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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

February 21, 2012

Notice to Oil and Gas Operators

Re: Hydraulic Fracturing/FracFocus.org

Although the process of hydraulic fracturing has been a commonly used method for obtaining production from oil and gas wells for many years in Utah and worldwide, this process has become an increasingly controversial issue with the public. Currently there are no conclusive studies that show examples of ground water contamination or public health issues resulting from hydraulic fracturing. However, there is still a great amount of public debate concerning the subject. The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining believes that in order to address some of the public anxiety concerning the process of hydraulic fracturing, it would be beneficial to the petroleum industry in Utah to voluntarily report the chemical content of hydraulic fracturing fluids to the website FracFocus (<http://fracfocus.org>).

FracFocus is the national hydraulic fracturing chemical registry website. This website is a joint project of the Ground Water Protection Council and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission. The website is both educational and informative and an excellent resource for those seeking information on hydraulic fracturing.

After a hydraulic fracture stimulation is performed, the Division would ask the operator to post on the FracFocus Chemical Disclosure Registry the following stimulation detail:

Fracture date, state, county, API number, operator name, well name, location, production type, true vertical depth, total water volume, and hydraulic fracturing fluid composition as follows:

- (1) Trade name
- (2) Supplier
- (3) Purpose
- (4) Ingredients
- (5) Chemical abstract number
- (6) Maximum ingredient concentration in additive
- (7) Maximum ingredient concentration in hydraulic fracturing fluid

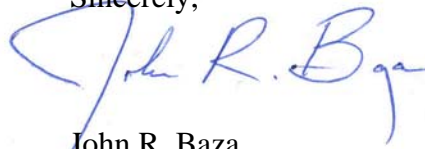


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On this website, the public can search for information about the chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing of oil and gas wells by specific well and location. If you are not familiar with the FracFocus website, the Division encourages you to visit the website to acquaint yourself with the information that is being reported. Other oil and gas producing states have made similar requests or established regulatory requirements concerning hydraulic fracturing and the use of the FracFocus website. The Division strongly believes that through the openness of this request that it will promote the public's trust of the petroleum industry. This will continue to enhance a strong community support for the development of oil and gas, educate the public, and alleviate some of the so-called "mysteries" surrounding hydraulic fracturing. If you have any questions about this request for the voluntary efforts of Utah's petroleum industry, please direct them to the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining at OilGasMining@utah.gov.

Sincerely,



John R. Baza
Director