

**Michelle Lujan Grisham**, Governor  
**Sarah Cottrell Propst**, Cabinet Secretary  
**Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD**, Deputy Cabinet Secretary  
**Adrienne Sandoval**, Oil Conservation Division Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**July 27, 2020**

## **Oil Conservation Commission to hold hearing on updates to produced water rules**

**Santa Fe, NM** – The Oil Conservation Commission (OCC) will hold a public hearing on proposed changes to rules governing produced water on July 30th and 31st via webcast and telephone. The proposed rule changes align existing rule language governing produced water with 2019's Produced Water Act. The proposed rules also require additional reporting to better track the types and volumes of water used within oil and gas industry operations. The rule changes are being proposed by the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) Oil Conservation Division (OCD).

The Produced Water Act limits OCD jurisdiction to the reuse of produced water only within the oil and gas industry. The proposed rules clarify this jurisdictional change. The rule change does not authorize the use of produced water outside of the oil and gas industry.

The proposed rule changes also require additional reporting on the types and volumes of water being used in oil and gas operations, providing the OCD with better data on current water use practices. Collecting this data is a crucial step to inform future rule proposals on produced water within the oil and gas industry.

The [public hearing](#) is scheduled for July 30<sup>th</sup> but may be continued on the 31<sup>st</sup> if not completed. Information for joining can be found here:

**July 30, 9:00 am:**

OCC – (Day 1) Produced Water Rule Making Hearing  
Meeting number: 967 682 712  
Password: R4SpDXpeu49  
<https://nmemnrd.webex.com/nmemnrd/j.php?MTID=m6572062a0ff431b8f7a815b6edf74af0>

Join by phone  
+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll  
Access code: 967 682 712

**July 31, 9:00 am (If necessary):**

OCC – (Day 2) Produced Water Rule Making Hearing

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Meeting number: 963 288 479

Password: ZjiqP9PET32

<https://nmemnrd.webex.com/nmemnrd/j.php?MTID=m2854bda11fb429c3fd553e90c6707a8f>

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<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us>