



# COLORADO

## Department of Natural Resources

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### Colorado Oil and Gas Director Issues Final Objective Criteria for Colorado's New Oil and Gas Law

Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) Director Jeff Robbins released Final Objective Criteria today to ensure pending oil and gas permits and applications are in compliance with Colorado's new oil and gas law, SB 19-181.

"The finalization of the criteria is an important first step in implementing the new law and incorporating it's public health, safety, welfare, environmental, and wildlife considerations," said Director Jeff Robbins. "We appreciate the 340 public comments we received and believe the objective criteria satisfies the Colorado Legislature's intent."

[The Final Objective Criteria \(Criteria\) released](#) include provisions that the Director of the COGCC may conduct additional analysis and review on proposed oil and gas locations, which are within 1,500 feet of a residence, are within a municipality, 1,500 feet of a municipality or platted subdivision, areas identified as "sensitive wildlife habitat" by the Colorado Department of Wildlife, or in a floodplain or water supply areas, among others.

Guidance was also issued today to outline the process an applicant can expect from the COGCC to ensure a permit complies with the new law's requirements.

The criteria was informed by a [wide variety of comments](#) received by the Commission from the public, local governments, the industry and other interested parties.

While the Director and staff determined that the draft criteria captured most public and stakeholder comments and upheld the intent of SB 19-181, the Director added Objective Criteria No. 16, which involves additional Director Review on specific wells when an operator is subject to individual or blanket financial assurance requirements in addition to a few other small edits.

The criteria will remain in place for the COGCC until final rules outlined in SB 19-181 are adopted.

Final Objective Criteria: [here](#)  
Final Objective Criteria Guidance: [here](#)  
Objective Criteria Public Comments: [here](#)

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