

Produced Water Management in New Mexico

Rebecca Roose, NMED Water Protection Division Director

ECOS Spring Meeting March 16, 2021

Photo credit Rhett Zyla #lamN/MED



Regulatory Landscape in New Mexico

Within O&G NM Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Dept, Oil Conservation Division

• Transport, storage, disposal (incl. UIC class II), recycling, EOR, spills

Outside O&G NM Environment Department

- Discharge, handling, transport, storage, treatment for use outside O&G (under future regulations)
- Jurisdiction covers water quality protection related to produced water and byproducts of treatment process

Outside O&G U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (no permits in NM for produced water discharge) Investing in Science and Innovation

BE BOLD. Shape the Future. New Mexico State University

ed Water Research Consortiun

New Mexico Environment Departn			tment		Contact Information: (505) 827-2855 MAIN // 1-800-219-6157 (toll free) Environmental Emergencies: 505-827-9329 (24 hrs)	
Wate	r Waste	Health & Safety	Cleanups	Permits and Licenses	Services & Assistance	NewsMore
Neu	v Mexic	o Produced	Water	a		
NM Environment Department Produced Water			House Bill 546, which includes the <u>Produced Water Act</u> , went into effect July 1, 2019. Produced water is defined in the Produced Water Act as "fluid that is an incidental byproduct from drilling for or the production of oil and gas." Most produced water is naturally occurring, highly saline water that is recovered during oil and gas production. Produced water way also include fluids that were used during drilling, such as hydraulic fracturing fluids. Over 42 billion gallons of produced water water created in New Mexico's Permian Basin in 2018 alone.			
In the News						
NM Produced Water Research Consortium			NMED hosted public meetings in October and November 2019 along with representatives from the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) and the Office of the State Engineer (OSE) to provide stakeholders with information on produced water and the upcoming rulemaking process. This public engagement process provided opportunities for			
Public Participation						
Public E	Public Engagement Meeting Materials		stakeholders to share input with state officials on the range of critical environmental, natural resource and human health considerations involved in the implementation of the Produced Water Act.			
Resourc	Resources		"Our goal is to create regulations that are protective of human health and the environment, reduce industry reliance on fresh water and encourage science-based and innovative			
FAOr		solutions," said NMED Cabinet Secretary James Kenney. "To that end, we are including a				

Filling the science and technology gaps:

- What contaminants are in the produced water generated in NM?
- How can the produced water be treated to be safe for fit-for-purpose use?
- What changes are needed to our state water quality standards to protect water resources and human health?

https://www.env.nm.gov/new -mexico-produced-water/

