ENGROSSED HOUSE AMENDMENT
TO
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 68

BY: EASLEY, HERBERT and LONG (Lewis) of the SENATE

and

RICE of the HOUSE

(CORPORATION COMMISSION - OIL AND GAS - AMENDING 17 O.S. 1991, SECTION 40.1 - CODIFICATION - EMERGENCY)

AMENDMENT NO. 1. Strike the stricken title, enacting clause and entire bill and insert

"(CORPORATION COMMISSION - AMENDING 17 O.S. 1991, SECTION 40.1 - REGIONAL SERVICE AREAS - CODIFICATION - EMERGENCY)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 1991, Section 40.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 40.1 A. For the purpose of accepting, processing and hearing applications for oil and gas well development, administrative applications, and for any other related matters, the Corporation Commission shall divide the state into two regional service areas. By September 1, 1990, the Corporation Commission shall establish and maintain in each regional service area, a regional service office located within the corporate limits of any municipality having a population of more than two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) inhabitants according to the last Federal

Decennial Census to implement their duties pursuant to law. The State Office of the Corporation Commission located in Oklahoma City shall serve as the regional service office for the regional service area in which Oklahoma City is located. The regional service office shall service the regional service area in which such office is located or as otherwise provided by the Corporation Commission for public convenience.

B. 1. Applications for oil and gas well development, administrative applications and any other related matters may be filed in any regional service office.

2. The central record of all filings with all regional service offices shall be maintained in the State Office of the Corporation Commission located in Oklahoma City and all initial dockets shall be simultaneously announced in Oklahoma City and transmitted to regional offices.

3. All hearings on any application including but not limited to appellate hearings shall be held in the regional service office where the application is filed unless~~,~~:

a. in the case of ~~a protested~~ an application protested by a respondent mineral owner, or surface owner having standing to protest by statute or by Rule of the Corporation Commission, holding the hearing in the regional service office would not be at the convenience of such respondent mineral owner, or surface owner, or

b. the applicant and all protestants agree to have the Commission proceed to hear any case, or any portion thereof, during any stage of the proceedings, at any regional service office, or by telecommunication hearings, or

c. another location other than a regional service office if agreed to by the applicant and all protestants and

Commission, regardless of where the original application was filed.

C. 1. The Corporation Commission shall provide for an adequately staffed regional service office in each regional service area to conduct the business of the regional service office as herein provided.

2. In order to implement the provisions of this subsection for the regional service office located within the corporate limits of a municipality having a population of more than two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) inhabitants, the Commission shall utilize the following positions from existing FTE for such service office:

POSITION	MINIMUM FTE
Office Administrator	1.0
Hearing Officers	2.0
Court Reporters	2.0
Docket Clerks	2.5
Secretary	1.0

3. The Corporation Commission shall maintain electronic data equipment capable of retrieving and printing information by cause number, applicant name, relief requested, or by county.

D. The Corporation Commission shall submit a report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate by ~~January~~ February 1 of each year detailing the number of applications filed by county, hearings held and other activities performed by each regional service office.

E. The Corporation Commission shall promulgate rules, pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act, to implement the provisions of this ~~act~~ section.

F. The Corporation Commission shall develop and maintain a system for providing telephonic communication service for hearings related to oil and gas matters in municipalities having a population

of more than eighty-five thousand (85,000) inhabitants according to the last Federal Decennial Census. In order to implement the provisions of this subsection, the Commission shall utilize from existing FTE the following position for such telephonic communication service:

POSITION	FTE
Docket Clerk	.5

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 478 of Title 52, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

For the purpose of determining the amount of natural gas which may be lawfully produced by a well under any allowable or restriction on production applicable to such well, the Corporation Commission shall require by rule that the daily natural flow be determined as the calculated absolute open flow.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval."

Passed the House of Representatives the 20th day of April, 1992.

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1992.

President of the Senate