

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2007-093

1
2 State of Arkansas
3 86th General Assembly
4 Regular Session, 2007

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2709

5
6 By: Representative Pickett

7 Referred to
8 Public Health, Welfare And Labor Committee- House
9 by the House of Representatives
10 on 03/28/2007
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For An Act To Be Entitled

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13 AN ACT TO REQUEST THAT THE JOINT PERFORMANCE
14 REVIEW COMMITTEE STUDY THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
15 OF THE FAYETTEVILLE SHALE PLAY ON THE WATER
16 SUPPLY OF THE FAYETTEVILLE SHALE REGION; AND FOR
17 OTHER PURPOSES.
18

Subtitle

19
20 TO REQUEST THAT THE JOINT PERFORMANCE
21 REVIEW COMMITTEE STUDY THE ENVIRONMENTAL
22 IMPACT OF THE FAYETTEVILLE SHALE PLAY ON
23 THE WATER SUPPLY OF THE FAYETTEVILLE
24 SHALE REGION.
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28 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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30 SECTION 1. Findings. The recent activity in the Fayetteville Shale
31 region concerning the discovery of natural gas has lead to the drilling and
32 extraction of that gas from the subsurface and the General Assembly finds
33 that:

34 (1) The drilling process requires water from the region in significant
35 amounts;

36 (2) A natural byproduct of the drilling process is brine water that

1 contains a high concentration of sodium chloride that must be properly
2 treated and disposed of as wastewater to prevent environmental contamination;

3 (3) Water is a precious resource and may not be immediately
4 replenished if pumped from an aquifer; and

5 (4) The communities in the Fayetteville Shale region must be informed
6 and prepared for the impact of drilling on their water supply.

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8 SECTION 2. The Joint Performance Review Committee shall conduct a
9 study on the impact of the use of water in drilling operations in the
10 Fayetteville Shale region and the impact of the disposal of brine wastewater
11 in the Fayetteville Shale region. The study should include:

12 (1) A determination of the source of water used in proposed and
13 current drilling processes and operations;

14 (2) A determination of the amount of water used proposed and current
15 in drilling processes and operations;

16 (3) An overview of the current disposal technique and technologies for
17 the brine wastewater at operating drilling sites;

18 (4) The review of environmentally sound brine wastewater disposal
19 techniques and technologies after drilling has occurred;

20 (5) The environmental impact of the drilling on area water supplies;
21 and

22 (6) The communities' plans for ensuring that drinking water sources
23 remain safe and plentiful.

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25 SECTION 3. The Joint Performance Review Committee shall prepare a
26 final report detailing the results of the study on or before November 1,
27 2007.

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