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Powder River Basin Resource Council
934 North Main Street
Sheridan WY 82801

Is Oil and Gas Drilling Coming to Your Neighborhood?



The Powder River Basin Resource Council and our Laramie County affiliate, Cheyenne Area Landowners Coalition (CALC), works with home and business-owners to advocate for increased setbacks and improved measures to mitigate air pollution and other quality of life impacts from noise, lights and traffic.

In addition to the rules discussed in this pamphlet, there are many other rules that apply to oil and gas companies, including flaring and venting requirements and protection of surface owners or split estate landowners and mineral owner rights. You should familiarize yourself with all of the rules oil and gas companies have to comply with. Visit - <http://wogcc.state.wy.us/> or contact our office.

Join our efforts by becoming a member.

IF YOU NEED HELP AND HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CONTACT US:

Cheyenne Area Landowners Coalition
307-274-1084
Email: cquinn@powderriverbasin.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CheyenneCoalition/>
Website: www.cheyennecoalition.org

Powder River Basin Resource Council
307-672-5809
Email: info@powderriverbasin.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PowderRiverBasinResourceCouncil>
Website: www.powderriverbasin.org

Protect Your Water

Oil and gas companies are required to submit a groundwater baseline sampling and monitoring plan with an Application for Permit to Drill (“APD”). Wyoming law requires companies to do three rounds of water tests for water wells or other water sources within one-half mile of a proposed oil and gas well - but only from water sources identified in the company’s sampling plan.

You should request a copy of the water testing plan from the WOGCC or the oil and gas company. If your well is not included, you should ask the company to include it in their sampling plan. **Even if your well is included in the sampling plan, you should consider getting your well independently tested to establish your water quality prior to development.** This will be important to protect your rights if your water becomes contaminated during or after drilling.

How Close Can an Oil and Gas Well be Located Near Your Home or a School?

According to the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (WOGCC) rules, an oil and gas well, as measured from the center of the wellhead or the corner of any Production Facilities, should not be located closer than five hundred feet (500') to the closest corner or wall of an existing home, business, or school. This is called a "setback" distance. **However, a homeowner can request a greater setback to be approved by the WOGCC Supervisor.** If you know a company has applied for an Application for Permit to Drill ("APD") in your area, get a copy of that permit from the WOGCC or the company and evaluate the need for a greater setback. Our staff can help you with this evaluation. There will be a short timeline for making a request for a greater setback so it is important to act quickly if you know an APD is pending in your neighborhood.

Alternatively, the setback distance and other measures in the setback rule will not be required if the owner of the home or business waives this requirement, in writing. A waiver can be included in any document requiring a signature provided by an oil and gas company.

DO NOT SIGN any documents you have not carefully read and fully understand. You may inadvertently give up your rights to protect your health and safety.

What Information Must an Oil and Gas Company Provide to Owner(s) of Nearby Homes?

If a proposed well or production facility is located within 1,000 feet of an existing home, the oil and gas company must notify the owner of the home of the following:

- a. Name and contact information of the owner and operator of the well
- b. Its plan to drill a new well(s) and the estimated construction, drilling, and completion time line;
- c. The specific location of the well(s) within the county;
- d. The name and details of constructing and operating the new well(s); AND
- e. A mitigation plan which is a description of specific measures the oil and gas company plans to undertake to minimize possible impacts to the owner of the home near the wellsite.

You should review the mitigation plan and request, in writing, any additional measures you feel should be included to prevent noise, light, dust, and other impacts, including risk of blowouts and other industrial accidents.

This notification must happen no less than 30 days and no more than 180 days before construction of a drilling pad or site for production facilities.

Your Right to Participate in Oil & Gas Mitigation Meetings

The oil and gas industry is required to hold meetings to discuss what development is planned near your home and what mitigation measures you can ask for. Once wells are approved, the oil and gas company, with the WOGCC Supervisor, must schedule community meetings to inform homeowners of development plans within 1,000 feet of homes.

The oil and gas company must also notify the appropriate county commission, through the county clerk's office, of any meeting scheduled.

You should plan to attend all of these meetings. You should also communicate with your local government about impacts in your area.

The oil and gas operator must report to the WOGCC supervisor the actions taken to communicate with the homeowners **15 days before the well construction**, and any comments received from the homeowners regarding best management practices and measures to minimize impacts of drilling.

The supervisor may waive this requirement for an Owner or Operator if the owner(s) of all Homes within the 1000 foot area waive this requirement, in writing, on a form approved by the Commission.

JOIN US TODAY!

As a member of the Powder River Basin Resource Council, you join a long tradition of citizen stewards looking out for Wyoming's future. We need your talent, your participation, and your support to continue our vital work.

ANNUAL DUES

\$20 Students/Seniors	\$100 Supporting
\$30 Individuals	\$250 Contributing
\$50 Family	\$500 Benefactor

JOIN OUR LOCAL AFFILIATE (Additional \$5.00)

Cheyenne Area Landowners Coalition,
Laramie County, (CALC)

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE AND ZIP

PHONE

Email

Powder River is a non-profit organization. All gifts are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

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