

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

3 SENATE BILL 135

By: Justice

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to oil and gas well spacing; stating  
8 Legislative findings related to current statutes  
governing horizontal well spacing requirements;  
9 declaring need for new governing statutes for certain  
procedures; providing for noncodification; and  
10 declaring an emergency.

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

13 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be  
14 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

15 The Legislature finds that advances in horizontal drilling  
16 techniques for oil and gas wells drilled and completed in shale  
17 formations in this state have advanced beyond the historical spacing  
18 requirements found in current statutes. The Corporation Commission,  
19 as the agency charged with the protection of the correlative rights  
20 of those owning oil and gas interests in this state, the prevention  
21 of waste and the promotion of full development of these resources,  
22 is constrained in its ability to adequately accomplish the balancing  
23 of these goals by the limitations place upon it by existing law. In  
24 order to prevent waste, better protect the correlative rights of the

1 owners of oil and gas rights, and harmonize Oklahoma's historical  
2 regulatory authority over such matters with the expanding technology  
3 of drilling and completing horizontal wells in shale reservoirs in  
4 this state, the Legislature finds it necessary to modify current  
5 statutes to authorize:

6 1. The drilling of certain horizontal wells in shale formations  
7 across unit boundaries, with the costs, production and proceeds  
8 allocated to each of the affected units; and

9 2. Unitization of two or more, but not to exceed four,  
10 governmental sections into a single unit for the uniform development  
11 of the shale formation through the use of extended lateral  
12 horizontal wells.

13 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
14 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
15 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
16 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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18 53-1-338 MJM 1/5/2011 11:23:00 AM

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