

**COGCC flowline rulemaking hearings held on January 8/9, 2018:**

In response to the 2017 flowline explosion and tragedy in Firestone, ten (10) local governmental agencies aligned to provide the COGCC with direction on proposed oil and gas flowline rulemaking. The COGCC held a hearing on January 8/9 to discuss their draft regulations. The City's Building and Planning Director, Fire Chief, and outside Oil/Gas Attorney presented testimony at this hearing. The hearing has been continued to February 13 for an anticipated final rulemaking decision.

**Seven priority issues being raised for flowline rulemaking:**

1. **The need for flowline and pipeline mapping** - No mapping is required as part of the proposed rules and we don't believe that enhancement of the 811 system is a substitute for a comprehensive mapping system that local governments should have access to.
2. **Local government discretion on abandonment methods** - Since land use impacts should be considered when an operator is choosing whether to abandon flowlines in place or to remove them, we think local governments should have the discretion to weigh in on these decisions.
3. **Flowline setbacks** - Local governments should be able to determine the appropriate flowline setbacks and siting.
4. **Use of best available and most recent technologies and standards** -The rules should allow for use of most recent and best available technologies as those change over time.
5. **Inventory of Domestic Taps** - Sometimes an operator and a landowner make a deal that the landowner can "tap" into an existing flowline in order to get free gas as part of their surface owner agreements or contracts. The draft rules require registration of new domestic taps going forward but do not require existing domestic taps to be inventoried. We are asking for an inventory of the domestic taps that currently exist.
6. **Containment and Clean-up of Pipeline Spills and Releases** - We are proposing language that addresses containment and cleanup of all materials released during any leak or other incident involving pipelines.
7. We are supporting some of the **technical issues that specific other local governments are proposing** in their Prehearing Statements, such as Integrity Management, leak testing, reporting, and insurance provisions proposed by Broomfield and a local control "savings" clause proposed by Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG).