

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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NOTICE
OCD Hearing Updates and Clarification of Processes
September 5, 2024

The Oil Conservation Division (OCD) is currently reevaluating and updating its hearing processes and procedures. Each month, the OCD Hearing Division processes an average of 60 applications for hearings by affidavit and conducts approximately 72 status conferences. The OCD has identified that the current scheduling mix on regular dockets does not efficiently utilize technical staff resources, hindering effective review of parties' exhibits and limiting the opportunity to pose questions to witnesses. To address this, the OCD has supplemented the regularly scheduled bimonthly docket with additional special dockets to hear contested cases, subject to the availability of parties and their witnesses.

Starting in November 2024, the OCD will implement the following changes:

1. Hearings by affidavit will be grouped and scheduled on the first regularly scheduled docket each month.
2. Status conferences will be grouped and scheduled on the second regularly scheduled docket.
3. Special dockets will be held monthly to hear contested hearings and any hearings by affidavit not accommodated on the first monthly docket, as well as to account for the availability of witnesses.

These updates will **take effect on November 7, 2024.**

GERASIMOS RAZATOS
DIRECTOR (Acting)