Further Information: Monitoring and Protecting Groundwater During Oil and Gas Development

University of Colorado Boulder. Natural Resources Law Center. Intermountain Oil and Gas BMP Project

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Monitoring and Protecting Groundwater During Oil and Gas Development

**November 26, 2012**
University of Colorado Law School
Boulder, Colorado

The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) recently initiated a rule making process to develop new, statewide regulations for baseline sampling and monitoring of groundwater near new oil and gas wells. COGCC’s first rule making hearing was held November 14; the rule is expected to be finalized December 10. This workshop discussed oil and gas development procedures that can impact groundwater, the current rules that protect groundwater, those being proposed by COGCC, and other options.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

**COGCC**
Information webpage: Statewide Water Sampling and Monitoring Rulemaking (10/16/2012)
Notice of COGCC Rulemaking Hearing
Rule 609: Statewide groundwater baseline sampling and monitoring proposed rules
Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) Recommended Rule 609 for Colorado
Appendix A: Sampling and Analysis Plan
Comparison Table of COGCC and Alternative Rule 609 Proposals
Colorado Hydraulic Fracturing State Review (Oct. 2011), by the State Review of Oil and Natural Gas Environmental Regulations, Inc. (STRONGER)

**RULES AND PROPOSED RULES FROM OTHER JURISDICTIONS**
Summary of State Groundwater Sampling Rules
Recommended Practices for Pre-Drill Water Supply Surveys, Marcellus Shale Coalition
Longmont Ordinance O-2012-25 Oil and Gas Regulations (See especially section w. (Special Development Standards), part x. (Water Quality Testing and Monitoring))
Boulder County Draft Oil and Gas Regulations (See Attachment A.1 Development Plan Review for Oil and Gas Operations)
New York Proposed Rule for Water Well Testing

**SAMPLING PROTOCOLS**
Comparison of sampling parameters from various jurisdictions and proposals
Sampling parameters, information provided by GatewayEnterprises/John Huntington, Ph.D.
Gallery of photos for water well sampling

**IMPACTS**
Unconventional Oil and Gas Development: Key Environmental and Public Health Requirements, United States Government Accountability Office (GAO)
See Table 12, page 193 of the report for comparison of water well identification and testing for CO, ND, OH, PA, TX and WY
Updated Trend and Data Analysis, San Juan Basin Water Quality Analysis Project, San Juan, Colorado