



The COGCC commits itself to take the necessary steps to achieve clear and concise communication between regulators and operators. In short, we strive for greater compliance through clarity.

As the source of the most up to date information on oil and gas regulation for Colorado, the COGCC offers the operator a full set of compliance resources [here](#).

The Compliance ‘Sticky Note Series’:

Rule 912 Flaring and Venting

Venting or flaring may be a necessary part of well completions, productivity testing, upset conditions or workover operations. Nonetheless, an operator will sometimes land in hot water (in the world of regulatory relations) for two major reasons.

First, any flaring requires that local emergency response or local government designees be notified. Second, prior approval from the COGCC is required when there is no gas sales infrastructure in place.

Operators are allowed to vent or flare gas during upset conditions, well maintenance, well stimulation flowback, or purging operations.

For a nice array of compliance resources on venting and flaring, see the guidance here ([Notice to Operators](#)) and the regulations here ([900 Series Rules](#)).

INDUSTRY OPERATIONS MEETINGS

Next Scheduled Date:
December 14 from 9AM - 11AM
in the Wasatch Conference Room:
1120 Lincoln St., Denver, 8th Floor

Join by Zoom or Telephone:
Dial +1 408 638 0968
or +1 646 558 8656
if telephone only.
Or use your browser
<https://zoom.us/j/9175751801>
to connect to the online meeting.

Future Meeting Dates:
All starting at 9AM —
January 24
February 14
March 22

Meet the Operator

Jimmy Walker, Petron Development Company

We dedicate this space to the personal stories of operators in our state, stories that they have told in their own words. Below are the highlights from our recent conversation with Jimmy Walker.

Meet The Operator (MTO): How did Petron Development Company end up in Colorado?



Jimmy and His Family Photographed This Year in Denver

JW: My father was a petroleum geologist and worked in the oil fields of Texas and Arizona before he moved to Colorado where he met and eventually married my mother. When he struck out on his own, he would do well site geology for a small interest in the well. Later, he started buying oil and gas assets in Yuma and Washington Counties. He also developed some of his own locations.

MTO: So this was a family business in the traditional sense?

JW: You bet. My brother Ron and I worked in my dad’s business for many years, and it was tough going in the beginning. The joke was that if we worked really hard during the year, he would give us a half day off on Christmas [laughs].

My father really enjoyed prospecting for oil and gas – that was his geologist training – but he was not the type of business owner who liked handling the day to day finances or the field operations side. So naturally my brother and I took on those roles over time.

We are now in business as both a contract operator and an owner operator.

MTO: What is something that those in the industry who know you may not realize about you, Jimmy Walker the private citizen?

JW: Two things. First, until very recently, I played drums in a rock n roll band. It’s no mystery that music is a real passion of mine. I would say “I’m not a drummer. But I do play one in a band...” [laughs]

But if you want to know my real weakness, look no farther than the ballfield. For years and years, I was a batting coach for youth softball in Denver. Softball was my daughter’s sport. It was beyond awesome to watch those little ones grow into adulthood and observe the influences we had on their development.

Five Star Compliance: Self Disclosure

The COGCC encourages voluntary self-disclosure of compliance issues through rules and policies that may reduce penalties for self-reported violations. An operator can self-report in two ways.

1. An operator can bring a compliance issue to the COGCC's attention, on a case-by-case basis, as soon as the Operator learns of it. Assuming this issue is not something the COGCC has brought to the operator's attention previously, voluntary self-reporting is a mitigating factor that may lower a penalty, should one be assessed. Timely correction of any on-going violations will always be a requirement for any penalty mitigation.
2. An operator can implement a regulatory compliance program which is designed to systematically and regularly review an operator's activities looking for compliance issues. Just like the first situation, when an issue is identified, the operator is required to promptly report the issue to the COGCC. Self-disclosure pursuant to a qualifying regulatory compliance program entitles an operator to a penalty reduction of **at least** 35 percent. See Rules 522, 523. Again, the COGCC will require the operator to work to correct issues in a timely manner.

More information on outstanding compliance regarding self-reporting can be found here ([COGCC Rules 522 and 523](#)) as well as here ([the Enforcement Guidance and Penalty Policy](#)) – each available on the COGCC website.

KNOW YOUR COGCC!

In Person:
Next Commission Hearing scheduled for 9AM, Dec 12 at 1120 Lincoln St., Denver, 8th Floor

By Internet:
Updated Daily at <http://cogcc.state.co.us/>

By Phone:
Available 8AM – 5PM
Monday through Friday
303.894.2100

By E-mail:
dnr_cogcc_outreach@state.co.us

Question or Comments?

Since this is our first Operator Newsletter, we want to listen to what you, the reader, have to say. Send us your suggestions for how we can make the content more helpful to YOU when we send out the second issue. Write us at dnr_cogcc_outreach@state.co.us

Remember to direct questions or comments you have, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, to the COGCC Outreach Office: dnr_cogcc_outreach@state.co.us