

# Oil and Gas Division

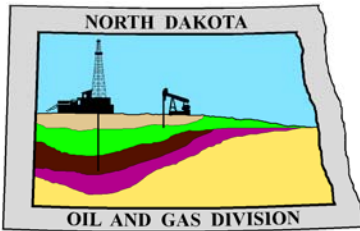
Lynn D. Helms - Director      Bruce E. Hicks - Assistant Director

## Department of Mineral Resources

Lynn D. Helms - Director

## North Dakota Industrial Commission

[www.oilgas.nd.gov](http://www.oilgas.nd.gov)



October 1, 2014

RE: **APD GAS CAPTURE PLAN REQUIRED**

To all Operators:

Note this letter is a revision to the Commission's previous Gas Capture Plan (GCP) letter dated May 8, 2014.

A GCP must accompany every Application for a Permit to Drill (APD) and permit renewal request to complete any well within any target in the Bakken petroleum system. The plan is required as part of the North Dakota Industrial Commission's policy to reduce gas flaring which was adopted on March 3, 2014 and revised by Commission Order No. 24665 effective July 1, 2014.

The GCP must contain the following information:

1. An affidavit signed by a company representative indicating:
  - a. The name of the gas gatherer the company met with.
  - b. That the company supplied the gas gatherer with the following information:
    - i. Anticipated completion date of well(s).
    - ii. Anticipated production rates of well(s).
2. A detailed gas gathering pipeline system location map which depicts the following information.
  - a. Name and location of the destination processing plant.
  - b. Name of gas gatherer and location of lines for each gas gatherer in the map vicinity.
  - c. The approximate route to connect the subject well(s) to an existing gas line.
3. Information on the existing gas gathering system, to which operator proposes to connect to, including:
  - a. Maximum current daily capacity of the existing gas line or compressor.
  - b. Current throughput of the existing gas line or compressor.
  - c. Anticipated daily capacity of existing gas line or compressor at date of first gas sales.
  - d. Anticipated throughput of existing gas line or compressor at date of first gas sales.
  - e. Gas gatherer issues or expansion plans for the area.

4. A detailed flowback strategy including:
  - a. Anticipated date of first production.
  - b. Anticipated oil and gas rates and duration. If well is on a multi-well pad, include total for all wells being completed.
  
5. Amount of gas the company is currently flaring:
  - a. State-wide percentage of gas flared (total gas flared/total gas produced) for existing wells producing from the Bakken petroleum system. Note the Commission's approved gas capture goals are to reduce flaring to 26% by October 1, 2014, 23% by January 1, 2015, 15% by January 1, 2016, and 10% by October 1, 2020.
  - b. Field-wide percentage of gas flared.
  
6. Alternatives to flaring (if the operator is not meeting the gas capture goal):
  - a. Explain specific alternate systems the company is considering.
  - b. Detail expected flaring reductions if such plans are implemented.

Permit consideration may be delayed or stipulations imposed if applicant is unable to timely connect the subject well(s) and alternatives to reduce the amount of flared gas will not be implemented.

The NDIC believes a concerted effort by operators in North Dakota is necessary to reduce the volume of flared gas, reduce the number of wells flaring, and reduce duration of flaring of wells, which will ultimately meet our goal to encourage and promote the development, production, and utilization of oil and gas in the state in such a manner as will prevent waste, maximize economic recovery, and fully protect the correlative rights of all owners to the end that the landowners, the royalty owners, the producers, and the general public realize the greatest possible good from these vital natural resources.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact our office.

Sincerely,

*Todd L. Holweger*

DMR Permit Manager