

Oil and Gas Waste Management Facility Draft Rule Statement of Intent

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management (DOGRM) is developing new rules that will establish the requirements for permitting and operating a facility that will store, recycle, treat, and/or process brine and other waste substances associated with oil and gas exploration and production operations, which is not part of well operations that are permitted under ORC 1509.06 (oil and gas wells, or class II brine injection wells) or 1509.21 (enhanced recovery injection wells). New regulatory standards will be developed pursuant to authority established in section 1509.22 of the Revised Code by H.B. 59 (effective September 9, 2013). Section 1509.22 (B)(2)(a) of the Ohio Revised Code prohibits persons to store, recycle, treat, and/or process brine and other waste substances associated with oil and gas exploration and production operations without an order or permit issued by the Chief. Section 1509.22 (C) of the Ohio Revised Code requires the Chief to adopt rules regarding storage, recycling, treatment, and processing of brine and other waste substances, including rules that establish procedures and requirements for the management of the brine and other waste substances and procedures for permitting an oil and gas waste facility.

The draft Oil and Gas Waste Management Facility rules will:

- Define an oil and gas waste facility;
- Establish design and construction requirements for oil and gas waste facilities;
- Establish the information necessary to apply for a permit to construct and a permit to operate an oil and gas waste facility;
- Describe the requirements for disclosure of supporting design considerations, analyses and reports;
- Define the processes used by the DOGRM to evaluate and issue permits for construction and operation of the oil and gas waste facilities;
- Establish operational and reporting requirements and standards for an oil and gas waste facility;
- Describe the classification, characterization, and tracking documentation requirements for oil and gas waste substances;
- Establish bonding and insurance requirements; and
- Establish the closure and reclamation standards for oil and gas waste facilities.

The purpose of the rules will be to prevent injury or damage to public health, safety and the environment and to ensure that brine and other waste substances are properly managed and disposed.