FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS Environmental Protection Performance Standards at Oil and Gas Well Sites Centralized impoundments (§ 78a.59c)

The purpose of this Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is to highlight changes in and address questions about the new regulations. This FAQ should not be used in lieu of reference to the 2012 Oil and Gas Act, 25 Pa.Code Chapter 78a and other applicable laws and regulations. The answers outlined in this FAQ are intended to supplement existing requirements. Nothing in this document shall affect statutory or regulatory requirements.

This document is not an adjudication or a regulation. There is no intent on the part of the Department to give this document that weight or deference. The Department may supplement or amend this document at any time as necessary without notice.

1) What time frame is anticipated to transfer from a centralized to a solid waste facility, and is waste prepared to have discussions with operators ready to engage in conversation?

The Waste Management Program is examining this very closely right now. If an operator wants to have this discussion, both the Waste Management and Oil and Gas Programs will be in contact with those operators prior to the effective date of the rulemaking. While the decision to seek the residual waste management permit must be made by April 8, 2017, but there are three years to actually get it done. The Waste Management and Oil and Gas programs has been contacting each individual centralized impoundment owner and operator to outline the operational and permitting requirements for existing centralized impoundments. (posted 10/19/16)