

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.

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2709

4
5 By: Representative Pickett
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REQUEST THAT THE JOINT PERFORMANCE
10 REVIEW COMMITTEE STUDY THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
11 OF THE FAYETTEVILLE SHALE PLAY ON THE WATER
12 SUPPLY OF THE FAYETTEVILLE SHALE REGION; AND FOR
13 OTHER PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

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

29 (1) The drilling process requires water from the region in significant
30 amounts;

31 (2) A natural byproduct of the drilling process is brine water that
32 contains a high concentration of sodium chloride that must be properly
33 treated and disposed of as wastewater to prevent environmental contamination;

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

36 (4) The communities in the Fayetteville Shale region must be informed



1 and prepared for the impact of drilling on their water supply.

2
3 SECTION 2. The Joint Performance Review Committee shall conduct a
4 study on the impact of the use of water in drilling operations in the
5 Fayetteville Shale region and the impact of the disposal of brine wastewater
6 in the Fayetteville Shale region. The study should include:

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

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

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

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

15 (5) The environmental impact of the drilling on area water supplies;
16 and

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

19
20 SECTION 3. The Joint Performance Review Committee shall prepare a
21 final report detailing the results of the study on or before November 1,
22 2007.