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HOUSE BILL No. 2146

By Committee on Utilities

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9 AN ACT relating to oil and gas; concerning information to be included 10 with payments to interest owners from sales of oil and gas; amending K.S.A. 2004 Supp. 55-1620 and 55-1622 and repealing the existing 11 12 sections. 13 14 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas: 15 Section 1. K.S.A. 2004 Supp. 55-1620 is hereby amended to read as 16 follows: 55-1620. When a payment is made for proceeds attributable to 17 oil or gas production, the payment shall be accompanied by the following information, or the following information shall be calculable from the 18 19 information provided with the payment: 20 (a) The lease, property, or well name or any lease, property, or well 21 identification number used to identify the lease, or well; 22 (b) the month and year during which the sale occurred for which 23 payment is being made; 24 (e) the total volume of oil, attributable to such payment, measured in 25 barrels and the total volume of either wet or dry gas, attributable to such 26 payment, measured in thousand cubic feet; 27 the price per barrel of oil or thousand cubic feet of gas sold; 28 total amount of state severance and production taxes; 29 payee's interest in the sale expressed as a decimal; 30 payee's share of the sale before any deductions or adjustments; 31 payee's share of the sale after deductions or adjustments; 32 an address and telephone number from which additional infor-33 mation may be obtained and any questions answered. (a) As used in this 34 section: 35 "Affiliated party" means any entity which, directly or indirectly, 36 controls or is controlled by, or is under common control with, the payor. 37

- "Associated products" means all constituent elements, including, but not limited to, liquid hydrocarbons and helium, in solution in the gas or oil production stream, which may be separated by a reduction in pressure at the wellhead or in a separator, absorption or processing plant or by other manufacturing process.
- 42 "Check stub" means the financial record attached to a check, in-43 cluded with a check or mailed separately at or near the time the check is

mailed.

- (4) "Interest owner" means any person or persons owning a royalty interest or working interest in an oil or gas well or unit.
- (5) "Payee" means any person or persons legally entitled to payment from the proceeds derived from the sale of oil or gas, or from the sale of any associated products, from an oil or gas well located in this state.
- (6) "Payor" means the party who undertakes to distribute oil and gas proceeds to the payee, whether as the purchaser of the production of oil or gas generating such proceeds or as operator of the well from which such production was obtained or as lessee under the lease on which royalty is due.
- (b) Whenever a payment is made to an interest owner for proceeds attributable to the sale of oil production, or for the sale of associated products, if any, the following information, at a minimum, shall be included and labeled on the check stub:
- (1) The lease, property or well name, or any lease, property or well identification number used to identify the lease or well, and the county and state in which each producing well is located;
- (2) the month and year during which the sale occurred for which payment is being made;
- (3) the total volume of oil attributable to such payment, measured in barrels;
- (4) the price per barrel of oil;
 - (5) the total amount of state severance and production taxes;
 - (6) the owner's interest in the sale expressed as a decimal;
- (7) the owner's share of the sale before any deductions or adjustments; and
 - (8) the owner's share of the sale after deductions or adjustments.
- (c) Whenever a payment is made to an interest owner for proceeds attributable to the sale of gas production, or for the sale of associated products, if any, the following information, at a minimum, shall be included and labeled on the check stub:
- (1) The lease, property or well name, or any lease, property or well number used to identify the lease or well, and the county and state in which the lease, property or well is located;
- (2) the month and year during which the sale occurred for which payment is being made;
- (3) the total volume attributable to such payment, measured in thousand cubic feet (MCF) or in million British thermal units (MMBTU), and the total volume of any associated products attributable to such payment, including the units of measurement for the sale thereof;
- 42 (4) the price received per unit of measurement, prior to any deduc-43 tions or adjustments, which shall be the price per MCF or MMBTU, in

the case of gas, or the appropriate unit of measurement for associated products sold;

- (5) the conversion factor between MCF and MMBTU for the volume attributable to such payment;
- (6) the total amount of state severance and any other production taxes or levies applied to the sale;
- (7) the owner's interest in oil and gas production from such lease or property, expressed as a decimal and calculated to at least the sixth decimal place;
- (8) an itemized list of any other deductions or adjustments, including any volume or value deductions or adjustments from the produced volume;
- (9) the total value attributed to the owner's interest in the sale of the production from the gas well, lease or property, or associated products, before and after any deductions or adjustments;
- (10) an advice or alert to the owner if such payment includes production from more than one well;
- (11) an advice or alert to the owner if such payment is for less than the total production from the lease, property or well during which the sale occurred for which payment is being made; and
- (12) an advice or alert to the owner if the price reported under subsection (c)(4) is for a sale between payor and an affiliated party.
- (d) With respect to all payments for the sale of gas or oil, or associated products, the check stub shall include a name, address and telephone number, and an email address if available, where the interest owner may receive clarification or supplementation of the information reported pursuant to this act.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2004 Supp. 55-1622 is hereby amended to read as follows: 55-1622. Upon written request by the payee, submitted to the payor by certified mail, the payor shall provide to the payee in writing a specific listing of the amount and purpose of any other deductions or adjustments, including volumetric deductions, with explanation of such treatment. A written response shall be provided within 60 days of the receipt of such certified mail request. (a) An interest owner who has received a payment from a payor may request in writing, by certified mail, additional information from the payor, such as:
- (1) Each lease, property or well identification number used by the payor for royalty payment purposes and a corresponding lease, property or well identification number for identification by the payor used by the state corporation commission and/or the A.P.I. number;
- (2) each lease, property or well name;
- 42 (3) each well which may have contributed to production and sale of 43 gas or oil, when the royalty payment may have only identified the sale in

relation to the lease, property or unit description;

- (4) the field name;
- (5) for a given month of production for which payment has been received or is due the owner, the total produced volume of oil, measured in barrels, and/or total produced volume, measured in MCF, as reported for each well, lease or unit to the state corporation commission, the department of revenue and/or the Kansas geological survey;
- (6) details on the conversion from a fractional interest to a decimal interest, used by payor to calculate owner's interest in production from each lease, property or well;
- (7) the reason for any deductions from or adjustments to any payment; and
- (8) information concerning transactions, such as, but not limited to, sales or services to produce, gather, compress, treat or process gas, between the payor and an affiliated party.
- (b) A payor who receives a request for information under subsection (a) and has not otherwise provided such information shall provide a full explanation of the requested information to the interest owner by certified mail not later than the 30th day after the date the payor receives the request.
- (c) Within six months after the effective date of this act, and at least once every 12 months thereafter, the payor shall provide the following statement to each interest owner to whom the payor makes a payment:
- "K.S.A. 55-1620 et seq., and amendments thereto, gives an owner of an interest in oil or gas produced in Kansas the right to request from us information about itemized deductions and about transactions between us and any affiliated company. The request must be in writing and must be made to us by certified mail at the following address: (supply address). We must respond to a request for such information by certified mail not later than the 30th day after the date the request is received."
- (d) If the information required by K.S.A. 55-1620, and amendments thereto, is provided in some other manner on a monthly basis, in writing, the payor is not required to include such information on the check stub.
- New Sec. 3. Any district court within this state shall have jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this act. The court may award court costs, reasonable attorney fees and other allowable litigation expenses incurred by a party in an action to enforce this act.
- Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2004 Supp. 55-1620 and 55-1622 are hereby repealed.
- Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.