

Public Comment Instructions

The public comment period shall begin 7 calendar days after the Department's receipt of the permit application and last for 30 calendar days. Any person may file written comments concerning any portion of the permit application and any issue relating to the applicant's compliance with of the Hydraulic Fracturing Regulatory Act, the Illinois Oil and Gas Act and the administrative rules promulgated under those Acts.

All public comments must include the review number assigned by the Department and must be received by the Office of Oil and Gas Management by 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the applicable public comment period stated in the public notice to be eligible for consideration during the permit review process.

Written public comments may be filed via mail at: **Department of Natural Resources, Attention Oil and Gas Regulatory Staff, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield IL 62702** or electronically at: DNR.HFPublicComments@illinois.gov

When a public Hearing is conducted under Section 245.270, the Department shall provide an additional public comment period to allow for comments in response only to evidence and testimony presented at the hearing. This period shall begin on the day after the close of evidence at the public hearing and last for no more than 15 days, taking into consideration that the Department shall have no more than 60 days from the date it receives the permit application to approve or reject the permit application. The comments may be filed at the same locations mention above.

Hearing Request Instructions

Any person having an interest that is or may be adversely affected, any government agency that is or may be affected, or the county board of a county to be affected under this proposed permit may file a written request for a public hearing on the permit application. The Request shall be served by electronic Mail or certified mail, return receipt requested, upon the Hearing Officer, the Department, and the applicant.

Should a request for public hearing for the application mentioned above be filed; the mailing addresses to file a request will be: **Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Legal Counsel, Attention HF Hearing Officer, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702** and the **Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Oil and Gas Regulatory Staff, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield IL 62702** or **both requests can be filed at the following e-mail address: DNR.HFHearingRequest@illinois.gov** . **The request must also be filed at the applicant's address mentioned in the notice.** All requests shall contain all of the elements identified in 62 Illinois Administrative Code Section 245.270(a)(3) and must be received by the Department before 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the public comment period.

The request for hearing shall contain a short and plain statement:

- A) stating the permit review number and acknowledging the date, time and location of the hearing;
- B) *identifying the person, government agency or county and:*
 - i) if a person, *stating facts demonstrating that the person has an interest that is or may be adversely affected* (Section 1-50(a) of the Act);
 - ii) if a government agency, stating facts demonstrating that the government agency is or may be affected by the proposed permit; and
 - iii) if a county, stating facts demonstrating that it will be affected by the proposed permit;
- C) identifying each objection to, or concern with, the permit application and, to the extent possible, explaining the specific fact or facts upon which each objection or concern is based;
- D) referencing any statute, Section and/or regulation upon which each objection or concern is based;
- E) hearing requestors are encouraged, in addition, to list:
 - i) known witnesses that will or may be called at the hearing, including, if possible, their name, address and phone number, and a summary of their expected testimony and, if any witness will be used as an expert, documentation (e.g., a curriculum vitae) or statement of that witness' relevant qualifications; and
 - ii) if known at the time of the request for hearing, any documents supporting any objection or concern. The disclosure of witnesses and documents is not required to request a hearing, but the Department, to facilitate the orderly presentation of facts, will provide optional space for that information on the Department prescribed hearing request form.

All requests for hearing should include copies of any documents referenced in subsection (a)(3)(E)(ii).

Prior to, but not less than 2 business days before, the commencement of a public hearing under this Section, any person who could have requested the hearing under subsection (a)(1) may petition the Department to participate in the hearing in the same manner as the party requesting the hearing. The petition shall be in writing and meet the requirements for requests for hearing set forth in subsection (a)(3). The petitioner shall serve the petition by electronic mail or certified mail, return receipt requested, upon the Department, the Hearing Officer, and the applicant. The

petitioner shall be allowed to participate in the hearing in the same manner as the party requesting the hearing if the petition meets the requirements set forth in subsection (a)(3). (Section 1-50(b) of the Act). Requests to Participate in the hearing shall be served at same mailing and electronic addresses mentioned in the Hearing Request instructions above.