

STRONGER REVIEW

On June 23, Colorado's regulations guiding hydraulic fracturing of gas and oil wells will undergo a third-party review by a national oversight group known as STRONGER, or State Review of Oil & Natural Gas Environmental Regulations. The collaborative group consists of representatives from environmental, industry and governmental organizations. The results of the review will be available to the public.

The review will include a meeting in which the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission will provide an overview of their hydraulic fracturing regulations to the STRONGER review panel and answer questions from the panel. Pursuant to STRONGER's rules of participation, this meeting will be open to the public, but members of the public will not have an opportunity to ask questions or make comments. Within 60 to 90 days, the panel is expected to issue a written report summarizing its findings and including any recommendations it may have for improvements in COGCC's rules related to hydraulic fracturing.

The STRONGER review panel will include a three person review team and three official observers. The review team members will be Lori Wrotenbery, Director of the Oil and Gas Conservation Division of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission; Wilma Subra, an environmental scientist from Louisiana; and Jim Collins, a petroleum engineer representing the Independent Petroleum Association of America. The official observers will be Tom Maunder, Petroleum Engineer for the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission; Bruce Baizel, of Earthworks; Ken Wonstolen, of Beatty & Wozniak; Jerry Strahan, Fluid Minerals Branch Chief, Bureau of Land Management Colorado State Office; and Kate Fay, Senior Advisor Energy and Climate, Environmental Protection Agency Region 8.

What: Review of Colorado's hydraulic fracturing regulations by STRONGER

When: 8 a.m., June 23

Where: Colorado State Land Board offices, 1127 Sherman St., Suite 200, Denver.

The mission of STRONGER is to educate and provide services for the continuous improvement of regulatory programs and industry practices in order to enhance human health and the environment. STRONGER was formed in 1999 to reinvigorate and carry forward the state review process begun cooperatively in 1988 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC). To learn more about STRONGER, visit: <http://strongerinc.org/>