

## **PERMITTING & TECHNICAL SERVICES UNIT**

### **DRILLING PERMITS & WELL REPORTS**

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#### **Drilling Permits**

The COGCC requires an Application for Permit-to-Drill (APD), Form 2, for every well drilled in the state. Each APD requires the following information, along with supporting documentation:

#### Physical aspects of the proposed well

- Surface location – latitude, longitude, and footages relative to governmental survey
- Subsurface location – depths and footages relative to governmental survey
- Hole size – diameter of hole to be drilled
- Casing size – diameter and weight of pipe to be set
- Cement volume – amount of cement to be used to set the casing in the hole

#### Drilling Operations

- Indicate proximity to existing wells
- Describe drilling mud system, including mud type and whether closed loop system will be used
- Describe waste management program for drilling fluids and cuttings
- Indicate applicable groundwater sampling rule

#### Surface and mineral ownership

- Identification of whether the surface and minerals are owned privately, or by the state or federal government
- Basis for the applicant's right to use the surface to construct the location and drill a well
- Lease description

#### Distances from cultural features

- Distance from the proposed location of the wellhead to the nearest: building, building unit, high occupancy building unit, designated outside activity area, public road, above ground utility, railroad, and/or property line
- Applicable Designated Setback Location determinations

# DRILLING PERMITS

## Objective reservoir development

- Objective geologic formations
- Distances from unit boundary and nearest well
- Applicable unit and spacing information

## **Drilling Permit Reviews**

Each APD is reviewed by the COGCC's Permitting Group and Engineering Group. These reviews ensure that the proposed well is in compliance with Commission rules, orders, and policies.

### The Permitting Group verifies:

- Accuracy of described distances, surface and mineral ownership, and spacing
- Validity of right to construct
- Consistency with Oil & Gas Location Assessment, Form 2A for the wellsite

### The Engineering Group verifies:

- Integrity of well design – casing and cement
- Accuracy of offset well evaluation and remediation of offset wells

Either group may apply a Condition of Approval to the permit for any particular aspect of the proposed well that requires a specific operational condition or constraint in order to ensure the well will be operated in a manner protective of public health, safety, and welfare, including the environment and wildlife resources.

## **Other Permits**

The COGCC also requires operators to submit permit applications and obtain prior approval for many other oil and gas activities: building a location, installing production facilities, constructing a pit, conducting a seismic survey, operating a centralized waste management facility, operating an injection facility, and plugging a well.

## **Well Reports**

After a well has been drilled, the COGCC requires the operator to submit a Drilling Completion Report, Form 5 to provide the details of the well construction: the actual surface and subsurface locations, the actual depth, and the casing and cement.

Each Form 5 is reviewed by the COGCC's Permitting Group and Engineering Group. These reviews ensure that the well was drilled in compliance with the permit as well as with Commission rules, orders, and policies.

After a well has been completed, the COGCC requires the operator to submit a Completed Interval Report, Form 5A to provide the details of the completion: the geologic formation(s), the depths of the perforations, the formation treatment (including hydraulic fracture stimulation), and the initial production test results.

Each Form 5A is reviewed by the COGCC's Permitting Group to ensure that the well was completed in compliance with the permit as well as with Commission rules, orders, and policies.