



**NOTICE OF CHANGE TO CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE
CODE OF ORDINANCES, ARTICLE XIX. GAS DRILLING AND PRODUCTION**

On September 16, 2008, the City Council approved changes to the Gas Drilling and Production Ordinance. A copy of the ordinance will be available on-line by October 15, 2008. A summary of major changes are as follows:

Sec. 13-505. Gas well permit application and filing fees.

(b) Every application for a gas well permit shall be accompanied by the appropriate permit fee. The following permit and annual fees shall apply:

Annual fee (per permitted well).....\$2,000.00

Section 13-507(c)

(c) *Wells setbacks for high impact gas well permit.*

- (1) *Non-park protected uses.* It shall be unlawful to drill any well, the center of which, at the surface of the ground, is located within five hundred (500) feet from any existing protected use or where a building permit for a protected use has been issued prior to the drilling permit application filing date. The distance shall be calculated from the well bore, in a straight line, without regard to intervening structures or objects, to the closest exterior point of the building. This setback may be reduced to no less than three hundred (300) feet if a variance is obtained from the city council in accordance with Section 13-510(f).
- (2) *Public Parks.* It shall be unlawful to drill any well, the center of which, at the surface of the ground, is located within five hundred (500) feet from any public park unless prior consent is obtained from the Parks and Recreation Director or the City Council in accordance with the following procedures:
 - a. The Parks and Recreation Director or his designee shall review any applications for wells that are proposed to be closer than five hundred (500) feet from any public park.
 - b. The Parks and Recreation Director or his designee may approve the location of wells closer than five hundred (500) feet from any public park. This setback may be reduced to no less than three hundred (300) feet.
 - c. The Parks and Recreation Director may stipulate conditions and mitigation measures that must be met by the operator. These conditions shall be designed to limit the impact of well development and operations upon park

operations and/or compensate the city for any negative financial impacts. The conditions may include, but are not limited to, limits on the timing of drilling/fracing operations and additional requirements to limit the impact of noise, dust or other environmental factors. These conditions and mitigation measures shall become permit conditions and are enforceable under this article. The failure of the operator to comply with these permit requirements is subject to criminal prosecution, civil action and/or permit revocation.

- d. If the Parks and Recreation Director or his designee disapproves an application reviewed under this section, then the application shall be processed for City Council review in accordance with Section 510(f).

Section 13-515(a) (27)

~~Tanks must be at least three hundred (300) feet from any protected use or combustible structure.~~ Tank batteries, well facilities and equipment shall be located at least three hundred (300) feet from any public park (unless prior consent is obtained from the city council to drill in a public park pursuant to section 13-504(i)), or from any existing protected use or where a building permit for a protected use has been issued prior to the drilling permit application filing date. The distance shall be calculated from the closest tank batteries, well facilities, and/or equipment, in a straight line, without regard to intervening structures or objects, to the closest exterior point of the building. Tanks must be at least three hundred (300) feet from any other combustible structure.

Sec. 13-516. Fences, walls, screening.

(a) *Fences/walls.* **With the exception of (3) below,** fences shall not be required on drill sites during initial drilling, completion or re-working operations as long as twenty-four-hour onsite supervision is provided. A secured entrance gate shall be required. All gates are to be kept locked when the operator or his employees are not within the enclosure. Within thirty (30) days after production has been established, all operation sites shall be completely enclosed by a permanent chain link fence, masonry wall, or other approved fencing material according to the requirements of the requested gas well permit, as follows:

- (3) *Gas well drilling/fracturing/development screening fence.* All pad sites within three hundred (300) feet of a public street shall install a screening fence on any outer pad site boundary visible from the public street. The Environmental Services Director may waive this requirement for any pad site boundary bordered by a boundary noise blanket or natural/vegetative/topographical screening. The screening fence shall be of such sufficient height to screen from view any portable buildings and/or supply areas. The screening fence shall be depicted on the application site plan. The screening fence shall be composed of chain link fence covered with green or black closed mesh polypropylene or vinyl. Alternative designs may be approved by the Chief City Planner.