NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON RULEMAKING PETITION AND SOLICITATION OF VIEWS ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RELATING TO AIR EMISSIONS FROM OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION FACILITIES

TAKE NOTICE that the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is soliciting comments and will hold a public hearing on the rules relating to air emissions from oil and gas production facilities. The hearing will be held at the DEQ’s Environmental Training Center, 2639 East Main Avenue, Bismarck, ND, on November 12, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. CT.

The purpose of soliciting comments and holding a public comment hearing under N.D.C.C. § 28-32-16 is to provide an opportunity for citizens and stakeholders to voice concerns and contribute input on the DEQ’s consideration of two related issues: 1) the pending Rulemaking Petition to amend N.D. Admin. Code § 33.1-15-07-02(1) filed by Continental Resources, Inc.; and 2) the DEQ’s anticipated adoption of the federal new source performance standards for crude oil and natural gas, 40 C.F.R. Part 60, Subpart OOOO (Quad O) and Subpart OOOOa (Quad Oa). In particular, the DEQ is seeking comments on the following questions:

- How do recent EPA rulemakings involving Quad O and Quad Oa impact DEQ’s anticipated adoption of these rules?

- Anticipating that the DEQ adopts Quad O and Quad Oa, should it: 1) amend N.D. Admin. Code § 33.1-15-07-02(1) as requested in the Petition for Rulemaking, 2) amend N.D. Admin. § 33.1-15-07-02(1) in a different way, or 3) not amend N.D. Admin. Code § 33.1-15-07-02(1)?

- If the DEQ decides to undertake rulemaking to both adopt Quad O and Quad Oa and amend N.D. Admin. § 33.1-15-07-02(1), should the DEQ conduct one proceeding, or should it first adopt Quad O and Quad Oa and obtain EPA’s approval for implementing those rules before proposing any amendments to N.D. Admin. Code § 33.1-15-07-02(1)?

- Any other relevant questions or technical issues may also be addressed at the public hearing.

The Rulemaking Petition and associated documents may be viewed at the DEQ’s office at 918 East Divide Ave, Bismarck, ND 58501 or on the DEQ’s website at https://deq.nd.gov/AQ/PublicCom.aspx. A copy may be requested by writing to the above address or by calling the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality at 701-328-5188.
Public participation matters and is essential to developing more effective rules and regulations. The DEQ strives to draft environmental protection rules based on the science and the law, but it also counts on the public and other technical and nontechnical groups to identify flaws and find solutions to reach the optimal outcome of protective, yet reasonable, regulations without unintended consequences. Written comments may be directed to the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality, 918 E Divide Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58501-1947 or by email to AirQuality@nd.gov.

Make your public comments count. Visit https://deq.nd.gov/PublicCommentTips.aspx for helpful tips about submitting effective public comments.

Written and oral comments received by December 13, 2019, will be fully considered.

If you plan to attend the public hearing and will need special facilities or assistance relating to a disability, please contact the DEQ at the above address or (701) 328-5188 or by email to AirQuality@nd.gov at least seven days prior to the public hearing.

Dated this 11th day of October 2019.

James Semerad, Director
Division of Air Quality
North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality