

2016 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 165

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

CONSERVATION. Requires landowner notification when an operator transfers an oil or gas well. (8/1/16)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 30:91(B)(1) and to enact R.S. 30:28(J), relative to the
3 commissioner of conservation; to require notification to certain landowners; to
4 provide for orphaned oilfield sites; to provide for requirements of drilling permits;
5 and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 30:91(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 30:28(J) is
8 hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §28. Drilling permits; issuance; fees; location plat; notice and hearing; funds from
10 drilling permit fees

11 * * *

12 **J. Prior to issuance of an amended permit to transfer a well to another**
13 **operator, the commissioner shall require that the prospective operator identify**
14 **on a form approved by the commissioner the surface owner of lands on which**
15 **the well is located.**

16 * * *

17 §91. Orphaned oilfield sites

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2 B.(1) Prior to declaring a site to be an orphaned oilfield site, the assistant
3 secretary shall seek to notify the last operator of record, at his last known address
4 contained in the department records, of the site that is to be declared orphaned and
5 shall publish a notice in the Louisiana Register that the oilfield site is to be declared
6 orphaned. **Additionally, the assistant secretary shall seek to notify the surface**
7 **owner of the site that is to be declared orphaned when the department has been**
8 **provided such information pursuant to R.S. 30:28.** If resolution of a factual
9 dispute is requested by any owner or operator, the assistant secretary shall hold a
10 fact-finding hearing prior to declaring the site orphaned and the assistant secretary
11 shall make any fact determination necessary to resolve the dispute.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

DIGEST

SB 165 Original

2016 Regular Session

Allain

Proposed law requires that the commissioner of conservation to require the prospective oilfield site operator identify, on a form approved by the commissioner, the surface owner of lands on which the well is located, prior to issuance of an amended permit to transfer a well to another operator.

Present law requires the commissioner to seek to notify the last operator of record, at his last known address contained in the department records, of the site that is to be declared orphaned and shall publish a notice in the Louisiana Register that the oilfield site is to be declared orphaned, prior to declaring a site to be an orphaned oilfield site.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally requires the commissioner to seek to notify the surface owner of the site that is to be declared orphaned when the department has been provided such information pursuant to proposed law.

Effective August 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 30:91(B)(1); adds R.S. 30:28(J))