

SENATE BILL NO. 165

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 30:91(B)(1) and to enact R.S. 30:28(J), relative to the
3 commissioner of conservation; to require notification to certain landowners; to
4 provide for orphaned oilfield sites; to provide for requirements of drilling permits;
5 and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1.R.S. 30:91(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 30:28(J) is
8 hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §28. Drilling permits; issuance; fees; location plat; notice and hearing; funds from
10 drilling permit fees

11 * * *

12 **J. No later than thirty days after the issuance of an amended permit to**
13 **transfer a well to another operator, the commissioner shall require that the**
14 **operator identify on a form approved by the commissioner the surface owner**
15 **of lands on which the well site is located. "Surface owner" shall mean the**
16 **person shown in the assessor's rolls of the parish as the current owner of the**
17 **surface rights for the land on which the well site is located.**

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19 §91. Orphaned oilfield sites

20 * * *

21 B.(1) Prior to declaring a site to be an orphaned oilfield site, the assistant
22 secretary shall seek to notify the last operator of record, at his last known address
23 contained in the department records, of the site that is to be declared orphaned and
24 shall publish a notice in the Louisiana Register that the oilfield site is to be declared
25 orphaned. **Additionally, the assistant secretary shall seek to notify the surface**
26 **owner of the site, at the address provided by the operator pursuant to R.S.**
27 **30:28(J), that the site is to be declared orphaned. Failure of the assistant**

1 secretary to notify the surface owner of the site shall not invalidate the decision
2 to declare a site orphaned. If resolution of a factual dispute is requested by any
3 owner or operator, the assistant secretary shall hold a fact-finding hearing prior to
4 declaring the site orphaned and the assistant secretary shall make any fact
5 determination necessary to resolve the dispute.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____