HOUSE BILL 174

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012

INTRODUCED BY

Eleanor Chavez

AN ACT

RELATING TO TAXATION; REDUCING BY TEN PERCENT CERTAIN

DEDUCTIONS, CREDITS AND RATE DIFFERENTIALS OF CERTAIN OIL,

NATURAL GAS AND MINERAL TAXES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 7-25-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1966, Chapter 48, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

"7-25-3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Resources Excise Tax Act:

- A. "department" means the taxation and revenue department, the secretary of taxation and revenue or any employee of the department exercising authority lawfully delegated to that employee by the secretary;
- B. "natural resource" means timber and any product thereof and any metalliferous or nonmetalliferous mineral

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product, combination or compound thereof, severed in New Mexico but does not include oil, natural gas, liquid hydrocarbon individually or any combination thereof, carbon dioxide, helium or nonhydrocarbon gas;

- C. "person" means any individual, estate, trust, receiver, cooperative association, club, corporation, company, firm, partnership, joint venture, syndicate or other entity;
- "processing" means smelting, leaching, refining, reducing, compounding or otherwise preparing for sale or commercial use any natural resource so that its character or condition is materially changed in mills or plants located in New Mexico;
- "processor" means any person engaging in the business of processing natural resources that the person owns, or any person who is the owner of natural resources and who has another person perform the processing of such natural resources:
- "service charge" means the total amount of money or the reasonable value of other consideration received for severing or processing any natural resource by any person who is not the owner of the natural resource. However, if the money received does not represent the value of the severing or processing performed, "service charge" means the reasonable value of the severing or processing performed;
- "severer" means any person engaging in the G. .188256.2

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business of severing natural resources that the person owns, or any person who is the owner of natural resources and who has another person perform the severing of such natural resources;

- H. "severing" means mining, quarrying, extracting, felling or producing any natural resource in New Mexico for sale, profit or commercial use; and
- "taxable value" means the value after severing or processing, without deduction of any kind other than specified in this subsection, of any natural resource severed or processed in New Mexico. It is presumed, in the absence of preponderant evidence of another value, that the taxable value means the total amount of money or the reasonable value of other consideration received for the severed or processed natural resource. However, if the amount of money received does not represent the value of the severed or processed natural resource or if the severed or processed natural resource is not sold, the taxable value shall be the reasonable value of the severed or processed natural resource. All natural resources severed or processed in New Mexico shall be included in determining taxable value, regardless of the place of sale or the fact that delivery may be made to points outside of New Mexico. If any person shall ship, transmit or transport natural resources out of New Mexico without making sale of them or shall ship, transmit or transport natural resources out of New Mexico in an unfinished condition, the value of the natural

resources in the condition in which they existed when shipped,
transmitted or transported out of New Mexico and before they
enter interstate commerce, without deduction of any kind other
than specified in this subsection, shall be the basis for
determining the taxable value. <u>Ninety percent of</u> amounts
received from selling natural resources, other than
metalliferous mineral ores, whether processed or unprocessed,
to the United States or any agency or instrumentality thereof,
the state of New Mexico or any political subdivision thereof,
or to organizations that have demonstrated to the department
that they have been granted exemption from the federal income
tax by the United States commissioner of internal revenue as
organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the United
States Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended or renumbered,
which employ the natural resource in the conduct of functions
described in Section $501(c)(3)$ and not in the conduct of an
unrelated trade or business as defined in Section 513 of the
United States Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended or
renumbered, may be deducted from taxable value. <u>Ninety percent</u>
$\underline{\text{of}}$ any royalty or other similar interest, whether payable in
cash or in kind, paid to the United States or any agency or
instrumentality thereof, or the state of New Mexico or any
political subdivision thereof, or any Indian tribe, Indian
pueblo or Indian that is a ward of the United States may be
deducted from taxable value. In computing taxable value, any

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owner of natural resources may deduct any service charge on which the service tax imposed by Section 7-25-6 NMSA 1978 is payable."

SECTION 2. Section 7-26-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1977, Chapter 102, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

"7-26-4. DETERMINATION OF TAXABLE VALUE OF NATURAL RESOURCES. --

- Except as otherwise provided in Subsections C, E, F and G of this section, the "taxable event" is the severance of a natural resource whose taxable value is determined under the provisions of this section.
- For all natural resources except potash or potash products described under Subsection C of this section, molybdenum or molybdenum products described under Subsection D of this section, copper, lead or zinc described in Subsection E of this section, gold described in Subsection F of this section, silver described in Subsection G of this section, coal and uranium, the gross value of the natural resource is the sales value of the severed and saved product at the first marketable point without any deductions, except that:
- for those products having a posted field (1) or market price at the point of production, the gross value is its posted field or market price, except that the gross value of potash is forty percent of the posted field or market price, less those expenses of hoisting, crushing and loading necessary

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to place the severed product in marketable form and at a marketable place, but the allowable deductions for hoisting, loading and crushing shall not exceed fifty percent of the posted field or market price; and

- for those products that must be processed (2) or beneficiated before sale, the gross value is the sales value after deducting freight charges from the point of severance to the point of first sale and the cost of processing or beneficiation.
- The gross value for each type of potash and potash product requiring processing or beneficiation (other than sizing), regardless of the form in which the product is actually sold, shall be thirty-three and one-third percent of the proceeds realized from the sale of muriate of potash and sulphate of potash magnesia, as standard grades, and thirtythree and one-third percent of the value of such products consumed in the production of other potash products, less fifty percent of such reported value as a deduction for expenses of hoisting, loading, crushing, processing and beneficiation. For purposes of this subsection, the taxable event occurs when products are sold or consumed. Any potash or potash products, the value of which is computed under this subsection, shall not also have their value computed by the use of any of the provisions of Subsection B of this section.
- The gross value for each type of molybdenum and D. .188256.2

molybdenum product requiring processing or beneficiation, regardless of the form in which the product is actually sold, shall be the value of molybdenum contained in concentrates shipped or sold from a mine site, but in no event a value less than the value that bona fide sales which reflect current market conditions would yield for the same quantity of molybdenum products contained in concentrates at the mine site, less fifty percent of that value as a deduction for the expenses of hoisting, loading, crushing, processing and beneficiation.

E. The gross value for copper, lead and zinc shall be sixty-six and two-thirds percent of the sales value established from published price data, as further described in this subsection, of the quantity of copper, lead or zinc recoverable from the concentrate or other product which is sold or is shipped, transmitted or transported out of New Mexico without sale, less fifty percent of the sales value as a deduction for the expenses of hoisting, loading, crushing, processing and beneficiation. For purposes of this subsection, the taxable event occurs when the severer sells copper, lead or zinc in New Mexico or when the severer ships, transmits or transports copper, lead or zinc out of New Mexico without first making sale of it. The secretary shall designate by regulation which published price index shall be used to establish the sales value for each

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resource shall be the monthly average price published for each resource for the month in which the taxable event occurs. the taxable event is sale, the recoverable quantity of copper, lead or zinc shall be reported as the provisional quantity determined by presale assay, and the reported quantity may be adjusted in a report filed after final assay, if necessary. When the taxable event is shipment, transmission or transportation out of New Mexico without sale, the recoverable quantity of copper, lead or zinc shall be reported as the provisional quantity determined after preshipment assay. Copper, lead or zinc shall not be considered saved for the purposes of the Severance Tax Act unless the copper, lead or zinc can economically be separated and saved from the dominant resource, which is the resource subject to sale by the severer. Any copper, lead or zinc the value of which is computed under this subsection shall not also have its value computed by the use of any of the provisions of Subsection B of this section.

F. The gross value for gold shall be the sales value established from published price data, as further described in this subsection, of the quantity of gold recoverable from the concentrate or other product which is sold or is shipped, transmitted or transported out of New Mexico without sale, less fifty percent of the sales value as a deduction for the expenses of hoisting, loading, crushing, processing and beneficiation. For purposes of this subsection,

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the taxable event occurs when the severer sells gold in New Mexico or when the severer ships, transmits or transports gold out of New Mexico without first making sale of it. secretary shall designate by regulation which published price index shall be used to establish the sales value for gold. sales value for gold shall be the monthly average price published for gold for the month in which the taxable event occurs. When the taxable event is sale, the recoverable quantity of gold shall be reported as the provisional quantity determined by presale assay, and the reported quantity may be adjusted in a report filed after final assay, if necessary. When the taxable event is shipment, transmission or transportation out of New Mexico without sale, the recoverable quantity of gold shall be reported as the provisional quantity determined after preshipment assay. For purposes of the Severance Tax Act, gold shall not be considered saved unless the gold can economically be separated and saved from the dominant resource, which is the resource subject to sale by the severer. Any gold the value of which is computed under this subsection shall not also have its value computed by the use of any of the provisions of Subsection B of this section.

G. The gross value for silver shall be eighty percent of the sales value established from published price data, as further described in this subsection, of the quantity of silver recoverable from the concentrate or other product

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which is sold or is shipped, transmitted or transported out of New Mexico without sale, less fifty percent of the sales value as a deduction for the expenses of hoisting, loading, crushing, processing and beneficiation. For purposes of this subsection, the taxable event occurs when the severer sells silver in New Mexico or when the severer ships, transmits or transports silver out of New Mexico without first making sale of it. secretary shall designate by regulation which published price index shall be used to establish the sales value for silver. The sales value for silver shall be the monthly average price published for silver for the month in which the taxable event occurs. When the taxable event is sale, the recoverable quantity of silver shall be reported as the provisional quantity determined by presale assay, and the reported quantity may be adjusted in a report filed after final assay, if necessary. When the taxable event is shipment, transmission or transportation out of New Mexico without sale, the recoverable quantity of silver shall be reported as the provisional quantity determined after preshipment assay. For purposes of the Severance Tax Act, silver shall not be considered saved unless the silver can economically be separated and saved from the dominant resource, which is the resource subject to sale by the severer. Any silver the value of which is computed under this subsection shall not also have its value computed by the use of any of the provisions of Subsection B of this section.

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H. The taxable value of all severed natural resources except coal and uranium is the gross value of the severed resource determined under this section less <u>ninety</u> <u>percent of</u> rental or royalty payments belonging to the United States or the state.

The taxable value to be reported for severed and I. saved uranium-bearing material is the sales price per pound of the content of $\mathrm{U_{3}O_{8}}$ contained in the severed and saved or processed uranium, regardless of the form in which the product is actually disposed of, reduced by fifty percent for the purposes of Section 7-26-7 NMSA 1978. It is presumed, in the absence of preponderant evidence of another value, that the sales price means the total amount of money and the reasonable value of other consideration received, or either of them, for the severed and saved uranium ore or processed uranium "yellowcake" concentrate without deduction of any kind. However, if the severed and saved uranium ore or "yellowcake" concentrate is not sold as ore or concentrate, the sales price shall be the value of $\rm U_3O_8$ in ore or "yellowcake" concentrate represented in the final product."

SECTION 3. Section 7-29-4.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980, Chapter 62, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

"7-29-4.1. TAXABLE VALUE--METHOD OF DETERMINING.--To determine the taxable value of oil and of other liquid hydrocarbons removed from natural gas at or near the wellhead,

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of carbon dioxide, of helium, of non-hydrocarbon gases, of natural gas from new production natural gas wells and of natural gas severed after June 30, 1990, there shall be deducted from the value of products <u>ninety percent of</u>:

- royalties paid or due the United States or the state of New Mexico;
- royalties paid or due any Indian tribe, Indian pueblo or Indian that is a ward of the United States of America; and
- the reasonable expense of trucking any product from the production unit to the first place of market."
- SECTION 4. Section 7-29C-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1995, Chapter 171, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"7-29C-1. INTERGOVERNMENTAL TAX CREDITS . --

- Any person who is liable for the payment of the oil and gas severance tax, the oil and gas conservation tax, the oil and gas emergency school tax or the oil and gas ad valorem production tax imposed on products severed from Indian tribal land or imposed on the privilege of severing products from Indian tribal land shall be entitled to a credit to be computed under this section and to be deducted from the payment of the indicated taxes with respect to products from qualifying The credit provided by this subsection may be referred wells. to as the "intergovernmental production tax credit".
- Any person who is liable for the payment of the .188256.2

oil and gas production equipment ad valorem tax imposed on equipment located on Indian tribal land shall be entitled to a credit to be computed under this section and to be deducted from the payment of the indicated taxes with respect to equipment at qualifying wells. The credit provided by this subsection may be referred to as the "intergovernmental production equipment tax credit".

- C. For the purposes of this section:
- (1) "equipment" means wells and nonmobile equipment used at a well in connection with severance, treatment or storage of well products;
- (2) "Indian tribal land" means all land that on March 1, 1995 was within the exterior boundaries of an Indian reservation or pueblo grant or held in trust by the United States for an Indian person, nation, tribe or pueblo;
- (3) "product" means oil, natural gas or liquid hydrocarbon, individually or in combination, or carbon dioxide; and
- (4) "qualifying well" means a well on Indian tribal land, the actual drilling of which commenced on or after July 1, 1995.
- D. The intergovernmental production tax credit shall be determined separately for each calendar month and shall be equal to seventy-five percent of the lesser of:
 - (1) the aggregate amount of severance,

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privilege, ad valorem or similar tax in effect on March 1, 1995 that is imposed by the Indian nation, tribe or pueblo upon the products severed from qualifying wells or upon the privilege of severing products from qualifying wells; or

- the aggregate amount of the oil and gas (2) severance tax, the oil and gas conservation tax, the oil and gas emergency school tax and the oil and gas ad valorem production tax imposed by this state upon the products severed from qualifying wells or upon the privilege of severing products from qualifying wells.
- The intergovernmental production equipment tax Ε. credit shall be determined annually for the equipment at qualifying wells and shall be equal to [seventy-five] sixtyseven and five-tenths percent of the lesser of:
- the amount of ad valorem or similar tax in (1) effect on March 1, 1995 that is imposed by the Indian nation, tribe or pueblo upon the equipment for the calendar year; or
- the amount of the oil and gas production equipment ad valorem tax imposed by this state upon the equipment for the calendar year.
- If, after March 1, 1995, an Indian nation, tribe or pueblo increases any severance, privilege, ad valorem or similar tax applicable to products or equipment to which the tax credits provided by this section apply, the amount of the intergovernmental production tax credit for any month to which

the increase applies shall be reduced by the difference between the aggregate amount of tax due to the Indian nation, tribe or pueblo for the production month and the aggregate amount of tax that would have been imposed by the terms of the tax or taxes in effect on March 1, 1995, and the intergovernmental production equipment tax credit shall be reduced by the difference between the aggregate amount of tax due to the Indian nation, tribe or pueblo for the year and the aggregate amount of tax that would have been imposed for the year by the terms of the tax or taxes in effect on March 1, 1995.

- G. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the amount of credit taken and allowed shall be applied proportionately against the amount of oil and gas severance tax, oil and gas conservation tax, oil and gas emergency school tax, oil and gas ad valorem production tax and oil and gas production equipment ad valorem tax due with respect to the products, severance of products or equipment taxed.
- H. The taxation and revenue department shall administer and interpret the provisions of this section in accordance with the provisions of the Tax Administration Act.
- I. The burden of showing entitlement to a credit authorized by this section is on the taxpayer claiming it, and [he] the taxpayer shall furnish to the appropriate tax collecting agency, in the manner determined by the taxation and .188256.2

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revenue department, proof of payment of any tribal tax on which the credit is based."

SECTION 5. Section 7-30-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1959, Chapter 53, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:

"7-30-5. TAXABLE VALUE--METHOD OF DETERMINING.--

- To determine the taxable value of oil, natural gas or liquid hydrocarbon, individually or any combination thereof, carbon dioxide, helium or non-hydrocarbon gases, there shall be deducted from the value of products ninety percent of:
- royalties paid or due the United States or (1) the state of New Mexico;
- royalties paid or due any Indian tribe, (2) Indian pueblo or Indian that is a ward of the United States; and
- the reasonable expense of trucking any (3) product from the production unit to the first place of market.
- The taxable value of coal shall be the taxable value determined under Section 7-25-3 NMSA 1978, less royalties paid or due any Indian tribe, Indian pueblo or Indian that is a ward of the United States.
- The taxable value of uranium shall be twentyfive percent of an amount equal to the difference between:
- the taxable value determined under Section (1) 7-25-3 NMSA 1978; and
- royalties paid or due any Indian tribe, .188256.2

Indian pueblo or Indian that is a ward of the United States.

D. The taxable value of geothermal energy shall be the value at the point of first sale, less the cost of transporting it from the point of severance to the point of the first sale, less the royalties paid or due the United States or the state of New Mexico or any Indian tribe, Indian pueblo or Indian that is a ward of the United States."

SECTION 6. Section 7-31-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1959, Chapter 54, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

"7-31-4. PRIVILEGE TAX LEVIED--COLLECTED BY

DEPARTMENT--RATE--INTEREST OWNER'S LIABILITY TO STATE--INDIAN

LIABILITY.--

A. There is levied and shall be collected by the department a privilege tax on the business of every person severing products in this state. The measure of the tax shall be:

- (1) on oil and on oil and other liquid hydrocarbons removed from natural gas at or near the wellhead, except as provided in Paragraphs (4) and (5) of this subsection, three and [fifteen] forty-six hundredths percent of the taxable value determined pursuant to Section 7-31-5 NMSA 1978;
- (2) on carbon dioxide, helium and non-hydrocarbon gases, three and fifteen hundredths percent of the taxable value determined pursuant to Section 7-31-5 NMSA 1978; .188256.2

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hydrocarbons removed from natural gas at or near the wellhead from a stripper well property, one and fifty-eight hundredths percent of the taxable value determined pursuant to Section 7-31-5 NMSA 1978, provided that the average annual taxable value of oil was equal to or less than fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per barrel in the calendar year preceding July 1 of the fiscal year in which the tax rate is to be imposed;

(5) on the oil and on other liquid hydrocarbons removed from natural gas at or near the wellhead from a stripper well property, two and thirty-six hundredths percent of the taxable value determined pursuant to Section 7-31-5 NMSA 1978, provided that the average annual taxable value of oil was greater than fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per barrel but not more than eighteen dollars (\$18.00) per barrel in the calendar year preceding July 1 of the fiscal year in which the tax rate is to be imposed;

on the natural gas removed from a stripper well property, two percent of the taxable value determined pursuant to Section 7-31-5 NMSA 1978, provided that the average annual taxable value of natural gas was equal to or less than one dollar fifteen cents (\$1.15) per thousand cubic feet in the

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calendar year preceding July 1 of the fiscal year in which the tax rate is to be imposed; and

- on the natural gas removed from a stripper (7) well property, three percent of the taxable value determined pursuant to Section 7-31-5 NMSA 1978, provided that the average annual taxable value of natural gas was greater than one dollar fifteen cents (\$1.15) per thousand cubic feet but not more than one dollar thirty-five cents (\$1.35) per thousand cubic feet in the calendar year preceding July 1 of the fiscal year in which the tax rate is to be imposed.
- Every interest owner, for the purpose of levying this tax, is deemed to be in the business of severing products and is liable for this tax to the extent of [his] the owner's interest in the value of the products or to the extent of [his] the owner's interest as may be measured by the value of the products.
- Any Indian tribe, Indian pueblo or Indian is liable for this tax to the extent authorized or permitted by 1aw."
- SECTION 7. Section 7-31-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1959, Chapter 54, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:
- **"7-31-5.** TAXABLE VALUE--METHOD OF DETERMINING.--To determine the taxable value there shall be deducted from the value of products ninety percent of:
- royalties paid or due the United States or the .188256.2

state	of	New	Mexico;
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- B. royalties paid or due any Indian tribe, Indian pueblo or Indian that is a ward of the United States of America; and
- C. the reasonable expense of trucking any product from the production unit to the first place of market."
- SECTION 8. Section 7-32-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1959, Chapter 55, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:
 - "7-32-5. ASSESSED VALUE--METHOD OF DETERMINING.--
- A. The taxable value of products is an amount equal to one hundred fifty percent of the value of products after deducting <u>ninety percent of</u>:
- (1) royalties paid or due the United States or the state of New Mexico;
- (2) royalties paid or due any Indian tribe, Indian pueblo or Indian that is a ward of the United States; and
- (3) the reasonable expense of trucking any product from the production unit to the first place of market.
- B. The assessed value of products shall be determined by applying the uniform assessment ratio to the taxable value of products. The method prescribed by this section shall be the exclusive method for determining the assessed value of products. The tax imposed by Section [72-22-4 NMSA 1953 of the Oil and Gas Ad Valorem Production Tax .188256.2

Act] 7-32-4 NMSA 1978, together with the tax imposed by Section [72-24-4 NMSA 1953 of the Oil and Gas Production Equipment Ad Valorem Tax Act] 7-34-4 NMSA 1978, shall be the full and exclusive measure of ad valorem tax liability on the interests of all persons, including the operator and interest owners, in the production unit. Any other ad valorem tax on the production unit or on products severed therefrom is void."

SECTION 9 Section 7-33-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1963)

SECTION 9. Section 7-33-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1963, Chapter 179, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

"7-33-4. PRIVILEGE TAX LEVIED--COLLECTED BY DEPARTMENT--

- A. There is levied and shall be collected by the department a privilege tax on processors for the privilege of operating a natural gas processing plant in New Mexico. This tax may be referred to as the "natural gas processors tax".
- B. The tax shall be imposed on the amount of mmbtus of natural gas delivered to the processor at the inlet of the natural gas processing plant after subtracting the mmbtu deductions authorized in Subsection E of this section. The tax shall be imposed at the rate per mmbtu determined in Subsection C or D of this section, as applicable.
- C. The tax rate for the six-month period beginning on January 1, 1999 shall be determined by multiplying the rate of sixty-five hundredths of one cent (\$.0065) per mmbtu by a fraction, the numerator of which is the annual average taxable .188256.2

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value per mcf of natural gas produced in New Mexico during the 1997 calendar year and the denominator of which is one dollar thirty-three cents (\$1.33) per mcf. The resulting tax rate shall be rounded to the nearest one-hundredth of one cent per mmbtu.

- The tax rate for each fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 1999 shall be determined by multiplying the rate of sixty-five hundredths of one cent (\$.0065) per mmbtu by a fraction, the numerator of which is the annual average taxable value per mcf of natural gas produced in New Mexico during the preceding calendar year and the denominator of which is one dollar thirty-three cents (\$1.33) per mcf. resulting tax rate shall be rounded to the nearest onehundredth of one cent per mmbtu.
- A processor may deduct from the amount of mmbtus of natural gas subject to the tax <u>ninety percent of</u> the mmbtus of natural gas that are:
- (1) used for natural gas processing by the processor;
- (2) returned to the lease from which [it is] they are produced;
 - legally flared by the processor; or (3)
- lost as a result of natural gas processing (4) plant malfunctions or other incidences of force majeur.
- On or before June 15, 1999 and June 15 of each .188256.2

succeeding year, the department shall inform each processor in writing of the tax rate applicable for the succeeding fiscal year.

G. Any Indian nation, tribe or pueblo or Indian is liable for the tax to the extent authorized or permitted by law."

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2012.

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