

FORT WORTH



**2008 Gas Drilling Task Force
Public Hearing**

**August 11, 2008
City Council Chamber**



2008 Task Force Members

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District 8
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Greater Fort Worth Area of Realtors
Land Use Attorney
James R. Harris Company Inc.
Walsh Ranch
Jacobs Carter Burgess
Chesapeake Energy
Devon Energy Production Company
Quicksilver
XTO Energy



Task Force City Council Charges Completed to Date

Noise

- Ambient noise: measurement practices for drilling and fracing of wells
- High and low frequency noise standards
- Noise Management Plan

Protected Use Definitions

- Public Park
- Public Buildings
- Trinity Trails

Compressors

- Permitted Locations
- Compressor Noise



Proposed Revisions to the Current Noise Provisions

- Require Operators to provide name of representative with **regulatory response** and supervisory authority over all gas operation site activities and a 24-hour phone number
- Require Operators to provide a **noise management plan** identifying operation noise impacts; documentation establishing the Ambient Noise Level prior to construction of any wellhead, compressor or compression facility; detailing how the impacts will be mitigated.



Proposed Revisions to the Current Noise Provisions

- Require Operator to establish and submit to the City a continuous seventy-two (72) hour pre-drilling Ambient Noise Level test. The seventy-two hour time span shall include at least one twenty-four (24) hour reading during either a Saturday or Sunday
- Require measurement to be measured at a Protected Use receiver's/receptor's property line or from the closest exterior point of the Protected Use structure if access to the property is granted by the receiver/receptor



Proposed Revisions to the Current Noise Provisions

- Restrict fracing noise level to 3 decibels over ambient at night
- Add standards for pure tones and low-frequency noise
- Require continuous monitoring of the exterior noise level for a 72-hour period if a complaint is received by either the Operator or the Gas Inspector from any Protected Use within one thousand (1,000) feet from the gas well



Proposed Revisions to the Current Noise Provisions

- Require monitoring at the exterior noise level at the source of the complaint if requested by the Gas Inspector
- Allow immediate issuance of a citation if not in compliance with noise mitigation plan
- If Operator is in compliance with noise mitigation plan, allow Operator 24 hours from notice of non-compliance to correct the violation from an identified source before a citation is issued



Current Protected Use Definitions

- ***Public Park*** means any land area dedicated to and/or maintained by the City for traditional park-like recreational purposes, but shall not include privately-owned amusement parks or privately-owned or privately-managed golf courses.
- ***Public Building*** means all buildings used or designed to and intended to be used for the purpose of assembly of persons for such purposes as deliberation, entertainment, amusement, or health care. Public buildings include, but shall not be limited to, theaters, assembly halls, auditoriums, armories, mortuary chapels, dance halls, exhibition halls, museums, gymnasiums, bowling lanes, libraries, skating rinks, courtrooms, restaurants, shopping malls, stores, and hospitals.



Proposed Changes

REVISE:

- **Public park** means any land area dedicated to and accepted by the City for traditional park-like recreational purposes.
- **Public building** means all buildings used or designed to and intended to be used for auditoriums, museums and libraries.
- **Residence** means a house, duplex, apartment, townhouse, condominium, mobile home or other building designed for dwelling purposes, including those for which a building permit has been issued on the date the application for a Gas Well Permit is filed with the Gas Inspector. Residence shall include assisted living facilities, nursing homes (both intermediate care facilities and skilled nursing facilities) and residential board and care facilities, group homes and half-way houses.

ADD:

- **Hospital building** means all buildings used or designed to and intended to be used for medical, surgical, psychiatric, nursing or custodial care on a 24 hour basis, including convalescent facilities, social rehabilitation centers, mental hospitals, detoxification facilities, and alcohol and drug centers.



Compressor Stations

- Keep location restriction for line compressors to "AG" agricultural, "I" light industrial, "J" medium industrial and "K" heavy industrial districts and in all other districts by special exception.
- Change noise allowances to require compressors to meet specific noise levels based on zoning.



Next Task Force Meeting

- Monday, August 18th, 6:30 pm
Pre Council Chamber