Market Activity Effects

NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT



Oil Conservation Division (OCD) Mission

- > OCD is a division of the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD)
- > OCD regulatory body charged with administering the NM Oil and Gas Act ("Act")
- > The Act requires the OCD to:
 - Protect correlative rights of O&G mineral rights owners
 - Prevent waste of O&G natural resources
 - Protect fresh water, human health and the environment
 - 70-2-1 through 70-2-38 NMSA 1978
- The OCD's workload is affected by market forces, but OCD doesn't track or regulate the O&G market



2020 Downturn Effects on Activity



- > Drill rig activity dropped 60% in 2020
- > Current volumes generally inline with early 2019 volumes; ebb and flow is typical for various reasons
- > 2020 production decreases since March due to less completion activity and increased shut in requests



What does this mean for the OCD?

- > Volume of work and complexity has drastically increased
 - Large volume of well shut in requests
 - Processing numerous extension requests which are reviewed on a case by case basis
 - Managing compliance and enforcement issues
- > OCD implementing large scale rulemakings; produced water and waste
- > Creating comprehensive data collection and management systems

