

DRAFT
GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
ON THE OIL, GAS AND SOLUTION
MINING REGULATORY PROGRAM

TABLE OF CONTENTS
VOLUME I

| | Page |
|--|------|
| I. INTRODUCTION | 1-1 |
| II. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION | 2-1 |
| III. MAJOR CONCLUSIONS ON THE APPLICATION OF THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REIVEW ACT TO THE OIL, GAS AND SOLUTION MINING LAW | 3-1 |
| A. Introduction | 3-1 |
| B. SEQR Requirements | 3-2 |
| C. Proposed SEQR Determinations | 3-5 |
| D. Future SEQR Compliance | 3-5 |
| Table 3.1 Proposed SEQR Determination | 3-5a |
| E. Parameters for Future SEQR Reviews | 3-6 |
| 1. Project | 3-7 |
| Figure 3.1 - Intrastate Pipeline Jurisdiction | 3-8a |
| 2. Size of Project | 3-8 |
| 3. Lead Agency | 3-8 |
| F. Summary of Impacts | 3-9 |
| 1. Cumulative Impacts | 3-9 |
| Table 3.2 Resource Impact Summary | 3-9a |
| 2. Secondary Impacts | 3-10 |
| 3. Long Term Impacts | 3-11 |
| IV. HISTORY OF OIL, GAS AND SOLUTION SALT PRODUCTION IN NEW YORK STATE | |
| A. Introduction | 4-1 |
| B. Oil and Gas History | 4-1 |

| | Page |
|--|------|
| 1. Natural Seeps | 4-1 |
| 2. Early Wells | 4-1 |
| 3. Oil and Gas Production Trends | 4-2 |
| Figure 4.1 Annual Production of Crude Oil in NYS | 4-2a |
| Figure 4.2 Annual Production of Natural Gas in NYS | 4-2b |
| 4. Underground Gas Storage Fields | 4-3 |
| C. Solution Salt Mining History | 4-3 |
| 1. Early Methods of Salt Extraction | 4-3 |
| 2. Establishment of Permanent Salt Production Industry in New York State | 4-4 |
| Figure 4.3 Solution Salt Mining Operations in NYS | 4-5a |
| Figure 4.4 Annual Production of Salt in NYS | 4-5b |
| D. Historic Environmental Problems | 4-5 |
| E. New York's Oil, Gas and Solution Mining Legislative History | 4-7 |
| 1. Early History | 4-7 |
| 2. 1981, 1984 and 1987 Revisions to the Oil, Gas and Solution Mining Law | 4-9 |
| 3. Regulations Implementing the Oil, Gas and Solution Mining Law | 4-11 |
| V. NEW YORK STATE GEOLOGY AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO OIL, GAS AND SALT PRODUCTION | |
| A. Geologic Provinces in New York State | 5-1 |
| 1. Adirondacks and Hudson Highlands: Igneous and Metamorphic Terrains | 5-1 |
| 2. Western and Central New York: Paleozoic Sedimentary Rocks | 5-2 |
| B. Geologic Factors Which Determine the Existence of Oil, Gas and Salt in Sedimentary Rocks | 5-3 |
| 1. Factors Which Affect Producibility | 5-5 |
| 2. Economic Factors Affecting Producibility | 5-6 |
| C. Producing Formations | 5-9 |

| | Page |
|--|-------|
| 1. Cambrian Period | 5-9 |
| Figure 5.1 Stratigraphic Section Southwestern New York | 5-9a |
| 2. Ordovician Period | 5-12 |
| Figure 5.2 Ordovician Bedrock in New York State | 5-12a |
| 3. Silurian Period | 5-15 |
| Figure 5.3 Silurian Bedrock in New York State | 5-15a |
| 4. Devonian Period | 5-20 |
| Figure 5.4 Devonian Bedrock in New York State | 5-20a |
| a. Oriskany Sandstone Formation | 5-25 |
| b. Onondaga Limestone Formation | 5-26 |
| c. Tully Limestone Formation | 5-27 |
| d. Devonian Black Shale Production | 5-27 |
| e. Upper Devonian Oil Producing Sands | 5-29 |
| D. Other Areas of Oil and Gas Interest | 5-30 |
| 1. "Bass Island" Trend | 5-30 |
| Figure 5.5 "Bass Island" Trend Oil and Gas Fields | 5-31a |
| 2. Eastern Overthrust | 5-32 |
| Figure 5.6 The Eastern Overthrust Belt in New York State | 5-32a |
| E. Geothermal Resources | 5-34 |
| VI. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES | |
| A. Introduction | 6-1 |
| B. Waterways/Waterbodies | 6-2 |
| C. Drinking Water Supplies | 6-3 |
| Figure 6.1 Ground Water Aquifers and Their Uses | 6-3a |
| Figure 6.2 Ground Water Aquifers in New York State | 6-4a |
| D. Public Lands | 6-6 |
| E. Coastal Areas | 6-7 |
| F. Wetlands | 6-8 |
| G. Floodplains | 6-9 |

| | Page |
|---|------------------|
| H. Soils | 6-10 |
| Figure 6.3 The Lime Content of New York State Soils | 6-10a |
| Figure 6.4 General Soil Limitations of New York State | 6-10b |
| I. Agricultural Lands | 6-11 |
| Figure 6.5 The Fourteen Agricultural Regions of NYS | 6-11a & 6-11b |
| J. Intensive Timber Production Areas | 6-13 |
| K. Significant Habitats | 6-14 |
| L. Areas of Historic, Architectural, Archeological and Cultural Significance | 6-16 |
| M. Clean Air | 6-16 |
| N. Visual Resources | 6-17 |
| | |
| VII. NYS OIL, GAS AND SOLUTION MINING PROGRAM | |
| A. Introduction | 7-1 |
| 1. Administrative Procedures | 7-2 |
| a. Permit Conditions | 7-2 |
| b. Inspections | 7-3 |
| c. Reporting Requirements | 7-3 |
| d. Enforcement | 7-3 |
| B. Drilling Permit Applications and the Review Process | 7-4 |
| 1. Preliminary Procedures | 7-4 |
| 2. Permit Application | 7-5 |
| 3. Application Processing | 7-7 |
| C. Phases of Well Development | 7-8 |
| | |
| VIII. SITING OF OIL AND GAS WELLS | |
| A. Introduction | 8-1 |

| | Page |
|---|-------|
| B. Well Spacing | 8-1 |
| Figure 8.1 Drilling Site Layout | 8-1a |
| 1. Statewide Spacing | 8-2 |
| C. Siting Regulations and Policies | 8-3 |
| D. Public Safety and Well Siting | 8-4 |
| 1. Public Safety/Other Well Site Facilities | 8-4 |
| 2. Noise, Visual and Air Quality Impacts | 8-6 |
| a. Temporary Noise, Visual and Air Quality Impacts | 8-6 |
| b. Longer-Term Noise and Visual Impacts | 8-11 |
| Figure 8.2 Typical Gas Production Well Site | 8-12a |
| c. Visual Resources of Statewide Significance | 8-12 |
| d. Summary of Noise and Visual Impacts | 8-13 |
| E. Water Quality | 8-14 |
| 1. Surface Waters | 8-14 |
| 2. Springs | 8-16 |
| 3. Municipal Water Supplies | 8-16 |
| a. Surface Municipal Water Supplies | 8-16 |
| b. Municipal Water Wells | 8-17 |
| c. Primary and Principal Aquifers | 8-18 |
| 4. Public (Community and Non-Community) Supplies | 8-19 |
| 5. Private Wells | 8-21 |
| F. Agriculture | 8-22 |
| 1. Drainage Systems | 8-24 |
| 2. Bisection of Fields | 8-24 |
| 3. Site Restoration | 8-25 |
| 8.3 Restored Site of Blowout and Production Record Holder | 8-26a |
| 4. Water Supply | 8-26 |

| | Page |
|---|-------|
| 5. Lease Terms | 8-27 |
| 6. DEC Permit Conditions | 8-28 |
| G. Stream Disturbance | 8-28 |
| 1. Streambanks | 8-29 |
| 2. Gathering Lines | 8-30 |
| 3. Culverts and Sills | 8-31 |
| 4. Fill and Filter Fabric | 8-31 |
| 5. General | 8-32 |
| 6. Aquatic Habitat | 8-32 |
| H. Erosion and Sedimentation | 8-32 |
| 1. Wells and Drinking Water Reservoirs | 8-33 |
| 2. Other Wells | 8-34 |
| I. Historic/Archeologic | 8-35 |
| 1. Historic Sites | 8-35 |
| 2. Archeological Sites | 8-36 |
| Figure 8.4 Archeological Sites in Southwestern New York | 8-36a |
| Figure 8.5 Archeologic Review Process | 8-37a |
| J. Significant Habitats | 8-37 |
| 1. Heronries | 8-38 |
| 2. Deer Wintering Areas | 8-38 |
| 3. Uncommon, Rare and Endangered Plants | 8-39 |
| K. Floodplains | 8-39 |
| 1. Mud or Reserve Pits | 8-40 |
| 2. Brine and Oil Tanks | 8-41 |
| 3. Other Tanks | 8-42 |
| 4. Brush Debris | 8-43 |
| 5. Erosion/Topsoil | 8-44 |

| | Page |
|---|-------|
| 6. Bulk Supplies | 8-44 |
| 7. Accidents | 8-44 |
| L. Freshwater Wetlands | 8-44 |
| Table 8.1 Freshwater Wetland Classification | 8-46a |
| 1. Interruption of Natural Drainage | 8-46 |
| 2. Flooding | 8-47 |
| 3. Erosion and Sedimentation | 8-47 |
| 4. Brush Disposal | 8-48 |
| 5. General Permit Conditions | 8-49 |
| 6. Creation of Replacement Wetland | 8-50 |
| Figure 8.6 Wetland Permit Conditions and Mitigation Pond | 8-50a |
| Figure 8.7 Gas Well in Class I Wetland | 8-50b |
| 7. Increased Access | 8-51 |
| 8. Pit Location | 8-52 |
| M. State Lands | 8-53 |
| 1. State Lands Permits | 8-53 |
| 2. State Park Lands | 8-54 |
| N. Coastal Zone | 8-54 |
| 1. Local Plans | 8-56 |
| 2. Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitats | 8-56 |
| O. "Critical Environmental Area" | 8-57 |
| IX DRILLING PHASE: DRILLING, CASING AND COMPLETION OPERATIONS | |
| A. Introduction | 9-1 |
| 1. Drilling Rigs | 9-2 |
| 2. Drilling Fluids | 9-2 |
| Figure 9.1 Truck Mounted Rotary Drilling Rig | 9-2a |
| Figure 9.2 Cable Tool Rig | 9-2b |

| | Page |
|---|-------|
| 3. Casing and Cementing | 9-3 |
| 4. Drilling Safety Considerations | 9-4 |
| B. Conductor Casing | 9-8 |
| C. Surface Casing | 9-10 |
| Figure 9.3 Primary Cementing Procedures | 9-10a |
| 1. Recent Revisions | 9-13 |
| 2. Further Revisions | 9-13 |
| D. Well Control | 9-18 |
| 1. Blowout Preventers | 9-18 |
| Figure 9.4 Blowout Prevention Equipment | 9-19a |
| E. Production Casing | 9-22 |
| 1. Annular Pressure | 9-23 |
| 2. Completion and Testing | 9-24 |
| F. Stimulation | 9-25 |
| 1. Water-Gel Fracs | 9-26 |
| 2. Foam Fracs | 9-27 |
| 3. Flowback | 9-28 |
| G. Completion Reports and Well Logs | 9-29 |
| H. Waste Handling and Disposal | 9-31 |
| 1. On Site Waste Handling | 9-31 |
| 2. Pit Construction | 9-31 |
| 3. Pit Liners | 9-32 |
| Table 9.1 Pit Liner Specifications | 9-33a |
| 4. Pitless Drilling | 9-34 |
| 5. Tanks | 9-35 |
| 6. Waste Fluids | 9-36 |
| a. Brine or Freshwater Drilling Fluid | 9-36 |
| b. Drilling Mud | 9-36 |

| | Page |
|--|-------|
| c. Completion Fluid | 9-36 |
| d. Acid | 9-37 |
| e. Frac Fluid | 9-37 |
| f. Formation Water/Production Fluid | 9-37 |
| g. Precipitation | 9-38 |
| 7. Environmental Impacts | 9-38 |
| a. Chlorides | 9-39 |
| b. Surfactants | 9-40 |
| c. Gelling Agents | 9-41 |
| d. Heavy Metals and Other Drilling Pit Components | 9-41 |
| Table 9.2 Quality Standards and Guidelines for Other Commonly Found Inorganic Chemicals | 9-41a |
| 8. Waste Disposal | 9-44 |
| X. WELL COMPLETION AND PRODUCTION PRACTICES | |
| A. Introduction | 10-1 |
| B. Production | 10-1 |
| 1. Gas Well Production | 10-2 |
| Figure 10.1 Standard Producing Gas Well | 10-2a |
| a. Potential Environmental Impacts of Gas Production | 10-3 |
| 2. Oil Well Production | 10-7 |
| Figure 10.2 Sucker Rod Pumping System | 10-7a |
| a. Potential Environmental Problems of Oil Production | 10-7 |
| 3. Production Reports and Conservation of Resources | 10-12 |
| XI. PLUGGING AND ABANDONMENT OF OIL AND GAS WELLS | |
| A. Introduction | 11-1 |
| B. Plugging Regulations | 11-2 |

| | Page |
|---|-------|
| 1. Old Plugging Regulations | 11-2 |
| 2. Existing Plugging Regulations | 11-3 |
| 3. Summary of Existing Plugging Requirements | 11-3 |
| Figure 11.1 Schematic of Existing New York Well Plugging Requirements | 11-3a |
| C. Mudding the Hole | 11-4 |
| D. Plugging Methods | 11-4 |
| E. Additional Plugging Requirements | 11-6 |
| 1. Site Reclamation | 11-6 |
| Figure 11.2 Well Site After Proper Reclamation | 11-7a |
| 2. Potential Delays in Plugging and Abandonment | 11-7 |
| a. Shut-in | 11-7 |
| b. Temporary Abandonment | 11-8 |
| c. Detection of Illegal Delays in Plugging | 11-8 |
| 3. Compliance | 11-8 |
| a. Temporary Abandonment | 11-10 |
| b. Shut-in Wells | 11-11 |
| F. Suggested Future Plugging Regulations | 11-11 |
| 1. Old Oil Field Abandonment Requirements | 11-12 |
| a. Production Zone Plugging Requirements | 11-13 |
| b. Injection Zone Plugging Requirements | 11-14 |
| c. Abandonment Fluid Requirements | 11-14 |
| d. Uncemented Surface Casing Plugging Requirements | 11-15 |
| e. Plugging Requirements for Uncemented Surface Casing Recovery Failure | 11-15 |
| f. Cemented Surface Casing Plugging Requirements | 11-17 |
| 2. Gas Well Plugging Requirements | 11-17 |

| | Page |
|---|-------|
| a. Production Zone Plugging Requirements | 11-18 |
| b. Uncemented Production Casing Plugging Requirements | 11-19 |
| c. Plugging Requirements for Hydrocarbon or Significant Brackish Water Zones Behind Uncemented Casing | 11-20 |
| d. Junk-in-the-Hole Plugging Requirements | 11-21 |
| e. Plugging Requirements for a Well with Uncemented Production and Surface Casing | 11-21 |
| f. Plugging Requirements for a Well with Cemented Production and Surface Casing | 11-21 |
| g. Surface Plugging Requirements | 11-22 |
| 3. Application to Other Wells Regulated by the Division of Mineral Resources | 11-22 |
| G. Summary of the Proposed Regulatory Requirements | 11-22 |
| 1. General Abandonment Requirements | 11-22 |
| 2. Hole Fluid | 11-23 |
| 3. Oil and Gas Zone Plugs | 11-23 |
| a. Oil Wells | 11-23 |
| b. Gas Wells | 11-23 |
| 4. Injection Zone Plugs | 11-23 |
| 5. Other Oil and Gas Zones | 11-24 |
| a. Zones in Open Hole | 11-24 |
| b. Zones Behind Uncemented Casing | 11-24 |
| 6. Junk-in-the-Hole | 11-24 |
| 7. Surface Casing Shoe Plugs | 11-24 |
| a. Uncemented Casing | 11-24 |
| b. Cemented Casing | 11-24 |
| 8. Casing Recovery | 11-24 |
| a. Surface Casing - Partial Recovery | 11-25 |

| | Page |
|--|--------|
| b. Surface Casing - No Recovery | 11-24 |
| c. Production Casing with Cemented Surface Pipe | 11-25 |
| d. Production Casing with Uncemented Surface Casing | 11-25 |
| 9. Surface Plugs | 11-26 |
| H. Summary of Environmental Impacts of Plugging and Abandonment Operations | 11-26 |
| Figure 11.3 Plugged Oil Well with an Open Hole Completion and Tacked Surface Casing: All Casing Recovered | 11-26a |
| Figure 11.4 Plugged Oil Well with an Open Hole Completion and Tacked Surface Casing: Part of the Surface Casing Left in the Hole | 11-26b |
| Figure 11.5 Plugged Oil Well with an Open Hole Completion and Partially or Totally Uncemented Surface Casing: All Surface Casing Left in Hole | 11-26c |
| Figure 11.6 Plugged Injection Well with an Open Hole Completion and Tacked Surface Casing: Unable to Recover Surface Casing or Squeeze | 11-26d |
| Figure 11.7 Plugged Injection Well with an Open Hole Completion and Tacked Surface Casing: Part of the Surface Casing Left in the Hole | 11-26e |
| Figure 11.8 Plugged Gas Well with a Lost Circulation Zone and Partially Cemented Production Casing: Combination Stub Plug and Surface Casing Shoe Plug | 11-26f |
| Figure 11.9 Plugged Dual Completion Well with the Production Casing Recovered Far Below the Shoe of the Surface Casing: Surface Casing Cemented to the Surface | 11-26g |
| Figure 11.10 Plugged Gas Well with Partially Cemented Production Casing: All Casing Left in the Hole | 11-26h |
| Figure 11.11 Plugged Gas Well with Junk-in-the-Hole | 11-26i |
| Figure 11.12 Dry Hole Gas Well with Brackish Water and Upper Non-Commercial Gas Zone | 11-26j |

VOLUME II

| | | |
|--|---|--------|
| XII. OLD OIL FIELD WATERFLOOD OPERATIONS AND ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY POTENTIAL | | |
| A. | Introduction | 12-1 |
| B. | Definitions | 12-2 |
| C. | Waterflooding | 12-5 |
| 1. | General | 12-5 |
| | Figure 12.1 Enhanced Recovery Flood Patterns | 12-6a |
| 2. | Waterflooding in New York | 12-7 |
| | Figure 12.2 Waterflooded Fields in New York State | 12-8a |
| a. | Historical Waterflood Operations | 12-9 |
| | Figure 12.3 Waterflooding | 12-12a |
| b. | Current Waterflood Operations | 12-12 |
| c. | Injection Operations | 12-19 |
| | Figure 12.4 Sample Step Rate Test | 12-20a |
| 3. | Plugging and Abandonment | 12-21 |
| D. | Gas Injection and Immissible Displacement | 12-22 |
| 1. | General | 12-22 |
| 2. | New York's Gas Injection Operations | 12-23 |
| E. | Chemical Recovery Methods | 12-23 |
| 1. | Polymer Flooding | 12-23 |
| | Table 12.1 Screening Criteria for EOR Candidates | 12-24a |
| 2. | Surfactant Flooding | 12-24 |
| 3. | Alkaline Flooding | 12-25 |
| 4. | New York's Chemical Drive Projects | 12-25 |
| F. | Miscible Displacement Methods | 12-25 |
| 1. | High Pressure Gas Injection | 12-26 |
| 2. | Miscible Hydrocarbon Displacement | 12-27 |
| 3. | New York's Miscible Drive Projects | 12-28 |
| G. | Thermal Recovery Methods | 12-28 |

| | Page |
|---|--------|
| 1. Steam Flooding | 12-29 |
| Figure 12.5 Steamflood Recovery Process | 12-29a |
| 2. Cyclic Steam Injection | 12-29 |
| 3. In-Situ-Combustion | 12-30 |
| 4. New York's Thermal Drive Projects | 12-31 |
| H. Existing Regulations | 12-32 |
| 1. Permit Application for Secondary Recovery Projects | 12-32 |
| 2. Offsetting Leases | 12-34 |
| 3. Integration and Unitization | 12-35 |
| 4. Federal Underground Injection Control Regulations | 12-36 |
| I. Environmental Considerations | 12-36 |
| Table 12.2 Common Usage of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) Chemicals | 12-38a |
| Table 12.3 Hazards of Enhanced Oil Recovery Chemicals | 12-38c |
| J. Proposed Regulations | 12-40 |
| K. Future Enhanced Oil Recovery Projects | 12-42 |
| L. Conclusions | 12-43 |

XIII. SOLUTION SALT MINING

| | |
|--|--------|
| A. Introduction | 13-1 |
| Figure 13.1 Silurian Salt in New York State | 13-1a |
| B. Choosing a Well Site and Applying for a Drilling Permit | 13-2 |
| C. Permit Fee | 13-4 |
| D. Financial Security | 13-4 |
| E. DEC Review of Permit Applications | 13-5 |
| F. Preparing for Drilling Operations | 13-8 |
| G. Drilling Safety Considerations | 13-8 |
| H. Drilling Solution Salt Mining Wells | 13-9 |
| Figure 13.2 One-Well Method of Solution Mining | 13-10a |
| Figure 13.3 Two-Well Method of Solution Mining | 13-10b |

| | Page |
|---|--------|
| I. Salt Completion Operations | 13-10 |
| Figure 13.4 Schematic of Typical Solution Salt Mining Well | 13-11a |
| Figure 13.5 Notching of Solution Mining Wells | 13-12a |
| J. Salt Production Operations | 13-13 |
| K. Controlling the Shape of the Salt Cavity During Production | 13-16 |
| Figure 13.6 Schematic Illustrating How Subsidence, Sinkholes, and Mudboils May Occur | 13-16a |
| Figure 13.7 Subsidence Monument Used by Texas Brine Corporation | 13-17a |
| L. Metering of Solution Mining Production | 13-18 |
| M. Methane Gas | 13-18 |
| N. Brine Disposal | 13-18 |
| Figure 13.8 Cargill Salt Brine Wastewater Disposal Wells | 13-19a |
| O. Monitoring Wells | 13-19 |
| P. Earthquakes | 13-20 |
| Q. Temporary Abandonments and Shut-ins | 13-20 |
| R. Permanent Plugging and Abandonment | 13-21 |
| | |
| XIV. UNDERGROUND STORAGE | |
| A. Introduction | 14-1 |
| Figure 14.1 Natural Gas Supply and Demand Curve | 14-1a |
| Figure 14.2 Location Map NYS Underground Storage Reservoirs | 14-1b |
| B. Storage Site Selection and Formation Evaluation | 14-2 |
| 1. Depleted Gas Reservoirs | 14-2 |
| Figure 14.3 Cross Section of a Natural Gas Storage Reservoir | 14-2a |
| 2. Solution Mined Salt Cavities | 14-3 |
| Figure 14.4 Cross Section of a Salt Cavity | 14-3a |
| 3. Conventionally Mined Storage Caverns | 14-3 |
| Figure 14.5 Cross Section of a Mined Storage Cavern | 14-3b |
| C. Applying for an Underground Storage Permit | 14-6 |
| D. Construction of the Storage Site and Access Roads | 14-14 |

| | Page |
|---|--------|
| E. Drilling of a Mined Cavern Main Shaft and Auxiliary Wells | 14-14 |
| F. Excavation of a Mined Storage Cavern | 14-16 |
| 1. On-Site Disposal of Mined Material | 14-16 |
| 2. Off-Site Disposal of Mined Material | 14-17 |
| G. Drilling of Storage Wells | 14-19 |
| H. Installation and Operation of Compressor Stations | 14-21 |
| I. Operation of the Storage Facility | 14-23 |
| 1. Depleted Gas Reservoirs | 14-23 |
| a. Reservoir Pressure | 14-23 |
| b. Segments of a Gas Storage Reservoir | 14-24 |
| Figure 14.6 Segments of a Gas Storage Reservoir | 14-24a |
| c. Operation of a Gas Storage Reservoir | 14-25 |
| 2. Mined Caverns and Abandoned Salt Cavities | 14-30 |
| 3. Regulation of Storage Operations | 14-31 |
| J. Abandonment of Underground Storage Facilities | 14-33 |
| 1. Well Abandonment | 14-34 |
| 2. Site Restoration | 14-34 |
| 3. Reservoir Abandonment | 14-35 |
| 4. Underground Storage Abandonment Permit | 14-36 |
| XV. INTERAGENCY COORDINATION: BRINE DISPOSAL, UNDERGROUND INJECTION AND OIL SPILL RESPONSE | |
| A. Introduction | 15-1 |
| B. Local Government | 15-1 |
| Table 15.1 Oil, Gas and Solution Mining, and Brine Disposal Interagency Coordination | 15-1a |
| C. Complaint Response | 15-2 |
| Table 15.2 New York State Laws and Regulations Related to Oil, Gas and Solution Mining | 15-3a |

| | Page |
|---|-------|
| Table 15.3 Brine Chemical Characteristics from New York Producing Zones (Using Chemical Analyses Graded Fair or Better Quality) | 15-8a |
| Table 15.4 Brine Chemical Characteristics From New York Producing Zones (Using All Acceptable Chemical Analyses) | 15-8b |
| 1. Water Supply Problems | 15-3 |
| 2. Oil and Gas Well Drilling and Production | 15-6 |
| 3. Pipelines | 15-6 |
| D. Brine Disposal | 15-6 |
| 1. Road Spreading | 15-7 |
| Table 15.5 Chemical Characteristics of Commercial Road Salt, Shallow Oil Brine and Deep Gas Brine | 15-8c |
| Figure 15.1 New York State Towns and Counties that Accept Brine for Road Spreading | 15-9a |
| 2. Discharges to Surface Waters | 15-11 |
| 3. Underground Injection | 15-13 |
| E. Federal Underground Injection Control Program | 15-15 |
| 1. Primacy under UIC | 15-16 |
| 2. UIC Program Requirements | 15-18 |
| a. Procedural Requirements | 15-18 |
| b. Technical Requirements | 15-20 |
| 3. UIC Coordination | 15-23 |
| F. Oil Spill Response | 15-24 |
| 1. New York State Responsibilities | 15-24 |
| 2. Federal Responsibilities | 15-26 |
| XVI. SUMMARY OF ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS RESULTING FROM OIL, GAS, SOLUTION MINING AND GAS STORAGE OPERATIONS | |
| A. Introduction | 16-1 |

| | Page |
|---|-------|
| B. Standard Oil and Gas Operations | 16-1 |
| 1. Adverse Land Impacts | 16-2 |
| a. Siting Impacts | 16-2 |
| b. Operational Impacts | 16-4 |
| c. Fluid Handling Impacts | 16-4 |
| 2. Adverse Impacts on Other Environmental Resources | 16-5 |
| a. Agriculture | 16-5 |
| b. Significant Habitats | 16-6 |
| c. Floodplains | 16-7 |
| d. Freshwater Wetlands | 16-7 |
| e. Coastal Lands | 16-8 |
| f. State Lands | 16-8 |
| g. Air Quality | 16-9 |
| h. Social and Cultural Resources | 16-10 |
| i. Historic and Archeologic Resources | 16-11 |
| j. Flora and Fauna | 16-12 |
| 3. Adverse Impacts on Surface Waters | 16-12 |
| a. Siting Impacts | 16-12 |
| b. Operational Impacts | 16-14 |
| c. Fluid Handling Impacts | 16-15 |
| 4. Adverse Impacts on Groundwater | 16-15 |
| a. Siting Impacts | 16-16 |
| b. Operational Impacts | 16-16 |
| c. Fluid Handling Impacts | 16-19 |
| 5. Plugging and Abandonment Impacts | 16-19 |
| C. Enhanced Oil Recovery Impacts | 16-20 |

| | Page |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Siting and Operational Impacts | 16-20 |
| 2. Surface and Groundwater Impacts | 16-21 |
| D. Solution Mining Impacts | 16-22 |
| 1. Siting and Operational Impacts | 16-23 |
| 2. Surface and Groundwater Impacts | 16-24 |
| E. Underground Gas Storage | 16-24 |
| 1. Siting and Operational Impacts | 16-24 |
| 2. Surface and Groundwater Impacts | 16-26 |
| 3. Socio-Economic Impacts | 16-26 |
| F. Conclusion | 16-27 |

XVII. SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES

| | |
|---|-------|
| A. Administrative Review Process | 17-1 |
| 1. Existing Mitigation | 17-1 |
| 2. Proposed Mitigation | 17-3 |
| B. Siting of Wells | 17-3 |
| 1. Existing Mitigation | 17-3 |
| 2. Proposed Mitigation | 17-6 |
| C. Drilling Phase: Drilling, Casing and Completion Operations | 17-8 |
| 1. Existing Mitigation | 17-8 |
| 2. Proposed Mitigation | 17-13 |
| D. Well Completion and Production Practices | 17-15 |
| 1. Existing Mitigation | 17-16 |
| 2. Proposed Mitigation | 17-16 |
| E. Plugging and Abandonment of Oil and Gas Wells | 17-17 |
| 1. Existing Mitigation | 17-17 |

| | Page |
|--|-------|
| 2. Proposed Mitigation | 17-18 |
| F. Enhanced Oil Recovery Operations | 17-23 |
| 1. Existing Mitigation | 17-23 |
| 2. Proposed Mitigation | 17-25 |
| G. Solution Salt Mining | 17-26 |
| 1. Existing Mitigation | 17-26 |
| 2. Proposed Mitigation | 17-27 |
| H. Underground Storage | 17-29 |
| 1. Existing Mitigation | 17-29 |
| 2. Proposed Mitigation | 17-30 |
| I. Summary | 17-32 |
| | |
| XVIII. ECONOMICS | |
| A. Introduction | 18-1 |
| 1. Historical Benefits to State | 18-2 |
| B. New York Production and Market Value | 18-3 |
| 1. Production | 18-3 |
| 2. Market Value | 18-4 |
| Figure 18.1 Market Value of Oil and Gas Production | 18-4a |
| C. Leasing Process and Revenues | 18-5 |
| 1. Leasing Private Lands | 18-5 |
| 2. Private Leasing Revenues | 18-6 |
| 3. Leasing Process for Public Lands | 18-6 |
| 4. Current State Land Leasing | 18-7 |
| Figure 18.2 Oil and Gas Leasing Revenues From State Lands | 18-7a |
| 5. Lake Erie Leasing | 18-8 |
| 6. Oil and Gas Revenues | 18-8 |

| | Page |
|--|--------|
| a. Local Property Tax Revenues | 18-8 |
| Figure 18.3 Oil and Gas Property Tax Revenues | 18-8a |
| b. Permit and Fee Revenues | 18-9 |
| Figure 18.4 Oil Production in New York State versus Price | 18-9a |
| Figure 18.5 Gas Production in New York State versus Price | 18-9b |
| D. Related Economic Benefits | 18-10 |
| 1. The Value of Investment | 18-10 |
| 2. Secondary Benefits of Oil and Gas Operations | 18-11 |
| a. Free Gas to Landowners | 18-11 |
| b. End User Savings | 18-12 |
| c. Access Roads | 18-13 |
| 3. Gas Storage Benefits | 18-13 |
| E. Impacts of Low Oil and Gas Prices in New York | 18-14 |
| Table 18.1 New York State Oil and Gas Statistics | 18-14a |
| F. Economic Impacts on New York Exploration | 18-16 |
| G. Impacts of Environmental Regulations on the Oil and Gas Industry | 18-18 |
| H. Summary | 18-21 |
| XIX. UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS | |
| A. Oil and Gas Drilling and Development | 19-1 |
| B. Enhanced Oil Recovery | 19-2 |
| C. Solution Salt Mining | 19-2 |
| D. Underground Gas Storage | 19-3 |
| E. Geothermal | 19-3 |
| F. Stratigraphic | 19-3 |

| | Page |
|---|--------|
| G. Brine Disposal | 19-4 |
| | |
| XX. IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES | |
| A. Oil and Gas Drilling Development | 20-1 |
| B. Enhanced Oil Recovery | 20-1 |
| C. Solution Salt Mining | 20-1 |
| D. Underground Gas Storage | 20-2 |
| E. Geothermal | 20-2 |
| F. Stratigraphic Test Wells | 20-2 |
| G. Brine Disposal Wells | 20-2 |
| | |
| XXI. ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS | |
| A. Prohibition of Resource Development | 21-1 |
| Table 21.1 Alternate Energy Sources and Associated Adverse Impacts | 21-2 |
| B. Removal of Regulation | 21-3 |
| C. Maintenance of Status Quo Versus Revision of Existing Regulations | 21-5 |
| | |
| GLOSSARY | 1-14p. |
| | |
| REFERENCES | 1-16p. |

VOLUME III

Page

| | | |
|--------------|---|--------|
| APPENDIX 1 - | Underground Storage - Applying for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act | 1-8p. |
| APPENDIX 2 - | Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) | 1-4p. |
| APPENDIX 3 - | Movement of Contaminants in Aquifers | 1-9p. |
| APPENDIX 4 - | Mineral Ownership and Leasing Summary | 1-11p. |
| APPENDIX 5 - | Oil, Gas, Solution Mining, Gas Storage, Brine Disposal, Stratigraphic, and Geothermal Well Drilling Environmental Assessment Form | 1-9p. |
| APPENDIX 6 - | Gathering Lines | 1-7p. |
| APPENDIX 7 - | Brine Disposal Well Permitting Guidelines | 1-7p. |
| APPENDIX 8 - | Forms Used in the Oil, Gas and Solution Mining Program | 1-7p. |