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The original instrument was prepared by Alan Miller. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Linda Nugent.

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DIGEST

SB 165 Reengrossed 2016 Regular Session Allain

Proposed law requires the commissioner of conservation to require the operator identify on a form approved by the commissioner, the surface owner of lands on which the well site is located, no later than 30 days after the issuance of an amended permit to transfer a well to another operator. Defines "surface owner" as the person shown in the assessor's rolls of the parish as the current owner of the surface rights for the land on which the well site is located.

Present law requires the commissioner to seek to notify the last operator of record, at his last known address contained in the department records, of the site that is to be declared orphaned and shall publish a notice in the Louisiana Register that the oilfield site is to be declared orphaned, prior to declaring a site to be an orphaned oilfield site. Proposed law retains present law and provides that the operator of record may also be declared orphaned and provides for notification to the surface owner.

Effective August 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 30:91(A)(intro para) and (B)(1); adds R.S. 30:28(J))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Natural Resources to the original bill

1. Changes the notification requirements.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Provides for the process of an operator being declared orphaned.
2. Defines "surface owner".