USED DOWNHOLE;

## HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

March 23, 2023
Chair of Committee Date
Committee on Energy & Environment.
After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:
HB23-1242 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations with favorable recommendation:
Amend printed bill, strike everything below the enacting clause and substitute:
"SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 34-60-134 and 34-60-135 as follows:  34-60-134. Reporting of water used in oil and gas operations
- cumulative reporting - definitions - rules - repeal. (1) Definitions.
As used in this section and in section 34-60-135, unless the
CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:
(a) "Consortium" means the Colorado produced water
CONSORTIUM CREATED IN SECTION 34-60-135 (2)(a).
(b) "DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITY" HAS THE
MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 24-4-109 (2)(b)(II).
(c) (I) "PRODUCED WATER" MEANS WATER, INCLUDING THE
WATER'S MINERAL AND CHEMICAL COMPONENTS, IN OR INTRODUCED TO A
GEOLOGICAL FORMATION, THAT IS COPRODUCED WITH OIL OR NATURAL
GAS.
(II) "PRODUCED WATER" INCLUDES FLOWBACK WATER, EXCLUDING PROPPANTS RETURNED TO THE SURFACE.
(d) "RECYCLED OR REUSED PRODUCED WATER" MEANS PRODUCED
WATER THAT IS RECONDITIONED INTO A REUSABLE FORM OR THAT IS
REUSED WITHOUT RECONDITIONING.
(2) Well reporting - rules. Beginning September 1, 2023,
OPERATORS SHALL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION ON A MONTHLY BASIS, IN
A MANNER THAT PROVIDES FOR CONCURRENT REPORTING WITH REQUIRED
PRODUCTION REPORTING, FOR EACH OIL AND GAS WELL:

(a) The volume, expressed in Barrels, of all fresh water

(b) THE VOLUME, EXPRESSED IN BARRELS, OF ALL RECYCLED OR REUSED PRODUCED WATER USED DOWNHOLE;

- (c) THE VOLUME, EXPRESSED IN BARRELS, OF ALL PRODUCED WATER THAT IS PRODUCED FROM THE WELL AND REMOVED FROM THE OIL AND GAS LOCATION FOR DISPOSAL, INCLUDING:
- (I) THE DISPOSAL METHOD, AS DEFINED BY THE COMMISSION BY RULE; AND
- (II) THE DISPOSAL LOCATION, INCLUDING FACILITY IDENTIFICATION, IF APPLICABLE; AND
- (d) THE VOLUME, EXPRESSED IN BARRELS, OF ALL PRODUCED WATER THAT IS PRODUCED FROM THE WELL AND:
- (I) RECYCLED OR REUSED IN ANOTHER WELL AT THE SAME OIL AND GAS LOCATION; AND
  - (II) REMOVED FROM THE OIL AND GAS LOCATION FOR RECYCLING OR REUSE IN OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS AT A DIFFERENT OIL AND GAS LOCATION, INCLUDING FOR USE BY ANOTHER OPERATOR.
  - (3) **Oil and gas location reporting rules.** (a) Beginning January 1, 2024, an operator shall report to the commission, on a quarterly basis, for each oil and gas location at which the operator conducted oil and gas operations in the previous reporting period:
  - (I) THE VOLUME, EXPRESSED IN BARRELS, AND SOURCE OF ALL FRESH WATER PURCHASED OR OTHERWISE ACQUIRED FOR USE IN OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS AT THE OIL AND GAS LOCATION;
  - (II) THE VOLUME, EXPRESSED IN BARRELS, AND SOURCE OF ALL RECYCLED OR REUSED WATER USED IN OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS AT THE OIL AND GAS LOCATION;
  - (III) THE VOLUME, EXPRESSED IN BARRELS, OF ALL PRODUCED WATER DISPOSED OF FROM THE OIL AND GAS LOCATION, INCLUDING:
- (A) THE DISPOSAL METHOD, AS DEFINED BY THE COMMISSION BY RULE; AND
- (B) THE DISPOSAL LOCATION, INCLUDING FACILITY IDENTIFICATION, IF APPLICABLE;
- (IV) THE VOLUME, EXPRESSED IN BARRELS, OF ALL PRODUCED WATER THAT IS REMOVED FROM THE OIL AND GAS LOCATION FOR RECYCLING OR REUSE IN OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS, INCLUDING BY ANOTHER OIL AND GAS OPERATOR; AND
- (V) THE TOTAL VOLUME, EXPRESSED IN BARRELS, OF ALL WATER PRODUCED FROM ALL WELLS AT THE OIL AND GAS LOCATION IN EACH MONTH OF THE REPORTING PERIOD.
  - (b) AN OPERATOR SHALL:
- (I) FILE THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION NO LATER THAN FORTY-FIVE DAYS AFTER THE END OF THE

- (II) INCLUDE IN EACH REPORT FILED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION THE TOTAL AMOUNTS OF ALL FRESH WATER, PRODUCED WATER, AND RECYCLED OR REUSED PRODUCED WATER MANAGED AT THE OIL AND GAS LOCATION FOR ANY PURPOSE. INFORMATION REPORTED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (3)(b)(II) DOES NOT INCLUDE STORM WATER.
- (4) Scope of report operational lifetime of a well. AN OPERATOR'S PRODUCED WATER REPORTS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTIONS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SECTION MUST DESCRIBE ALL WATER PRODUCED OR USED THROUGHOUT THE OPERATIONAL LIFETIME OF A WELL, BEGINNING WITH SITE CONSTRUCTION, DRILLING, COMPLETION, STIMULATION AND PRODUCTION OPERATIONS, ASSOCIATED PLUGGING AND ABANDONMENT, FACILITY DECOMMISSIONING, REMEDIATION, AND RECLAMATION.
- (5) **Rules.** (a) For the purpose of collecting the data required by subsections (2) and (3) of this section, the commission may adopt rules authorizing operators to include information in their reports that is not otherwise reported pursuant to existing commission rules.
- (b) THE COMMISSION SHALL NOT ADOPT A RULE DESIGNATING THE DATA REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION AS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION THAT AN OPERATOR MAY REDACT WHEN REPORTING THE INFORMATION TO THE COMMISSION.
- (c) (I) On or before July 1, 2024, the commission shall adopt rules to require a statewide reduction in fresh water usage, and a corresponding increase in usage of recycled or reused produced water, at oil and gas locations.
- (II) IN ADOPTING RULES PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5)(c)(I) OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSIDER:
- (A) THE DATA IN REPORTS FILED WITH THE COMMISSION PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SECTION; AND
  - (B) RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE CONSORTIUM DEVELOPS.
- (d) THE RULES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5) MUST INCLUDE:
- (I) REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND SUBSTANTIAL MODIFICATIONS TO PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PERMITS TO INCLUDE A PLAN SPECIFYING THE METHODS AND LOCATIONS FOR TREATMENT OF THE PRODUCED WATER, QUANTIFYING RECYCLED OR REUSED PRODUCED WATER USED IN PLACE OF FRESH WATER, DESCRIBING EMISSION CONTROLS ASSOCIATED WITH PRODUCED WATER TREATMENT, AND INCLUDING ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS THE COMMISSION DETERMINES ARE NECESSARY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION;
  - (II) A PROHIBITION AGAINST PLACEMENT OF A NEW CENTRALIZED

PRODUCED WATER STORAGE OR TREATMENT FACILITY IN A DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITY;

- (III) A REQUIREMENT THAT AN OPERATOR QUANTIFY AND REPORT, FOR EACH OIL AND GAS LOCATION, THE VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED IN RELATION TO FRESH WATER AND PRODUCED WATER MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED FOR THE RECYCLING AND REUSE OF PRODUCED WATER.
- (e) The Rules adopted pursuant to subsection (5)(c) of this section:
  - (I) Must:

- (A) REQUIRE FOR EACH OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION BASIN AN ITERATIVE AND CONSISTENT INCREASE IN THE USE OF RECYCLED OR REUSED PRODUCED WATER WITHOUT INCREASING EMISSIONS ASSOCIATED WITH OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS; AND
- (B) ESTABLISH DATES BY WHICH, FOR ALL WATER USED IN HYDRAULIC FRACTURING OPERATIONS IN THE STATE, STATEWIDE TARGETS FOR USAGE OF RECYCLED OR REUSED PRODUCED WATER MUST BE MET, WITH A TARGET OF AT LEAST NINETY PERCENT BY 2030, UNLESS AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CONSORTIUM DETERMINE THAT IT WOULD NOT BE FEASIBLE TO MEET THAT TARGET BY 2030; AND
- (II) MAY INCLUDE OIL-AND-GAS-BASIN-SPECIFIC BENCHMARKS TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY RULE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5)(e)(I) OF THIS SECTION.
- (6) **Cumulative impacts reporting.** The commission shall include in its annual reporting on cumulative impacts of oil and gas operations in the state information reported pursuant to this section.
- (7) (a) On or before March 31, 2025, the commission shall submit a report to the house of representatives energy and environment committee and the senate transportation and energy committee, or their successor committees, summarizing the reports developed pursuant to this section.
  - (b) This subsection (7) is repealed, effective July 1, 2025.
- **34-60-135.** Colorado produced water consortium created membership recommendations definitions. (1) (a) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:
- (I) "BENEFICIAL USE" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 37-92-103 (4).
- (II) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.
- 41 (III) "EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR" MEANS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF 42 THE DEPARTMENT.
  - (IV) "GOVERNING BODY" MEANS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE

- CONSORTIUM APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION TO APPOINT MEMBERS OF THE CONSORTIUM.
- (V) "LOCAL GOVERNMENT" MEANS A STATUTORY OR HOME RULE CITY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR COUNTY.
- (VI) "Nontributary groundwater" has the meaning set forth in section 37-90-103 (10.5).
- (VII) "STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 23-18-102 (10).
- (VIII) "WATER RIGHT" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 37-92-103 (12).
- (b) Definitions in Section 34-60-134 (1) APPLY TO TERMS AS THEY ARE USED IN THIS SECTION.
  - (2) (a) There is created in the department the Colorado produced water consortium to recommend an informed path for the recycling and reuse of produced water within, and potentially outside of, oil and gas locations in the state and measures to address barriers associated with the utilization of produced water.
- (b) THE PRIMARY GOAL OF THE CONSORTIUM IS TO HELP REDUCE THE CONSUMPTION OF FRESH WATER WITHIN OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS. THE CONSORTIUM SHALL BRING TOGETHER THE FOLLOWING GROUPS TO COLLABORATE ON WORKING TOWARD THAT GOAL:
  - (I) STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES;
  - (II) RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS;

- (III) STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION;
- (IV) AFFECTED AND INTERESTED NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS;
  - (V) LOCAL GOVERNMENTS;
  - (VI) AFFECTED INDUSTRIES; AND
  - (VII) OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.
- (3) (a) (I) A GOVERNING BODY OF THE CONSORTIUM SHALL MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO THE CONSORTIUM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION (3). THE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY ALSO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF THE CONSORTIUM.
  - (II) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE SHALL APPOINT THE FOLLOWING THREE INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CONSORTIUM:
    - (A) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMISSION;
- (B) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES IN THE DEPARTMENT; AND
- 41 (C) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF 42 PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT.
- 43 (III) THE GOVERNING BODY SHALL APPOINT THE FOLLOWING

- 2 (A) FOUR REPRESENTATIVES FROM A STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY
  3 ASSOCIATED WITH THE REGULATION OF PRODUCED WATER, INCLUDING AT
  4 LEAST ONE MEMBER FROM THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
  5 HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT;
  - (B) FOUR REPRESENTATIVES FROM RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS OR STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH EXPERIENCE IN PRODUCED WATER;
  - (C) FOUR REPRESENTATIVES FROM NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT ENGAGE IN WORK AND ADVOCATE FOR POLICIES RELATED TO PRODUCED WATER;
- 12 (D) FOUR REPRESENTATIVES FROM INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATED WITH 13 PRODUCED WATER;
  - (E) TWO REPRESENTATIVES WHO SERVE ON A GOVERNING BODY OF A LOCAL GOVERNMENT;
  - (F) FOUR REPRESENTATIVES WITH EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE IN PRODUCED WATER; AND
  - (G) FOUR REPRESENTATIVES SELECTED FOR THEIR REPRESENTATION OF DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITIES OR THEIR EXPERTISE IN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND INTEREST IN PRODUCED WATER MANAGEMENT AS AN ISSUE FOR THE COMMUNITIES THEY REPRESENT.
  - (b) ANY VACANCY IN MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONSORTIUM SHALL BE FILLED AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPOINTMENT PROCESS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (3)(a)(III) OF THIS SECTION.
  - (c) (I) THE GOVERNING BODY SHALL CALL THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CONSORTIUM, AT WHICH MEETING THE MEMBERS OF THE CONSORTIUM SHALL ELECT A MEMBER TO SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE CONSORTIUM. THE CHAIR OF THE CONSORTIUM SERVES FOR TWO YEARS, AND THE MEMBERS OF THE CONSORTIUM ELECT A NEW CHAIR AS NEEDED.
    - (II) MEMBERS:
  - (A) SHALL BE REIMBURSED FOR ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES INCURRED WHILE PERFORMING OFFICIAL DUTIES, TOGETHER WITH MILEAGE, AT THE RATE AT WHICH MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ARE REIMBURSED PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-317; AND
  - (B) RECEIVE A PER DIEM ALLOWANCE OF FIFTY DOLLARS FOR EACH DAY SPENT IN ATTENDANCE AT A CONSORTIUM MEETING OR HEARING. CONSORTIUM MEMBERS REPRESENTING DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITIES OR COMMUNITY GROUPS COMMITTED TO ADVANCING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE HOURLY COMPENSATION IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE STATE MINIMUM WAGE FOR ATTENDANCE AT CONSORTIUM MEETINGS OR HEARINGS.
    - (d) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL HIRE A DIRECTOR AND A

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH TO ASSIST THE CONSORTIUM AS FOLLOWS:

- (I) THE DIRECTOR OF THE CONSORTIUM SHALL PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT; COORDINATE MEETINGS AND MEMBERSHIP; WRITE GRANTS; PREPARE THE CONSORTIUM BUDGET; CONTRACT FOR ANALYSES AND STUDIES; AND INTERACT WITH AND REPORT TO AGENCIES AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGARDING POLICIES, RULE-MAKING PROCEEDINGS, AND LEGISLATION REGARDING REUSE, RECYCLING, AND BENEFICIAL USE OF PRODUCED WATER.
- (II) THE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH FOR THE CONSORTIUM SHALL MANAGE ACADEMIC ANALYSES, RESEARCH, PILOT PROJECTS, AND CASE STUDIES FOR THE CONSORTIUM.
  - (4) THE CONSORTIUM SHALL:

- (a) PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO STATE AGENCIES AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS FOLLOWS:
- (I) ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15, 2024, HOW STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES CAN BETTER COORDINATE REGULATORY POLICIES RELATED TO PRODUCED WATER:
- (II) ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15, 2024, TOPICS RELATED TO PRODUCED WATER;
- (III) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 31, 2024, ANY AGENCY RULES OR LEGISLATION NEEDED TO REMOVE REGULATORY OR LEGAL BARRIERS TO THE REUSE AND RECYCLING OF PRODUCED WATER IN THE STATE, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION ANY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ISSUES. THESE BARRIERS MIGHT INCLUDE:
- (A) ANY LEGAL ISSUES THAT MAY AFFECT THE RECYCLING AND REUSE OF PRODUCED WATER;
- (B) TESTING STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR TREATMENT OF PRODUCED WATER FOR BOTH CONVENTIONAL AND NONCONVENTIONAL OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT;
- (C) RESEARCH GAPS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TREATMENT OF PRODUCED WATER, INCLUDING GAPS IN ADDRESSING EMISSIONS FROM PRODUCED WATER TREATMENT AND STORAGE;
  - (D) WATER SHARING AGREEMENTS; AND
- (E) Infrastructure and storage for produced water reuse and recycling, and specifically infrastructure and storage for addressing new or existing pits.
- (IV) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2024, SHORT- AND LONG-TERM PRODUCED WATER REUSE AND RECYCLING GOALS FOR THE STATE AND CONTEMPORANEOUS DECREASES IN FRESH WATER USE;
- (b) PARTICIPATE IN RELEVANT STATE AGENCY RULE-MAKING PROCEEDINGS REGARDING PRODUCED WATER;
- (c) On or before January 1, 2024, develop guidance documents and case studies to promote best practices for

IN-FIELD RECYCLING AND REUSE OF PRODUCED WATER THROUGHOUT THE STATE;

- (d) On or before March 1, 2024, based on data reported under section 34-60-134, analyze and report on current produced water infrastructure, storage, and treatment facilities within the different oil and gas production basins in the state, with specific emphasis on opportunities within the Denver-Julesburg oil and gas production basin;
- (e) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2024, ANALYZE AND REPORT ON THE VOLUME OF PRODUCED WATER PRODUCED IN THE DIFFERENT OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION BASINS AVAILABLE FOR REUSE AND RECYCLING IN COMPARISON TO THE TOTAL VOLUME OF WATER NECESSARY FOR COMPLETION ACTIVITIES IN NEW OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS;
- (f) On or before April 15, 2024, analyze and report on the infrastructure, storage, and technology necessary to achieve different levels of recycling and reuse of produced water in oil and gas production basins throughout the state, with specific emphasis on opportunities within the Denver-Julesburg oil and gas production basin;
- (g) On or before July 1, 2025, evaluate analytical and toxicological methods employed during produced water treatment and assess tools used to evaluate produced water and its potential for use outside the oil field; and
- (h) BEGINNING IN THE 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, AND NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THROUGH THE DIRECTOR OF THE CONSORTIUM, UPDATE THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, ON THE CONSORTIUM'S WORK PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.
- (5) (a) On or before July 1, 2023, the governing body and membership of the consortium shall be appointed pursuant to subsection (3) of this section.
- (b) THE CONSORTIUM SHALL MEET ON A MONTHLY BASIS DURING THE CONSORTIUM'S FIRST YEAR AND ON A QUARTERLY BASIS IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS, OR MORE OFTEN IF NEEDED AS DETERMINED BY THE CHAIR OF THE CONSORTIUM.
- **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.".

\*\* \*\*\* \*\* \*\*\* \*\*