



E K O G A

EASTERN KANSAS OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION

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HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

RE: HB 2750 - An Act concerning oil and gas; relating to responsibility for maintenance of a well; amending K.S.A. 55-179 and repealing the existing section.

Testimony of David P. Bleakley - Legislative Chairman
Eastern Kansas Oil and Gas Association
&
Executive Vice President
Colt Energy, Inc.

Our association represents and supports eastern Kansas oil and gas producers, gas gatherers, service companies, royalty owners and associated businesses along with the overall welfare of the Kansas oil and gas industry in this state.

The Eastern Kansas Oil and Gas Association (EKOGA) **opposes** House Bill 2750 as written.

EKOGA feels that the current language as written in Section 1. K.S.A. 55-179 (b) which this bill proposes to change is already clearly defined in the definitions of the **General Rules and Regulations** for the Conservation of Crude Oil and Natural Gas by the Kansas Corporation Commission.

Current Language in K.S.A. 55-179 (b):

...Any operator of a waterflood or other pressure maintenance program deemed to be causing pollution or loss of usable water; the current or last **operator of the lease upon which** such well ***is located***, irrespective of whether such **operator** plugged or abandoned such well;...

Definition of “Operator” from the KCC General Rules and Regulations: means a ***person who is responsible for the physical operation and control*** of a well, gas-gathering system, or underground natural gas storage facility.

Proposed Replacement Language in HB 2750 to K.S.A. 55-179 (b):

...Any operator of a waterflood or other pressure maintenance program deemed to be causing pollution or loss of usable water; the current or last ***person responsible for the physical control of*** such well, irrespective of whether such ***person*** plugged or abandoned such well;...

The current language in K.S.A. 55-179 (b), given that the definition of operator described in the **KCC General Rules and Regulations** parallels the proposed language in this bill almost verbatim therefore, we see no need to change language for the sake of changing language that can then have possible unintended consequences unless fully vetted thru the entire **KCC General Rules and Regulations**.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman and members of this Committee, **EKOGA WOULD URGE YOU TO VOTE AGAINST HB 2750.**

Thank you for your time.

David P. Bleakley