

Colorado Adopts “Fracking” Disclosure Regulation

December 13--The [Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission](#) (COGCC) today approved new rules for disclosure of the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing, known commonly as “fracking.” The adopted rules have been endorsed by both industry and environmental groups and have been [described by Governor John Hickenlooper](#) as a model for other states.

<http://cogcc.state.co.us/>

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?c=Page&childpagename=GovHickenlooper%2FCBONLayout&cid=1251611065764&pagename=CBONWrapper>

The new rules require oil-and-gas operators to publicly disclose the chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing of their wells, while still recognizing and protecting trade secrets. Regulators and medical professionals, however, can still obtain trade secret information upon request under the rules. Moreover, operators must file a form ensuring trade-secret claims meet the appropriate definition and sign an affidavit--under penalty of perjury--that chemicals cited qualify for trade-secret protection.

The rule builds upon major progress in chemical disclosure associated with oil-and-gas development. In 2008, nationally groundbreaking amendments to COGCC rules mandated disclosure of hydraulic-fracturing chemicals to state regulators and health professionals upon request. Earlier this year, the COGCC worked with industry for voluntary disclosure to the publicly available www.FracFocus.org Website.

CACI endorsed adoption of clear, consistent rules that encourage economic development in the oil-and-gas industries. [Carly Dollar](#), CACI Government Affairs Representative, testified in support of the regulations on December 5th when COGCC held its hearing.

cdollar@COchamber.com

For more on the COGCC decision, read the following article:

“[Hickenlooper: Colorado’s frack fluid disclosure rule will be model for the nation](#),” by Mark Jaffe, *The Denver Post*, December 13th.

http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci_19537142