



COLORADO
Oil & Gas Conservation
Commission
 Department of Natural Resources

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Local Government Designee and Local Government Liaisons

LGD's are the primary contact point between COGCC and local governments.

- LGD program is unique to Colorado – first instituted in 1992, LGL program added in 2012.
- 160 local governmental entities currently participate.
- They have specific rights and opportunities to participate in permitting, enforcement, and other COGCC processes.

LGL's attend public meetings, local government hearings, facilitate communication between stakeholders, provide trainings, and publish a quarterly newsletter.

Local Government Participation

Well Location and Permit Process

LGDs may request:

- Pre-application meeting with operators with proposed locations in Urban Mitigation Areas or Exception Zones;
- Extension of the comment period on Form 2 and 2As from 20 to 30 days;
- Extension of the comment period in Urban Mitigation Area or within 500 feet of a Building Unit from 20 to 40 days;
- Consultation with CDPHE regarding public health, safety, welfare, and the environment;
- Consultation with the operator and COGCC related to the location of roads, production facilities, and well sites, as well as mitigation measures and Best Management Practices, during the comment period; and
- Hearing before the Commission to object to the issuance of a permit.

LGDs are also notified when Form 2s and 2As are available for review.

Notification of Oil and Gas Operations

LGDs receive notification of:

- The beginning of the comment period;
- The approval of a permit;
- Operations with heavy equipment (at least 30 days prior to those operations);
- The start of drilling a well (“spud”);
- Hydraulic fracturing (at least 48-hours prior to the treatment);
- Flaring of gas during drilling;
- Change in operator status for permitted wells and locations;
- Baseline water quality sampling data, upon request from the operator; and
- In-place pipeline abandonment.

Notification and Participation in Hearings

- LGDs are notified of adjudicatory proceedings.
- LGDs may intervene as a matter of right in adjudicatory hearings.

Special Programs or Conditions

- LGDs may consult in the development of Comprehensive Drilling Plans.
- LGDs may request a Local Public Forum on applications for increased well density.
- Local governments or others may apply for “Designated Outside Activity Area” status, which creates an increased setback distance and mitigation measures.
- Local governments are involved in the development of:
 - Geographic Area Plans.
 - Coalbed Methane monitoring plans and locally-specific field orders.

Memorandums of Understanding/Operator Agreements

Types of things MOU's have stipulated to:

- Best Management Practices.
- Emergency Preparedness Plans.
- Additional pit standards, including setbacks.
- County and operator meetings.
- Air and water quality sampling.
- Traffic requirements (e.g. approval for overweight trucks).
- Provisions for plugging specific wells during certain time periods.

Local governments with MOUs (10 Total, some may have multiple)

- Arapahoe County
- City and County of Broomfield
- Commerce City, Elbert County
- Town of Erie
- City of Fort Collins
- Town of Hudson
- City of Longmont
- LaPlata County
- Greeley

Public Participation

Adjudicatory Hearing

- Any person may address the Commission during a hearing.
- Any person may submit written comments on Applications for Permits to Drill.
- Any person can request, through their LGD, a hearing on an APD or alleged rule violations.
- Any person adversely affected or aggrieved may request the Director to issue a Notice of Alleged Violation.

Rulemaking

- Any person may petition the Commission for a rulemaking.
- Any person may participate as a party in a rulemaking.
- Any person may participate as a stakeholder in a pre-rulemaking process.