

## **Horizontal Well Site Construction Rules Statement of Intent**

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management (DOGRM) is developing a new rule pertaining to horizontal well sites. The horizontal well site rule addresses the construction of well pads, of access roads, and of associated storm water management structures prior to commencement of drilling operations for horizontal wells. Well pads are surfaces that are designed and constructed to provide a stable foundation for the drilling rig and associated equipment during the drilling phase of a horizontal well, and for production facilities during the operational life of the well. Access roads provide a stable surface for moving heavy equipment from a public road to the well pad. Together, these constructed features constitute the “well site” that is the subject of this rule.

The Horizontal Well Site Construction rule will promote safety by describing the minimum design requirements for constructing a stable well pad and will prevent damage to natural resources by minimizing the potential for accelerated erosion and sedimentation. The rule will address the qualifications of personnel that develop and certify the designs, the design standards, the supporting documentation, the certification of the as-built product, and the process that will be used by the DOGRM to evaluate plan documents and the constructed site. This rule will be complimented by other future rules that will address well pad layout, simultaneous operations on a well pad, secondary containment during drilling and production operations, accidental discharge reporting, and other topics that are relevant to subsequent drilling and production operations on the constructed well pads.