

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst
Cabinet Secretary

Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Adrienne Sandoval, Division Director
Oil Conservation Division



Operator Notice: Update to Change of Operator (C-145) Process

This notice clarifies OCD's process for approval of the Change of Operator (C-145) and is effective on November 1, 2019.

Beginning on July 1, 2019, OCD began charging fees on administrative applications as provided in NMSA 1978 Section 70-2-39. OCD will use the fees to modernize its IT and business systems and offset administrative hearing costs.

OCD recently discovered an error in the fee charged for the C-145. Accordingly, OCD will charge the following fees for C-145's:

- For wells on the Inactive Wells list:
 - The operator must file a C-145 for each well.
 - The fee is \$150 for each C-145.
 - Inactive wells subject to an Agreed Compliance Order are subject to these requirements.
 - Inactive wells in approved Temporary Abandonment status are not subject to these requirements.
 - The Inactive Well List can be found [here](#):
- For wells with Active Environmental Incident(s):
 - The operator must file a C-145 for each well.
 - The fee is \$150 for each C-145.
 - The OCD's Environmental Incidents database can be found [here](#):
- For wells that are on both the Inactive Well List (but not in approved Temporary Abandonment status) and in the Environmental Incidents database:
 - The operator must file a C-145 for each well.
 - The fee is \$150 for each C-145.
 - Inactive wells subject to an Agreed Compliance Order are subject to these requirements.
- For wells that are not on the Inactive Well List or Incident database:
 - The operator may file a C-145 for multiple wells.
 - The fee is \$150.
 - OCD will deny the C-145 if the operator includes a disqualified well even if the well is added to the Inactive Well or Environmental Incidents database after the operator submits the C-145. The fee will not be refunded.

For any questions please contact the OCD mainline at 505-476-3441 and request the Administrative Compliance Program.