 k. subsurface storage of oil, natural gas and liquefied
2 petroleum gas in geologic strata.

3 2. The exclusive jurisdiction, power and authority of the
4 Corporation Commission shall also extend to the construction,
5 operation, maintenance, site remediation, closure and abandonment of
6 the facilities and activities described in paragraph 1 of this
7 subsection.

8 3. When a deleterious substance from a Commission-regulated
9 facility or activity enters a point source discharge of pollutants
10 or storm water from a facility or activity regulated by the
11 Department of Environmental Quality, the Department shall have sole
12 jurisdiction over the point source discharge of the commingled
13 pollutants and storm water from the two facilities or activities
14 insofar as Department-regulated facilities and activities are
15 concerned.

16 4. For purposes of the Federal Clean Water Act, any facility or
17 activity which is subject to the jurisdiction of the Corporation
18 Commission pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subsection and any other
19 oil and gas extraction facility or activity which requires a permit
20 for the discharge of a pollutant or storm water to waters of the
21 United States shall be subject to the direct jurisdiction of the
22 United States Environmental Protection Agency and shall not be
23 required to be permitted by the Department of Environmental Quality
24 or the Corporation Commission for such discharge.

1 5. The Corporation Commission shall have jurisdiction over:

2 a. underground storage tanks that contain antifreeze,
3 motor oil, motor fuel, gasoline, kerosene, diesel, or
4 aviation fuel and that are not located at refineries
5 or at upstream or intermediate shipment points of
6 pipeline operations, including, but not limited to,
7 tanks from which these materials are dispensed into
8 vehicles, or tanks used in wholesale or bulk
9 distribution activities, as well as leaks from pumps,
10 hoses, dispensers, and other ancillary equipment
11 associated with the tanks, whether above the ground or
12 below; provided that any point source discharge of a
13 pollutant to waters of the United States during site
14 remediation or the off-site disposal of contaminated
15 soil, media, or debris shall be regulated by the
16 Department of Environmental Quality,

17 b. aboveground storage tanks that contain antifreeze,
18 motor oil, motor fuel, gasoline, kerosene, diesel, or
19 aviation fuel and that are not located at refineries
20 or at upstream or intermediate shipment points of
21 pipeline operations, including, but not limited to,
22 tanks from which these materials are dispensed into
23 vehicles, or tanks used in wholesale or bulk
24 distribution activities, as well as leaks from pumps,

1 hoses, dispensers, and other ancillary equipment
2 associated with the tanks, whether above the ground or
3 below; provided that any point source discharge of a
4 pollutant to waters of the United States during site
5 remediation or the off-site disposal of contaminated
6 soil, media, or debris shall be regulated by the
7 Department of Environmental Quality, and

8 c. the Petroleum Storage Tank Release Environmental
9 Cleanup Indemnity Fund and Program and the Leaking
10 Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund.

11 6. The Department of Environmental Quality shall have sole
12 jurisdiction to regulate the transportation, discharge or release of
13 deleterious substances or hazardous or solid waste or other
14 pollutants from rolling stock and rail facilities. The Department
15 of Environmental Quality shall not have any jurisdiction with
16 respect to pipeline transportation of carbon dioxide.

17 7. The Department of Environmental Quality shall have sole
18 environmental jurisdiction for point and nonpoint source discharges
19 of pollutants and storm water to waters of the state from:

- 20 a. refineries, petrochemical manufacturing plants and
21 natural gas liquid extraction plants,
22 b. manufacturing of oil and gas related equipment and
23 products,
24

1 c. bulk terminals, aboveground and underground storage
2 tanks not subject to the jurisdiction of the
3 Commission pursuant to this subsection, and

4 d. other facilities, activities and sources not subject
5 to the jurisdiction of the Corporation Commission or
6 Department of Agriculture as specified by this
7 section.

8 8. The Department of Environmental Quality shall have sole
9 environmental jurisdiction to regulate air emissions from all
10 facilities and sources subject to operating permit requirements
11 under Title V of the Federal Clean Air Act as amended.

12 C. The Corporation Commission shall comply with and enforce the
13 Oklahoma Water Quality Standards.

14 D. 1. For the purpose of immediately responding to emergency
15 situations having potentially critical environmental or public
16 safety impact and resulting from activities within its jurisdiction,
17 the Commission may take whatever necessary action, without notice
18 and hearing, including the expenditure of monies from the
19 Corporation Commission Revolving Fund, to promptly respond to the
20 emergency. Such emergency expenditure shall be made pursuant to the
21 provisions of The Oklahoma Central Purchasing Act, upon such terms
22 and conditions established by the Office of Management and
23 Enterprise Services to accomplish the purposes of this section.
24 Thereafter, the Commission shall seek reimbursement from the

1 responsible person, firm or corporation for all expenditures made
2 from the Corporation Commission Revolving Fund. Any monies received
3 as reimbursement shall be deposited to the credit of the Corporation
4 Commission Revolving Fund.

5 2. The Commission shall not expend from any fund in the State
6 Treasury, in any fiscal year, for the purposes herein provided, an
7 amount of money in excess of the total sum specifically authorized
8 annually by the Legislature for such purposes. Any monies received
9 by the Commission through execution on any required surety shall not
10 be subject to such limitation on expenditure for remedial action.

11 3. Neither the Commission nor any independent contractor of the
12 Commission authorized to conduct remedial action under this section
13 shall be held liable or responsible for any damages resulting from
14 non-negligent actions reasonably necessary for conducting remedial
15 work. Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of the
16 Commission or relieve any person or persons otherwise legally
17 responsible from any obligation to prevent or remediate pollution.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.

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