From:	Polak, Tiffany, EMNRD
To:	WasteRule, EMNRD, EMNRD
Subject:	FW: Nathan Small Checking In: ozone precursor rule for the oil and natural gas sector
Date:	Thursday, September 17, 2020 1:38:02 PM

From: Propst, Sarah, EMNRD <Sarah.Propst@state.nm.us>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 1:36 PM
To: Polak, Tiffany, EMNRD <Tiffany.Polak@state.nm.us>; Ames, Eric, EMNRD <Eric.Ames@state.nm.us>
Subject: FW: Nathan Small Checking In: ozone precursor rule for the oil and natural gas sector

FYI.

From: Small, Nathan <Nathan.Small@nmlegis.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 1:28 PM
To: Kenney, James, NMENV <James.Kenney@state.nm.us>; Propst, Sarah, EMNRD <Sarah.Propst@state.nm.us>
Subject: [EXT] Nathan Small Checking In: ozone precursor rule for the oil and natural gas sector

Good afternoon Secretary Kenney and Secretary Propst. I hope you both are well and appreciate deeply the incredible work that you and your teams do every day for New Mexicans. Below are brief comments regarding the zone precursor rule for the oil and natural gas sector. I apologize for submitting these today, as I mixed up my dates. Thank you both again, please stay safe and talk soon. Best, Nathan

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The passage of HB 546 was facilitated through close collaborations and the leadership of NMED and EMNRD. Now, New Mexico is leading the way in safeguarding freshwater resources, supporting innovation, and ensuring public health. Encouraging the reuse of treated/recycled produced water in appropriate oilfield operations means less freshwater used in oilfields. Diverse stakeholders agree on this shared goal of reducing freshwater oilfield use. The exceptionally important efforts to establish an ozone precursor rule for the oil and natural gas sector should not negatively impact efforts to treat, recycle, and reuse produced water in oilfield operations.

Currently, in 20.2.50.26 STANDARDS FOR EVAPORATION PONDS, there appears to be significant potential to negatively impact the large scale treatment, recycling, and reuse of produced water in oilfield operations. This is primarily because the already permitted recycling ponds would be required to have impermeable covers,

adding substantial additional expense that appears unnecessary. The covers appear unnecessary because in appropriate recycling facilities, the water that is impounded has had it’s hydrocarbons and VOC’s substantially removed.

I look forward to the continued close collaboration on these important issues, appreciate deeply the leadership and exemplary service of EMNRD and NMED leadership and staff, and look forward to checking in soon.

Best,

Nathan