

LOGA's Industry Seminar and CLE
September 15-16, 2014
Speaker: James H. "Jim" Welsh, Commissioner of Conservation

“Update of Activities: Louisiana Office of Conservation” EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

“Responding to Legislative directives” accurately, describes much of the overall activities of the Office of Conservation (OC) since Legislative adjournment on June 2, 2014. The Office of Conservation is directed to provide timely information regarding some nine (9) different Legislative Acts, SCR's, and HCR's ranging in regulatory topics from “cross-unit laterals” to “salt dome caverns”. While Office of Conservation is certainly willing and able to timely provide the requested information and reports to the various oversight Legislative Committees, I must say that it has been an ambitious and time consuming undertaking.

The Office of Conservation is additionally firmly committed to providing by the end of the year evidence of affirmative responses to some twenty-one (21) recommendations of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's June Report of certain regulatory programs of the Office of Conservation during a 6-year segment of Office of Conservation's 102-year regulatory history. Six of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's recommendations require new rulemaking under the Administrative Procedure Act, which has already commenced, and the remaining fifteen Louisiana Legislative Auditor's recommendations require a re-tooling of our award winning SONRIS System software, adoption of SOP's, and other various program modifications to streamline and enhance regulatory operations. These additional program modifications are also in progress.

My presentation at the September 15-16, 2014 LOGA Industry Seminar and CLE will provide the latest update of Office of Conservation's efforts outlined above.