



VIA EMAIL

April 4, 2017

Jennifer Kane
Paralegal
NRC, Division of Hearings
jkane@nrc.in.gov

Re: LSA Document #16-230 / Economic Impact Statement

Ms. Kane,

Pursuant to Indiana Code 4-22, as the Small Business Ombudsman, I have reviewed the economic impact analysis for small business associated with the rule changes contained in LSA Document #16-230 proposed by the Natural Resources Commission.

Based on my assessment as the Small Business Ombudsman, I have concluded that this proposed rule will create minimal additional requirements for small businesses in Indiana. After speaking with a representative at the Department of Natural Resources Division of Oil and Gas, the feedback that they gathered from the oil and gas industry provides substantial evidence that the information being reported under this rule is a reasonable request.

The economic impact statement prepared by the Natural Resources Commission states, “the proposed rules will likely cause small businesses to incur initial costs during the first year following implementation. Many of the costs incurred during the first year will not be recurring costs once improvements are made to affected oil and gas facilities.”

Based upon this statement and review, the Small Business Ombudsman supports the proposed rule related to the economic impact to small business if the NRC’s conclusion reflects the actual result after promulgation. While there will be additional financial burden placed on the industry at the outset, the NRC has structured the new regulation in such a way that it is reasonable and minimal in impact. If you have any questions about these comments, please contact me at KBlankenship@iedc.IN.gov.

Sincerely,

Katelyn Colclazier
Small Business Ombudsman