



# Oil and Gas Division

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[www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/](http://www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/)

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Administrative Rules Committee Approves Rule Changes Rules Take Effect April 1, 2014**

Bismarck- The 2013-2014 changes to the Oil & Gas Administrative Code are now final. The final rules were presented yesterday to the Legislature's Administrative Rules Committee and after no further action taken by the Committee; the rules will take effect on April 1, 2014.

More than 40 sections of code have either been modified or added during the latest rule change cycle. Highlights of the changes include, providing the Oil & Gas Division additional oversight in gathering pipelines, strengthening the state's spill reporting and notification requirements, and broadening regulations relating to treating plants for oil field waste.

“If you look at the changes that were made in 2012, you'd see those rules primarily focused on technology improvements and environmental protections beneath the surface. The 2014 changes that were adopted continue to evolve with technology, however, these changes focused on environmental protections above ground,” said Oil & Gas Assistant Director, Bruce Hicks.

The division changes rules every two years, following the Legislative session. Final rules can be found on the division website at <https://www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/or23159.pdf>.

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