

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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Public Notice: Clarification of Evidentiary Requirements for Compulsory Pooling Applications

DATE: November 1, 2025

The New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (OCD) is providing notice to the regulated community regarding an update to the evidentiary requirements for compulsory pooling applications submitted under 19.15.4.12 NMAC.

New Evidentiary Requirement

Effective December 1, 2025, all applicants for compulsory pooling hearings must provide a new exhibit detailing the notice provided to uncommitted owners. This exhibit is in addition to the other exhibits required by 19.15.4.12.A(1)(b) NMAC.

The new exhibit must be a table that clearly lists all owners within the proposed unit and provides the following information for each:

- Owner Name
- Ownership Status: Indicate whether the owner is "Committed" or "Uncommitted" to the proposed spacing unit.
- Commitment Type (if applicable): If an owner is listed as "Committed," specify the type of commitment (e.g., verbal agreement, signed letter of commitment, signed Joint Operating Agreement).
- Notice Provided: For every uncommitted owner, specify the method and date of the notice given, along with a reference to the supporting exhibit (e.g., "certified letter, 10/1/2025, Exhibit A").

Reason for the Change

The OCD is implementing this change to ensure full compliance with 19.15.4.12.A(1)(a) NMAC, which requires that applicants provide notice to all owners whose interest has not been voluntarily committed.

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This new, more detailed exhibit will help the division systematically verify that proper notice has been given to all uncommitted owners, as required by the existing rule. This notice provides clarification regarding the evidence needed to demonstrate compliance with 19.15.4.12.A(1)(a) NMAC.



ALBERT C.S. CHANG
DIRECTOR