STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 48th Legislature (2001)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 1920 By: Rice

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to revenue and taxation; amending 68 O.S. 1991, Section 1001, as last amended by Section 5, Chapter 315, O.S.L. 2000 (68 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 1001), which relates to gross production taxes; modifying provisions related to rate of tax imposed upon the value of oil; providing for rate of tax based upon certain index of prices; modifying definitions; amending 17 O.S. 1991, Section 180.10, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 328, O.S.L. 1995 (17 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 180.10), which relates to the Corporation Commission Plugging Fund; modifying reference to certain date; amending 68 O.S. 1991, Sections 1101, as amended by Section 9, Chapter 328, O.S.L. 1995, 1102, as amended by Section 10, Chapter 328, O.S.L. 1995 and 1103, as last amended by Section 12, Chapter 275, O.S.L. 1997 (68 O.S. Supp. 2000, Sections 1101, 1102 and 1103), which relate to the gross production tax on oil and other substances; modifying dates; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 1991, Section 1001, as last amended by Section 5, Chapter 315, O.S.L. 2000 (68 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 1001), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1001. A. There is hereby levied upon the production of asphalt, ores bearing lead, zinc, jack, gold, silver and copper a tax equal to three-fourths of one percent (3/4 of 1%) on the gross value thereof.

B. 1. ~~Effective January 1, 1999, through June 30, 2001, except~~ Except as otherwise exempted pursuant to subsections D, E, F, G, H, I and J of this section, there is hereby levied upon the production of oil a tax as set forth in this subsection on the gross value of the production of oil based on a per barrel measurement of forty-two

(42) U.S. gallons of two hundred thirty-one (231) cubic inches per gallon, computed at a temperature of sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit. If the average price of Oklahoma oil as determined by the Oklahoma Tax Commission pursuant to the provisions of paragraph ~~3~~ 2 of this subsection equals or exceeds Seventeen Dollars ($17.00) per barrel, then the tax shall be seven percent (7%). If the average price of Oklahoma oil as determined by the Tax Commission pursuant to paragraph ~~3~~ 2 of this subsection is less than Seventeen Dollars ($17.00) but is equal to or exceeds Fourteen Dollars ($14.00) per barrel, then the tax shall be four percent (4%). If the average price of Oklahoma oil as determined by the Tax Commission pursuant to paragraph ~~3~~ 2 of this subsection is less than Fourteen Dollars ($14.00) per barrel, then the tax shall be one percent (1%).

2. ~~Effective July 1, 2001, except as otherwise exempted pursuant to subsections D, E, F, G, H, I and J of this section, there shall be levied upon the production of oil a tax equal to seven percent (7%) of the gross value of the production of oil based on a per barrel measurement of forty-two (42) U.S. gallons of two hundred thirty-one (231) cubic inches per gallon, computed at a temperature of sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit.~~

~~3. Effective January 1, 1999, through June 30, 2001, the~~ The average price of Oklahoma oil for purposes of this section shall be computed by the Tax Commission each month. At the first of each month, the Tax Commission shall compute the average price per barrel of sweet crude oil paid by the three largest purchasers of sweet crude oil in this state. The three largest purchasers shall be identified by the most recent annual report published by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission. The three purchasers identified shall report to the Tax Commission, on forms prescribed by the Tax Commission, the average price paid per barrel of sweet crude oil by the purchasers during the preceding calendar month.

~~4.~~ 3. Effective January 1, 1999, except as otherwise exempted pursuant to subsections D, E, F, G, H, I and J of this section, there shall be levied a tax equal to seven percent (7%) of the gross value of the production of gas.

C. The taxes hereby levied shall also attach to, and are levied on, what is known as the royalty interest, and the amount of such tax shall be a lien on such interest.

D. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, any incremental production attributable to the working interest owners which results from an enhanced recovery project shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to this section from the project beginning date until project payback is achieved for new enhanced recovery projects or until project payback is achieved but not to exceed a period of thirty-six (36) months for tertiary enhanced recovery projects existing on July 1, 1988. This exemption shall take effect July 1, 1988, and shall apply to enhanced recovery projects approved or having a project beginning date prior to July 1, 1993. Project payback pursuant to this paragraph for enhanced recovery projects qualifying for this exemption on or after July 1, 1990, and on or before June 30, 1993, shall be determined by appropriate payback indicators which will not include any expenses beyond the completion date of the well. Project payback pursuant to this paragraph for enhanced recovery projects qualifying for this exemption on or after October 17, 1987, and on or before June 30, 1990, shall be determined by appropriate payback indicators as previously established and allowed by the Tax Commission for projects qualifying during such period.

2. Except as otherwise provided in this section, for secondary recovery projects approved and having a project beginning date on or after July 1, 1993, and before July 1, 2000, any incremental production attributable to the working interest owners which results from such secondary recovery projects shall be exempt from the gross

production tax levied pursuant to this section from the project beginning date until project payback is achieved but not to exceed a period of ten (10) years. Project payback pursuant to this paragraph shall be determined by appropriate payback indicators which will provide for the recovery of capital expenses and fifty percent (50%) of operating expenses, in determining project payback.

3. Except as otherwise provided in this section, for secondary recovery properties approved or having an initial project beginning date on or after July 1, 2000, and before July 1, 2003, any incremental production attributable to the working interest owners which results from such secondary recovery property shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to this section for a period not to exceed five (5) years from the initial project beginning date or for a period ending upon the termination of the secondary recovery process, whichever occurs first.

4. Except as otherwise provided in this section, for tertiary recovery projects approved and having a project beginning date on or after July 1, 1993, and before July 1, 2003, any incremental production attributable to the working interest owners which results from such tertiary recovery projects shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to this section from the project beginning date until project payback is achieved, but not to exceed a period of ten (10) years. Project payback pursuant to this paragraph shall be determined by appropriate payback indicators which will provide for the recovery of capital expenses and operating expenses, excluding administrative expenses, in determining project payback. The capital expenses of pipelines constructed to transport carbon dioxide to a tertiary recovery project shall not be included in determining project payback pursuant to this paragraph.

5. The provisions of this subsection shall also not apply to any enhanced recovery project using fresh water as the primary injectant, except when using steam.

6. For purposes of this subsection:

a. "incremental production" means the amount of crude oil or other liquid hydrocarbons which is produced during an enhanced recovery project and which is in excess of the base production amount of crude oil or other liquid hydrocarbons. The base production amount shall be the average monthly amount of production for the twelve-month period immediately prior to the project beginning date minus the monthly rate of production decline for the project for each month beginning one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the project beginning date. The monthly rate of production decline shall be equal to the average extrapolated monthly decline rate for the twelve-month period immediately prior to the project beginning date as determined by the Corporation Commission based on the production history of the field, its current status, and sound reservoir engineering principles, and

b. "project beginning date" means the date on which the injection of liquids, gases, or other matter begins on an enhanced recovery project.

7. The Corporation Commission shall promulgate rules for the qualification for this exemption which shall include, but not be limited to, procedures for determining incremental production as defined in subparagraph a of paragraph 6 of this subsection, and the establishment of appropriate payback indicators as approved by the Tax Commission for the determination of project payback for each of the exemptions authorized by this subsection.

8. For new secondary recovery projects and tertiary recovery projects approved by the Corporation Commission on or after July 1, 1993, and before July 1, 2003, such approval shall constitute qualification for an exemption.

9. Any person seeking an exemption shall file an application for such exemption with the Tax Commission which, upon determination of qualification by the Corporation Commission, shall approve the application for such exemption.

10. The Tax Commission may require any person requesting such exemption to furnish information or records concerning the exemption as is deemed necessary by the Tax Commission.

11. Upon the expiration of the exemption granted pursuant to this subsection, the Tax Commission shall collect the gross production tax levied pursuant to this section.

E. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the production of oil, gas or oil and gas from a horizontally drilled well producing prior to July 1, 2003, which production commenced after July 1, 1995, shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to subsection B of this section from the project beginning date until project payback is achieved but not to exceed a period of twenty-four (24) months commencing with the month of initial production from the horizontally drilled well. Provided, any incremental production which results from a horizontally drilled well producing prior to July 1, 1994, shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to subsection B of this section from the project beginning date until project payback is achieved but not to exceed a period of twenty-four (24) months commencing with the month of initial production from the horizontally drilled well. For purposes of subsection D of this section and this subsection, project payback shall be determined as of the date of the completion of the well and shall not include any expenses beyond the completion date of the well, and subject to the approval of the Tax Commission.

2. As used in this subsection, "horizontally drilled well" shall mean an oil, gas or oil and gas well drilled or recompleted in a manner which encounters and subsequently produces from a geological formation at an angle in excess of seventy (70) degrees from vertical and which laterally penetrates a minimum of one hundred fifty (150) feet into the pay zone of the formation.

F. 1. Except as otherwise provided by this section, the severance or production of oil, gas or oil and gas from an inactive well shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to subsection B of this section for a period of twenty-eight (28) months from the date upon which production is reestablished. This exemption shall take effect July 1, 1994, and shall apply to wells for which work to reestablish or enhance production began on or after July 1, 1994, and for which production is reestablished prior to July 1, 2003. For all such production, a refund against gross production taxes shall be issued as provided in subsection L of this section.

2. As used in this subsection, for wells for which production is reestablished prior to July 1, 1997, "inactive well" means any well that has not produced oil, gas or oil and gas for a period of not less than two (2) years as evidenced by the appropriate forms on file with the Corporation Commission reflecting the well's status. As used in this subsection, for wells for which production is reestablished on or after July 1, 1997, and prior to July 1, 2003, "inactive well" means any well that has not produced oil, gas or oil and gas for a period of not less than one (1) year as evidenced by the appropriate forms on file with the Corporation Commission reflecting the well's status. Wells which experience mechanical failure or loss of mechanical integrity, as defined by the Corporation Commission, including but not limited to, casing leaks, collapse of casing or loss of equipment in a wellbore, or any

similar event which causes cessation of production, shall also be considered inactive wells.

G. 1. Except as otherwise provided by this section, any incremental production which results from a production enhancement project shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to subsection B of this section for a period of twenty-eight (28) months from the date of first sale after project completion of the production enhancement project. This exemption shall take effect July 1, 1994, and shall apply to production enhancement projects having a project beginning date on or after July 1, 1994, and prior to July 1, 2003. For all such production, a refund against gross production taxes shall be issued as provided in subsection L of this section.

2. As used in this subsection:

a. (1) for production enhancement projects having a project beginning date prior to July 1, 1997, "production enhancement project" means any workover as defined in this paragraph, recompletion as defined in this paragraph, or fracturing of a producing well, and

(2) for production enhancement projects having a project beginning date on or after July 1, 1997, and prior to July 1, 2003, "production enhancement project" means any workover as defined in this paragraph, recompletion as defined in this paragraph, reentry of plugged and abandoned wellbores, or addition of a well or field compression,

b. "incremental production" means the amount of crude oil, natural gas or other hydrocarbons which are produced as a result of the production enhancement project in excess of the base production,

c. "base production" means the average monthly amount of production for the twelve-month period immediately prior to the commencement of the project or the average monthly amount of production for the twelve-month period immediately prior to the commencement of the project less the monthly rate of production decline for the project for each month beginning one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the commencement of the project. The monthly rate of production decline shall be equal to the average extrapolated monthly decline rate for the twelve-month period immediately prior to the commencement of the project based on the production history of the well. If the well or wells covered in the application had production for less than the full twelve-month period prior to the filing of the application for the production enhancement project, the base production shall be the average monthly production for the months during that period that the well or wells produced,

d. (1) for production enhancement projects having a project beginning date prior to July 1, 1997, "recompletion" means any downhole operation in an existing oil or gas well that is conducted to establish production of oil or gas from any geological interval not currently completed or producing in such existing oil or gas well, and

(2) for production enhancement projects having a project beginning date on or after July 1, 1997, and prior to July 1, 2003, "recompletion" means any downhole operation in an existing oil or gas well that is conducted to establish production of oil or gas from any geologic interval not

currently completed or producing in such existing oil or gas well within the same or a different geologic formation, and

e. "workover" means any downhole operation in an existing oil or gas well that is designed to sustain, restore or increase the production rate or ultimate recovery in a geologic interval currently completed or producing in the existing oil or gas well. For production enhancement projects having a project beginning date prior to July 1, 1997, "workover" includes, but is not limited to, acidizing, reperforating, fracture treating, sand/paraffin removal, casing repair, squeeze cementing, or setting bridge plugs to isolate water productive zones from oil or gas productive zones, or any combination thereof. For production enhancement projects having a project beginning date on or after July 1, 1997, and prior to July 1, 2003, "workover" includes, but is not limited to:

(1) acidizing,

(2) reperforating,

(3) fracture treating,

(4) sand/paraffin/scale removal or other wellbore cleanouts,

(5) casing repair,

(6) squeeze cementing,

(7) ~~initial~~ installation of compression on a well or group of wells or initial installation of artificial lifts on gas wells, including plunger lifts, rod pumps, submersible pumps and coiled tubing velocity strings,

(8) downsizing existing tubing to reduce well loading,

(9) downhole commingling,

(10) bacteria treatments,

(11) upgrading the size of pumping unit equipment,

(12) setting bridge plugs to isolate water production zones, or

(13) any combination thereof.

"Workover" shall not mean the routine maintenance, routine repair, or like for like replacement of downhole equipment such as rods, pumps, tubing, packers, or other mechanical devices.

H. Except as otherwise provided by this section, the production of oil, gas or oil and gas from wells spudded between July 1, 1994, and June 30, 2000, and drilled to a depth of fifteen thousand (15,000) feet or greater shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to subsection B of this section from the date of first sales for a period of twenty-eight (28) months. For purposes of qualifying for this exemption, "depth" means the length of the maximum continuous string of drill pipe utilized between the drill bit face and the drilling rig's kelly bushing. Except as otherwise provided in subsection J of this section, the production of oil, gas or oil and gas from wells spudded between July 1, 1997, and June 30, 2003, and drilled to a depth of twelve thousand five hundred (12,500) feet or greater shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to subsection B of this section from the date of first sales for a period of twenty-eight (28) months. For all such wells spudded, a refund against gross production taxes shall be issued as provided in subsection L of this section.

I. 1. Except as otherwise provided by this section, the production of oil, gas or oil and gas from wells spudded or reentered between July 1, 1995, and June 30, 2003, which qualify as

a new discovery pursuant to this subsection shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to subsection B of this section from the date of first sales for a period of twenty-eight (28) months. For all such wells spudded or reentered, a refund against gross production taxes shall be issued as provided in subsection L of this section. As used in this subsection, "new discovery" means production of oil, gas or oil and gas from:

a. (1) for wells spudded or reentered on or after July 1, 1997, a well that discovers crude oil in paying quantities that is more than one (1) mile from the nearest oil well producing from the same producing formation, and

(2) for wells spudded or reentered on or after July 1, 1997, and prior to July 1, 2003, a well that discovers crude oil in paying quantities that is more than one (1) mile from the nearest oil well producing from the same producing interval of the same formation,

b. (1) for wells spudded or reentered prior to July 1, 1997, a well that discovers crude oil in paying quantities beneath current production in a deeper producing formation that is more than one (1) mile from the nearest oil well producing from the same deeper producing formation, and

(2) for wells spudded or reentered on or after July 1, 1997, and prior to July 1, 2003, a well that discovers crude oil in paying quantities beneath current production in a deeper producing interval that is more than one (1) mile from the nearest oil well producing from the same deeper producing interval,

c. (1) for wells spudded or reentered prior to July 1, 1997, a well that discovers natural gas in paying quantities that is more than two (2) miles from the nearest gas well producing from the same producing formation, and

(2) for wells spudded or reentered on or after July 1, 1997, and prior to July 1, 2003, a well that discovers natural gas in paying quantities that is more than two (2) miles from the nearest gas well producing from the same producing interval, or

d. (1) for wells spudded or reentered prior to July 1, 1997, a well that discovers natural gas in paying quantities beneath current production in a deeper producing formation that is more than two (2) miles from the nearest gas well producing from the same deeper producing formation, and

(2) for wells spudded or reentered on and after July 1, 1997, and prior to July 1, 2003, a well that discovers natural gas in paying quantities beneath current production in a deeper producing interval that is more than two (2) miles from the nearest gas well producing from the same deeper producing interval.

2. The Corporation Commission shall deliver to the Legislature a report on the number of wells as defined by paragraph 1 of this subsection that are drilled and the amount of production from those wells. The first such report shall be delivered to the Legislature no later than February 1, 1997, and each February 1, thereafter, until the conclusion of the program.

J. Except as otherwise provided by this section, the production of oil, gas or oil and gas from any well, drilling of which is

commenced after July 1, 2000, and prior to July 1, 2003, located within the boundaries of a three-dimensional seismic shoot and drilled based on three-dimensional seismic technology, shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to subsection B of this section from the date of first sales as follows:

1. If the three-dimensional seismic shoot is shot prior to July 1, 2000, for a period of eighteen (18) months; and

2. If the three-dimensional seismic shoot is shot on or after July 1, 2000, for a period of twenty-eight (28) months.

For all such production, a refund against gross production taxes shall be issued as provided in subsection L of this section.

K. 1. The exemptions provided for in subsections F, G, H, I and J of this section shall not apply:

a. to the severance or production of oil, upon determination by the Tax Commission that the weighted average price of Oklahoma oil exceeds Thirty Dollars ($30.00) per barrel calculated on an annual calendar year basis,

b. to the severance or production of oil upon which gross production taxes are paid at a rate of one percent (1%) pursuant to the provisions of subsection B of this section, and

c. to the severance or production of gas, upon determination by the Tax Commission that the weighted average wellhead price of Oklahoma gas exceeds Three Dollars and fifty cents ($3.50) per Million British Thermal Units (1MM BTU) calculated on an annual calendar year basis.

2. Notwithstanding the exemptions granted pursuant to subsections E, F, G, H, I and J of this section, there shall continue to be levied upon the production of petroleum or other crude or mineral oil or natural gas or casinghead gas, as provided

in subsection B of this section, from any wells provided for in subsection E, F, G, H, I or J of this section, a tax equal to one percent (1%) of the gross value of the production of petroleum or other crude or mineral oil or natural gas or casinghead gas. The tax hereby levied shall be apportioned as follows:

a. fifty percent (50%) of the sum collected shall be apportioned to the County Highway Fund as provided in paragraph 3 of subsection A and subparagraph b of paragraph 1 of subsection B of Section 1004 of this title, and

b. fifty percent (50%) of the sum collected shall be apportioned to the appropriate school district as provided in paragraph 4 of subsection A and subparagraph c of paragraph 1 of subsection B of Section 1004 of this title.

Upon the expiration of the exemption granted pursuant to subsection E, F, G, H, I or J of this section, the provisions of this paragraph shall have no force or effect.

L. For all oil and gas production exempt from gross production taxes pursuant to subsections E, F, G, H, I and J of this section during a given fiscal year, a refund of gross production taxes shall be issued to the well operator or a designee in the amount of such gross production taxes paid during such period which shall not be claimed until after the end of such fiscal year. As used in this paragraph, a fiscal year shall be deemed to begin on July 1 of one calendar year and shall end on June 30 of the subsequent calendar year. No refunds shall be claimed or paid pursuant to the provisions of this subsection for oil production upon which a tax is paid at a rate of one percent (1%) as specified in subsection B of this section. If there are insufficient funds collected from the production of oil to satisfy the refunds claimed for oil production pursuant to subsection E, F, G, H, I or J of this section, the Tax

Commission shall pay the balance of the refund claims out of the gross production taxes collected from the production of gas.

M. 1. The Corporation Commission and the Tax Commission shall promulgate joint rules for the qualification for the exemptions provided for in subsections E, F, G, H, I and J of this section and the rules shall contain provisions for verification of any wells from which production may be qualified for the exemptions.

2. Any person requesting any exemption shall file an application for qualification for the exemption with the Corporation Commission which, upon finding that the well meets the requirements of subsection E, F, G, H, I or J of this section, shall approve the application for qualification.

3. Any person seeking an exemption shall:

a. file an application for the exemption with the Tax Commission which, upon determination of qualification by the Corporation Commission, shall approve the application for an exemption, and

b. provide a copy of the approved application to the remitter of the gross production tax.

4. The Tax Commission may require any person requesting an exemption to furnish necessary financial and other information or records in order to determine and justify the refund.

5. Upon the expiration of the exemption granted pursuant to subsection E, F, G, H, I or J of this section, the Tax Commission shall collect the gross production tax levied pursuant to this section. If a person who qualifies for the exemption elects to remit his or her own gross production tax during the exemption period, the first purchaser shall not be liable to withhold or remit the tax until the first day of the month following the receipt of written notification from the person who is qualified for such exemption stating that such exemption has expired and directing the first purchaser to resume tax remittance on his or her behalf.

N. All persons shall only be entitled to either the exemption granted pursuant to subsection D of this section or the exemption granted pursuant to subsection E, F, G, H, I or J of this section for each oil, gas or oil and gas well drilled or recompleted in this state. However, any person who qualifies for the exemption granted pursuant to subsection E, F, G, H, I or J of this section shall not be prohibited from qualification for the exemption granted pursuant to subsection D of this section, if the exemption granted pursuant to subsection E, F, G, H, I or J of this section has expired.

O. The Tax Commission shall have the power to require any such person engaged in mining or the production or the purchase of such asphalt, mineral ores aforesaid, oil, or gas, or the owner of any royalty interest therein to furnish any additional information by it deemed to be necessary for the purpose of correctly computing the amount of the tax; and to examine the books, records and files of such person; and shall have power to conduct hearings and compel the attendance of witnesses, and the production of books, records and papers of any person.

P. Any person or any member of any firm or association, or any officer, official, agent or employee of any corporation who shall fail or refuse to testify; or who shall fail or refuse to produce any books, records or papers which the Tax Commission shall require; or who shall fail or refuse to furnish any other evidence or information which the Tax Commission may require; or who shall fail or refuse to answer any competent questions which may be put to him or her by the Tax Commission, touching the business, property, assets or effects of any such person relating to the gross production tax imposed by this article or exemption authorized pursuant to this section or other laws, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00), or imprisonment in the jail of the county where such offense shall have

been committed, for not more than one (1) year, or by both such fine and imprisonment; and each day of such refusal on the part of such person shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

Q. The Tax Commission shall have the power and authority to ascertain and determine whether or not any report herein required to be filed with it is a true and correct report of the gross products, and of the value thereof, of such person engaged in the mining or production or purchase of asphalt and ores bearing minerals aforesaid and of oil and gas. If any person has made an untrue or incorrect report of the gross production or value or volume thereof, or shall have failed or refused to make such report, the Tax Commission shall, under the rules prescribed by it, ascertain the correct amount of either, and compute the tax.

R. The payment of the taxes herein levied shall be in full, and in lieu of all taxes by the state, counties, cities, towns, school districts and other municipalities upon any property rights attached to or inherent in the right to the minerals, upon producing leases for the mining of asphalt and ores bearing lead, zinc, jack, gold, silver or copper, or for oil, or for gas, upon the mineral rights and privileges for the minerals aforesaid belonging or appertaining to land, upon the machinery, appliances and equipment used in and around any well producing oil, or gas, or any mine producing asphalt or any of the mineral ores aforesaid and actually used in the operation of such well or mine. The payment of gross production tax shall also be in lieu of all taxes upon the oil, gas, asphalt or ores bearing minerals hereinbefore mentioned during the tax year in which the same is produced, and upon any investment in any of the leases, rights, privileges, minerals or other property described herein. Any interest in the land, other than that herein enumerated, and oil in storage, asphalt and ores bearing minerals hereinbefore named, mined, produced and on hand at the date as of which property is assessed for general and ad valorem taxation for

any subsequent tax year, shall be assessed and taxed as other property within the taxing district in which such property is situated at the time.

S. No equipment, material or property shall be exempt from the payment of ad valorem tax by reason of the payment of the gross production tax except such equipment, machinery, tools, material or property as is actually necessary and being used and in use in the production of asphalt or of ores bearing lead, zinc, jack, gold, silver or copper or of oil or gas. It is expressly declared that no ice plants, hospitals, office buildings, garages, residences, gasoline extraction or absorption plants, water systems, fuel systems, rooming houses and other buildings, nor any equipment or material used in connection therewith, shall be exempt from ad valorem tax.

T. The exemption from ad valorem tax set forth in subsections R and S of this section shall continue to apply to all property from which production of oil, gas or oil and gas is exempt from gross production tax pursuant to subsection D, E, F, G, H, I or J of this section.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 1991, Section 180.10, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 328, O.S.L. 1995 (17 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 180.10), is amended to read as follows:

Section 180.10 A. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a fund for the Corporation Commission to be designated the "Corporation Commission Plugging Fund". The plugging fund shall consist of monies received by the Corporation Commission as required by law to be deposited to the credit of said fund. Said fund shall be a continuing fund not subject to fiscal year limitations and shall not be subject to legislative appropriations. Expenditures from said plugging fund shall be made pursuant to the laws of this state and the statutes relating to the Corporation Commission. In addition, expenditures from said plugging fund may be made pursuant

to the Oklahoma Central Purchasing Act, Section 85.1 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, for purposes of immediately responding to emergency situations, within the Commission's jurisdiction, having potentially critical environmental or public safety impact. Warrants for expenditures from said fund shall be drawn by the State Treasurer, based on claims signed by an authorized employee or employee of the Corporation Commission and approved for payment by the Director of State Finance. The provisions of this act or rules or regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, shall not be construed to relieve or in any way diminish the surety bonding requirements required by Section 318.1 of Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. Prior to July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, the plugging fund shall be maintained at Five Million Dollars ($5,000,000.00). If the plugging fund falls below the five-million-dollar maintenance level, the Corporation Commission shall notify the Tax Commission that the plugging fund has fallen below the required maintenance level and that the excise tax which has been levied by subsection A of Section 1101 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes and subsection A of Section 1102 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes which is credited and apportioned to the Corporation Commission Plugging Fund pursuant to Section 1103 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes is to be imposed. Such additional excise tax shall be imposed and collected until such time as is necessary to meet the additional five-million-dollar maintenance level. The Tax Commission shall notify the persons responsible for payment of the excise tax on oil and gas of the imposition of such tax. The provisions of this subsection shall terminate on July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 1991, Section 1101, as amended by Section 9, Chapter 328, O.S.L. 1995 (68 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 1101), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1101. A. Prior to July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, and as provided in Section 1103.1 of this title, there is hereby levied, in addition to the gross production tax, an excise tax equal to ninety-five one thousandths of one percent (.095 of 1%) of the gross value on each and every barrel of petroleum oil produced in the State of Oklahoma which is subject to gross production tax in the State of Oklahoma. Such excise tax of ninety-five one thousandths of one percent (.095 of 1%) of the gross value shall be reported to and collected by the Tax Commission at the same time and in the same manner as is provided by law for the collection of gross production tax on petroleum oil. On petroleum oil sold at the time of production, the excise tax thereon shall be paid by the purchaser, who is hereby authorized to deduct in making settlement with the producer and/or royalty owner the amount of tax so paid; provided, that in the event oil on which such tax becomes due is not sold at the time of production, but is retained by the producer, the tax on such oil not so sold shall be paid by the producer for himself, including the tax due on royalty oil not sold; and provided, further, that in settlement with royalty owner, such producer shall have the right to deduct the amount of tax so paid on royalty oil, or to deduct therefrom royalty oil equivalent in value at the time such tax becomes due with the amount of tax paid.

The provisions of this subsection shall terminate on June 30, ~~2001~~ 2006.

B. Beginning on July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, there is hereby levied, in addition to the gross production tax, an excise tax equal to eighty-five one thousandths of one percent (.085 of 1%) of the gross value on each and every barrel of petroleum oil produced in the State of Oklahoma which is subject to gross production tax in the State of Oklahoma. Such excise tax of eighty-five one thousandths of one percent (.085 of 1%) of the gross value shall be reported to and collected by the Tax Commission at the same time and in the same

manner as is provided by law for the collection of gross production tax on petroleum oil. On petroleum oil sold at the time of production, the excise tax thereon shall be paid by the purchaser, who is hereby authorized to deduct in making settlement with the producer and/or royalty owner the amount of tax so paid; provided, that in the event oil on which such tax becomes due is not sold at the time of production, but is retained by the producer, the tax on such oil not so sold shall be paid by the producer for himself, including the tax due on royalty oil not sold; and provided, further, that in settlement with royalty owner, such producer shall have the right to deduct the amount of tax so paid on royalty oil, or to deduct therefrom royalty oil equivalent in value at the time such tax becomes due with the amount of tax paid.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 1991, Section 1102, as amended by Section 10, Chapter 328, O.S.L. 1995 (68 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 1102), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1102. A. Prior to July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, and as provided in Section 1103.1 of this title, there is hereby levied, in addition to the gross production tax, an excise tax equal to ninety-five one thousandths of one percent (.095 of 1%) of the gross value of all natural gas and/or casinghead gas produced in the State of Oklahoma which is subject to gross production tax in the State of Oklahoma. Such excise tax of ninety-five one thousandths of one percent (.095 of 1%) of the gross value shall be reported to and collected by the Tax Commission at the same time and in the same manner as is provided by law for the collection of gross production tax on natural gas and/or casinghead gas, and this excise tax shall apply in all cases where the gross production tax provided for by law applies to the production of natural gas and/or casinghead gas. The excise tax shall be paid by the purchaser, who is hereby authorized to deduct in making settlement with the producer and/or royalty owner the amount of tax so paid, provided, however, that if such

natural gas and/or casinghead gas is retained by the producer, then the tax shall be paid by the producer, who shall have the right to deduct the amount of tax so paid on royalty gas at the time of settlement with the royalty owner.

The provisions of this subsection shall terminate on June 30, ~~2001~~ 2006.

B. Beginning on July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, there is hereby levied, in addition to the gross production tax, an excise tax equal to eighty-five one thousandths of one percent (.085 of 1%) of the gross value of all natural gas and/or casinghead gas produced in the State of Oklahoma which is subject to gross production tax in the State of Oklahoma. Such excise tax of eighty-five one thousandths of one percent (.085 of 1%) of the gross value shall be reported to and collected by the Tax Commission at the same time and in the same manner as is provided by law for the collection of gross production tax on natural gas and/or casinghead gas, and this excise tax shall apply in all cases where the gross production tax provided for by law applies to the production of natural gas and/or casinghead gas. The excise tax shall be paid by the purchaser, who is hereby authorized to deduct in making settlement with the producer and/or royalty owner the amount of tax so paid, provided, however, that if such natural gas and/or casinghead gas is retained by the producer, then the tax shall be paid by the producer, who shall have the right to deduct the amount of tax so paid on royalty gas at the time of settlement with the royalty owner.

SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 1991, Section 1103, as last amended by Section 12, Chapter 275, O.S.L. 1997 (68 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 1103), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1103. A. 1. Prior to July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, and as provided in Section 1103.1 of this title, all monies derived from the levy of the excise tax on petroleum oil provided for by Section

1101 of this title shall be deposited with the State Treasurer, who shall credit and apportion the same as follows:

a. eighty-four and five hundred fifty-three thousandths percent (84.553%) of said excise tax shall be credited to the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury;

b. ten and five hundred twenty-six thousandths percent (10.526%) shall be credited and apportioned to a separate and distinct fund to be known as the "Corporation Commission Plugging Fund"; and

c. the remaining four and nine hundred twenty-one thousandths percent (4.921%) of said excise tax shall be credited and apportioned to a separate and distinct fund to be known as "The Interstate Oil Compact Fund of Oklahoma", which fund is hereby created.

2. Prior to July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, and as provided in Section 1103.1 of this title, all monies derived from the levy of the excise tax on natural gas and/or casinghead gas provided for by Section 1102 of this title shall be deposited with the State Treasurer, who shall credit and apportion the same as follows:

a. eighty-five and four thousand sixty-six ten thousandths percent (85.4066%) of said excise tax shall be credited to the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury;

b. ten and five thousand five hundred fifty-five ten thousandths percent (10.5555%) shall be credited and apportioned to the Corporation Commission Plugging Fund; and

c. four and three hundred seventy-nine ten thousandths percent (4.0379%) of said excise tax shall be credited and apportioned to The Interstate Oil Compact Fund of Oklahoma.

3. Prior to July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, and as provided in Section 1103.1 of this title, all monies to accrue to "The Interstate Oil Compact Fund of Oklahoma" under the provisions of this article, together with all monies remaining unexpended in "The Interstate Oil Compact Fund of Oklahoma" created under this subsection are hereby appropriated and shall be used for the payment of the compensation of the assistant representative of the State of Oklahoma on "The Interstate Oil Compact Commission", the compensation of such clerical, technical, and legal assistants as he or she may with the consent of the Governor employ; the actual and necessary traveling expenses of said assistant representative and employees, and of the Governor when traveling in his or her capacity as official representative of the State of Oklahoma on "The Interstate Oil Compact Commission"; all items of office expense, including the cost of office supplies and equipment; such contributions as the Governor shall deem necessary and proper to pay to "The Interstate Oil Compact Commission" to defray its expenses; and such other necessary expenses as may be incurred in enabling the State of Oklahoma to fully cooperate in accomplishing the objects of the Interstate Compact to conserve oil and gas. Said fund shall be disbursed by the State Treasurer upon sworn, itemized claims approved by the assistant representative and the Governor; provided, that if at the end of any fiscal year any part of said special fund shall remain unexpended, such balance shall be transferred by the State Treasurer to, and become a part of, the General Revenue Fund of the state for the ensuing fiscal year. Provided, further, that if the State of Oklahoma withdraws from the Interstate Compact to conserve oil and gas, any unencumbered monies in "The Interstate Oil Compact Fund of Oklahoma" shall be transferred to and become a part of the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury and thereafter the excise tax on petroleum oil, natural gas and/or casinghead gas levied by this

article shall be levied, collected and deposited in the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury.

4. All monies to accrue to the Corporation Commission Plugging Fund are hereby appropriated and shall be used for payment of expenses related to the statutory purpose of said fund.

The provisions of this subsection shall terminate on June 30, ~~2001~~ 2006.

B. 1. Beginning on July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, all monies derived from the levy of the excise tax on petroleum oil provided for by Section 1101 of this Code shall be deposited with the State Treasurer, who shall credit and apportion the same as follows: ninety-four and five tenths percent (94.5%) of said excise tax shall be credited and apportioned to the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury, and the remaining five and five-tenths percent (5.5%) of said excise tax shall be credited and apportioned to a separate and distinct fund to be known as "The Interstate Oil Compact Fund of Oklahoma", which fund is hereby created.

2. Beginning on July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, all monies derived from the levy of the excise tax on natural gas and/or casinghead gas provided for by Section 1102 of this Code shall be deposited with the State Treasurer, who shall credit and apportion the same as follows: twenty-one twenty-seconds (21/22) of said excise tax shall be credited and apportioned to the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury, and one twenty-second (1/22) of said excise tax shall be credited and apportioned to The Interstate Oil Compact Fund of Oklahoma.

3. Beginning on July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, all monies to accrue to "The Interstate Oil Compact Fund of Oklahoma" under the provisions of this article, together with all monies remaining unexpended in "The Interstate Oil Compact Fund of Oklahoma" created under this subsection are hereby appropriated and shall be used for the payment of the compensation of the assistant representative of the State of

Oklahoma on "The Interstate Oil Compact Commission", the compensation of such clerical, technical, and legal assistants as he or she may with the consent of the Governor employ; the actual and necessary traveling expenses of said assistant representative and employees, and of the Governor when traveling in his or her capacity as official representative of the State of Oklahoma on "The Interstate Oil Compact Commission"; all items of office expense, including the cost of office supplies and equipment; such contributions as the Governor shall deem necessary and proper to pay to "The Interstate Oil Compact Commission" to defray its expenses; and such other necessary expenses as may be incurred in enabling the State of Oklahoma to fully cooperate in accomplishing the objects of the Interstate Compact to conserve oil and gas. Said fund shall be disbursed by the State Treasurer upon sworn, itemized claims approved by the assistant representative and the Governor; provided, that if at the end of any fiscal year any part of said special fund shall remain unexpended, such balance shall be transferred by the State Treasurer to, and become a part of, the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury for the ensuing fiscal year. Provided, further, that if the State of Oklahoma withdraws from the Interstate Compact to conserve oil and gas, any unencumbered monies in "The Interstate Oil Compact Fund of Oklahoma" shall be transferred to and become a part of the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury and thereafter the excise tax on petroleum oil, natural gas and/or casinghead gas levied by this article shall be levied, collected and deposited in the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury.

SECTION 6. This act shall become effective July 1, 2001.

SECTION 7. 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.

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