

**Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 9, 2001**

SENATE BILL NO. 2099
(Natural Resources Committee)
(At the request of the Industrial Commission)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 3 of section 38-08-04.5, section 38-08-21, and subsection 7 of section 38-12-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the abandoned oil and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund, control of gas and oil resources, and subsurface mineral regulation; and to provide an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 3 of section 38-08-04.5 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

3. All moneys collected under this section must be deposited in the abandoned oil and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund. This fund must be maintained as a special fund and all moneys transferred into the fund are ~~hereby~~ appropriated and must be used and disbursed solely for the purpose of defraying the costs incurred in carrying out the plugging or replugging of wells, the reclamation of well sites, and all other related activities. However, when the ~~money fees~~ accumulated in the fund exceeds fifty thousand dollars, any additional fees collected by the oil and gas division of the industrial commission must be deposited in the general fund.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Subsection 3 of section 38-08-04.5 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

3. All moneys collected under this section must be deposited in the abandoned oil and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund. This fund must be maintained as a special fund and all moneys transferred into the fund are ~~hereby~~ appropriated and must be used and disbursed solely for the purpose of defraying the costs incurred in carrying out the plugging or replugging of wells, the reclamation of well sites, and all other related activities. However, when the ~~money fees~~ accumulated in the fund ~~exceeds~~ exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars, any additional fees collected by the oil and gas division of the industrial commission must be deposited in the general fund.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 38-08-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

38-08-21. Regulation of carbon dioxide and nitrogen gas. The commission is ~~hereby~~ vested with the authority and duty to regulate the exploration, development, and production of carbon dioxide, coal bed methane gas, helium gas, and nitrogen gas within the state, ~~used for the development of oil and gas resources,~~ in the same manner, insofar as is practicable, as it regulates oil or gas as defined in this chapter.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. Subsection 7 of section 38-12-01 of the 1999 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7. "Subsurface minerals" means all naturally occurring elements and their compounds, volcanic ash, precious metals, carbonates, and natural mineral salts of boron, bromine, calcium, fluorine, ~~helium,~~ iodine, lithium, magnesium, ~~nitrogen,~~ phosphorus, potassium, sodium, thorium, uranium, and sulfur, and their compounds, but does not include sand and gravel and rocks crushed for sand and gravel.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. Section 2 of this Act becomes effective on July 1, 2003.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2099.

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 2

House Vote: Yeas 89 Nays 0 Absent 9

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2001,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State