

Message

From: Forsgren, Lee [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=A055D7329D5B470FBAA9920CE1B68A7D-FORSGREN, D]
Sent: 5/2/2018 2:29:46 PM
To: Sayer, Matthias, EMNRD [MatthiasL.Sayer@state.nm.us]
CC: Drinkard, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=808a6b7b65bf447f93dad2f510feaf61-ADRINKAR]; Kenney, James [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ce6ff86939e44da49d88840b2353f022-Kenney, James]; McQueen, Ken, EMNRD [Ken.McQueen@state.nm.us]
Subject: Re: Oil & Gas Study press release

Great quote. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On May 2, 2018, at 10:28 AM, Sayer, Matthias, EMNRD <MatthiasL.Sayer@state.nm.us> wrote:

Here is NM's quote, attributed to Secretary Ken McQueen

In New Mexico's arid environment, conserving our resources by recycling produced water for more beneficial uses presents a significant economic development and water supply opportunity. For years New Mexico has advocated recycling of produced water in oil and gas completion activities. Continued collaboration with EPA on this issue will no doubt encourage even greater recycling and additional reuse opportunities" said Ken McQueen, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department.

Matthias Sayer
Deputy Cabinet Secretary
New Mexico Energy Minerals & Natural Resource Department
Office: 505.476.3200
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<image001.png>

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From: Drinkard, Andrea <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 3:13 PM
To: Forsgren, Lee <Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>
Cc: Sayer, Matthias, EMNRD <MatthiasL.Sayer@state.nm.us>; McQueen, Ken, EMNRD <Ken.McQueen@state.nm.us>
Subject: Re: Oil & Gas Study press release

Sure thing. I've copy and pasted the current draft below. Note that we're still working it through our review process, so tweaks may still be made. Thanks so much!

EPA Seeks Input on Managing Wastewater from Oil and Gas Extraction

WASHINGTON – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is embarking on a new study that will take a holistic look at how EPA, states and stakeholders regulate and manage wastewater from the oil and gas industry.

“I am pleased that this study will take into consideration the expertise of states and stakeholders in developing effective options and alternatives to address wastewater from the oil and gas sector,” said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. “These partners face environmental challenges on the ground every day and it’s important the Agency works cooperatively with them moving forward.”

Large volumes of wastewater are generated in the oil and gas industry, and projections show that these volumes will only increase. Currently the majority of this wastewater is managed by disposing of it using a practice known as underground injection, where that water can no longer be accessed or used. The limits of injection are evident in some areas, and new approaches are becoming necessary. Some states and stakeholders are asking whether it makes sense to continue to waste this water, particularly in water scarce areas of the country, and what steps would be necessary to treat and renew it for other purposes.

Quote from NM

The focus of the agency’s study will be to engage with stakeholders to consider available approaches to manage wastewater from both conventional and unconventional oil and gas extraction at onshore facilities. EPA’s study will address questions such as how existing federal approaches to produced water management under the Clean Water Act can interact more effectively with state regulations, requirements or policy needs, and whether any potential federal regulations that may allow for broader discharge of treated produced water to surface waters are supported. EPA is particularly interested in working with its regulatory partners at the state level, who are at the forefront of the changing industry, and often manage complex water allocation programs under state law.

EPA is just starting the process to gather information for this study. In the coming months, EPA plans to reach out to stakeholders -- including states, industry and NGOs -- to facilitate conversations. Following this study, EPA will determine if future agency actions are appropriate to further address oil and gas extraction wastewater.

Additional information: <https://www.epa.gov/eg/study-oil-and-gas-extraction-wastewater-management>

Sent from my iPhone

On May 1, 2018, at 5:02 PM, Forsgren, Lee <Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov> wrote:

Andrea,

Can you get the draft press release to Mathiasl Sayer and Ken McQueen and they will get you a quote from the State of New Mexico.

Thanks,
Lee

D. Lee Forsgren
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office Of Water

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