



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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Notice to Oil and Gas Operators

Re: Cultural Resource Inventories

In order to comply with Utah Code Ann § 9-8-404, the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (“the Division”) must require additional information from operators upon submittal of new Applications for Permit to Drill (“APD”) regarding their efforts to protect the cultural resources of the State of Utah. Effective immediately with the date of this notice, any new APD submitted to the Division for a well to be drilled on Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands (“trust lands”) will require, as an addendum to the APD, either:

- (1) A copy of the completed cultural resource inventory for the affected trust lands*, or
- (2) Written documentation (meaning a certified statement, an affidavit, or a copy of letter from authorized official) showing that a review of the cultural resource inventory for the lands affected by the proposed well has already been completed in accordance with the process prescribed by the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (“SITLA”) and the Utah State Historical Preservation Officer (“SHPO”).

When the Division receives a new APD for wells on trust lands, the Division will transmit an electronic copy of the complete APD to SITLA as soon as practical. If not already accomplished, SITLA will allow the SHPO a reasonable opportunity to comment with regard to a well to be drilled on trust lands. If SITLA requires further action by the operator to achieve § 9-8-404 compliance, then SITLA will inform both the operator and the Division, and the APD can either be held by the Division or withdrawn at the operator’s option until the cultural resource requirements of the trust lands lease are met.

* In lieu of a copy of the cultural resource inventory submitted with the APD, the operator may verify in writing that a copy of the cultural resource inventory for the affected trust lands has been previously submitted to SITLA for consideration. The written verification should also identify the previously submitted cultural resource inventory by report number, archeological contractor, date, or other means to correlate the APD submitted to the Division with the cultural resource inventory provided to SITLA.