

Susan K. Duffy, Chair
Dwight D. Keen, Commissioner
Andrew J. French, Commissioner

Laura Kelly, Governor

SECOND QUARTER REPORT

To: Susan K. Duffy, Chair
Dwight D. Keen, Commissioner
Andrew J. French, Commissioner

From: Ryan A. Hoffman, Director, Conservation Division

Date: 6/30/2020

Re: Docket No. 20-CONS-3218-CINV

BACKGROUND

On February 6, 2020, the Commission opened an investigative docket for the purpose of “(1) keeping the public and the Commission apprised of the investigation of Commission Staff into the causes of increased seismic activity occurring in Reno County; and (2) providing a forum by which the Commission may take any advisable action as it relates to increased seismic activity in Reno County.”¹ This is the second quarterly report which is due June 30, 2020.

REPORT

A. Injection Volumes

As mentioned in the first quarter report, the Class II injection well volume reports for calendar year 2020 are not due until March 1, 2021. Staff is preparing to request this data for the first half of calendar year 2020 in the ensuing weeks. This data will be presented to the Commission as part of an updated side-by-side chart with Class I well volumes over the same timeframe in the next quarterly report.

B. Earthquakes

Data in the table below is from the Kansas Geological Survey earthquake database for Reno County in the second quarter of 2020. Staff has included a map titled Staff Exhibit #1 depicting these earthquakes in relation to Staff’s investigation area from April 1, 2020 through June 29, 2020. Staff has attached an exhibit titled Staff Exhibit #1 depicting the location of the earthquakes in relation to the Class I and Class II injection wells within the investigation radius.

¹ Docket No. 20-CONS-3218-CINV, ¶A, p. 2.

Local Date and Time	Latitude	Longitude	Magnitude
APR-23-2020, 06:50:31 AM	38.017	-97.977	2.3
JUN-12-2020, 11:10:09 AM	37.935	-98.017	2.2
JUN-12-2020, 03:17:48 PM	38.014	-97.979	2.5

C. Additional Information

Staff mentioned Governor Kelly's Arbuckle Study Group in its last recommendation. Staff has continued to participate in these meetings. The group is currently reviewing and commenting on a preproposal for a study submitted by the KGS.

Additionally, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has provided Staff with more than 1,500 digital records for the Class I wells in Kansas. Staff is still in the process of performing quality control and analysis on this data.

Recommendation

At this time, Staff makes no recommendation for further Commission action related to the seismicity in Reno County based on the data available. Staff will continue to monitor the injection and earthquake activity within the 15-mile investigation area. Should either of these activities require immediate action, Staff will request the Commission take such action if the Commission does not take the action on its own motion. Finally, Staff will update the information contained herein and supplement it as necessary on a quarterly basis as contemplated by the Commission's order in this docket.

Reno County Investigative Docket into Seismicity Update

