

Thursday, February 12, 2015

Testimony provided by Ryan A. Hoffman, Director, Conservation Division on Senate Bill 125 - Allowing NORM and TENORM to be eligible for disposal in Kansas landfills.

Senate Standing Committee on Natural Resources in Room 159-S

Chair Powell, Vice Chair Kerschen, Ranking Minority Member Francisco and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to share testimony with you regarding Senate Bill 125. The Conservation Division of the Kansas Corporation Commission is currently responsible for regulating oil and gas activities in the state of Kansas. KCC staff is here in support of SB 125, which would allow for landfilling or burial of waste containing low levels of naturally occurring radioactive materials in Kansas. This statutory change will conform to current and historical oil and gas industry practices whereby material that is brought to the surface during the drilling process is deposited in an earthen pit constructed on the drill site. The material is then covered with the remaining dirt and the surface of the property is restored according to statute. Based on the data collected during the NORM study associated with land spreading, staff does not believe the concentrations of NORM to be at a level requiring a deviation from current practices. Staff views this bill as necessary to correct a technicality regarding the burial of exploration and production waste on site.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to express our support with you today. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.