13.0225.02010

FIRST ENGROSSMENT

Sixty-third Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1234

Introduced by

9

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

Representatives Streyle, Owens, Thoreson

Senator Armstrong

provide an effective date.

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15-05-10, subsection 4 of section 38-08-04, and 2 sections 57-51.1-01, 57-51.1-02, 57-51.1-03, and 57-51.1-03.1 of the North Dakota Century 3 Code, relating to oil extraction tax rates and exemptions; and to provide an effective date for an 4 Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 57-38 of the North Dakota Century Code, 5 relating to income tax withholding for oil and gas royalties; to amend and reenact section 6 15-05-10, subsection 4 of section 38-08-04, sections 57-51.1-01 and 57-51.1-03, subsection 1 7 of section 57-51.1-03.1, and section 57-51.2-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to 8 oil extraction tax definitions and exemptions and the state-tribal oil tax agreement; and to

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 15-05-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

— 15-05-10. Royalties from oil leases - Rents from other leases - Rules.

— Oil leases must be made by the board of university and school lands at such annual-minimum payments as are determined by the board, but the royalty shall be not less than twelve and one-half percent of the gross output of oil from the lands leased. Oil leases made by the board may authorize a royalty of less than twelve and one-half percent for production from stripper well properties or individual stripper wells and qualifying secondary recovery and qualifying tertiary recovery projects as defined in section 57-51.1-01. Leases for gas, coal, cement materials, sodium sulfate, sand and gravel, road material, building stone, chemical substances, metallic ores, or colloidal or other clays must be made by the board in such annual payments as are determined by the board. The board may adopt rules regarding annual payments and royalties under this section.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Subsection 4 of section 38-08-04 of the North Dakota Century

Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4. To classify wells as oil or gas wells for purposes material to the interpretation or enforcement of this chapter, to classify and determine the status and depth of wells that are stripper well property or individual stripper wells as defined in subsection 8 of section 57-51.1-01, to certify to the tax commissioner which wells are stripper wells and the depth of those wells, and to certify to the tax commissioner which wells involve secondary or tertiary recovery operations under section 57-51.1-01, and the date of qualification for the reduced rate of oil extraction tax for secondary and tertiary recovery operations.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 57-51.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 57-51.1-01. Definitions for oil extraction tax.
- For the purposes of the oil extraction tax law, the following words and terms shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this sectionthis chapter:
 - 1. "Average daily production" of a well means the qualified maximum total production of barrels of oil from the well during a calendar month period divided by the number of calendar days in that period, month and "qualified maximum total production" of a well-means that the well must have been maintained at the maximum efficient rate of production as defined and determined by rule adopted by the industrial commission infurtherance of its authority under chapter 38-08.
 - 2. "Average price" of a barrel of crude oil means the monthly average of the daily closing price for a barrel of west Texas intermediate cushing crude oil, as those prices appear in the Wall Street Journal, midwest edition, minus two dollars and fifty cents. When computing the monthly average price, the most recent previous daily closing price must be considered the daily closing price for the days on which the market is closedstatewide production" means the number of barrels of oil produced from wells within this state during a calendar month divided by the number of calendar days in that month, as determined by the industrial commission.

- 3. "Horizontal reentry well" means a well that was not initially drilled and completed as a horizontal well, including any well initially plugged and abandoned as a dry hole, which is reentered and recompleted as a horizontal well.
- 4. "Horizontal well" means a well with a horizontal displacement of the well bore drilled at an angle of at least eighty degrees within the productive formation of at least three hundred feet [91.44 meters].
- 5. "Oil" means petroleum, crude oil, mineral oil, casinghead gasoline, and all liquid hydrocarbons that are recovered from gas on the lease incidental to the production of the gas.
- 6.4. "Property" means the right which arises from a lease or fee interest, as a whole or any designated portion thereof, to produce oil. A producer shall treat as a separate property each separate and distinct producing reservoir subject to the same right to produce crude oil; provided, that such if the reservoir is recognized by the industrial commission as a producing formation that is separate and distinct from, and not in communication with, any other producing formation.
- 7.5. "Qualifying secondary recovery project" means a project employing water flooding. To be eligible for the tax reduction provided under section 57-51.1-02, a secondary recovery project must be certified as qualifying by the industrial commission and the project operator must have achieved for six consecutive months an average production level of at least twenty-five percent above the level that would have been recovered under normal recovery operations. To be eligible for the tax exemption provided under section 57-51.1-03 and subsequent thereto the rate reduction provided under section 57-51.1-02, a secondary recovery project must be, certified as qualifying by the industrial commission, and from which the project operator must have has obtained incremental production as defined in subsection 5 of section 57-51.1-03 rules of the industrial commission.
- 8.6. "Qualifying tertiary recovery project" means a project for enhancing recovery of oil which meets the requirements of section 4993(c), Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended through December 31, 1986, and includes the following methods for recovery:
 - a. Miscible fluid displacement.

Sixty-third Legislative Assembly

1		b. Steam drive injection.		
2	c. Microemulsion.			
3	d. In situ combustion.			
4	e. Polymer augmented water flooding.			
5	f. Cyclic steam injection.			
6	g. Alkaline flooding.			
7	h. Carbonated water flooding.			
8	i. Immiscible carbon dioxide displacement.			
9	j. New tertiary recovery methods certified by the industrial commission.			
0	It does not include water flooding, unless the water flooding is used as an element of			
11	one of the qualifying tertiary recovery techniques described in this subsection, or			
2	immiscible natural gas injection. To be eligible for the tax reduction provided under-			
3	section 57-51.1-02, a tertiary recovery project must be certified as qualifying by the			
4	industrial commission, the project operator must continue to operate the unit as a			
5	qualifying tertiary recovery project, and the project operator must have achieved for at			
6	least one month a production level of at least fifteen percent above the level that wou			
7	have been recovered under normal recovery operations. To be eligible for the tax-			
8	exemption provided under section 57-51.1-03 and subsequent thereto the rate			
9	reduction provided under section 57-51.1-02, a tertiary recovery project must be			
20	certified as qualifying by the industrial commission, the project operator must continue			
21	to operate the unit as a qualifying tertiary recovery project, and the project operator			
22	must have obtained incremental production as defined in subsection 5 of section			
23	57-51.1-03rules of the industrial commission.			
24	<u> </u>	"Royalty owner" means an owner of what is commonly known as the royalty interest		
25		and shall not include the owner of any overriding royalty or other payment carved out		
26		of the working interest.		
27	- <u>10.8.</u>	"Stripper well" means a well inside the Bakken or Three Forks formations whose		
28		average daily production of oil, excluding condensate recovered in nonassociated		
29		production, per well did not exceed ten barrels per day for wells of a depth of six		
30		thousand feet [1828.80 meters] or less, fifteen barrels per day for wells of a depth of		
31		more than six thousand feet [1828.80 meters] but not more than ten thousand feet		

[3048 meters], and fifty barrels per day for wells of a depth of more than ten thousand feet [3048 meters] during any preceding consecutive twelve-month period. "Stripper well" also includes a well inside the Bakken or Three Forks formations which was drilled and completed before July 1, 2013, and was considered part of a stripper well-property for purposes of this chapter on June 30, 2013.

- "Stripper well property" means a "property" outside the Bakken and Three Forks formations whose average daily production of oil, excluding condensate recovered in nonassociated production, per well did not exceed ten barrels per day for wells of a depth of six thousand feet [1828.80 meters] or less, fifteen barrels per day for wells of a depth of more than six thousand feet [1828.80 meters] but not more than ten thousand feet [3048 meters], and thirty barrels per day for wells of a depth of more than ten thousand feet [3048 meters] during any preceding consecutive twelve month period. Wells which did not actually yield or produce oil during the qualifying twelve month period, including disposal wells, dry wells, spent wells, and shut-in wells, are not production wells for the purpose of determining whether the stripper well-property exemption applies.
- 11. "Trigger price" means thirty-five dollars and fifty cents, as indexed for inflation. By

 December thirty-first of each year, the tax commissioner shall compute an indexed

 trigger price by applying to the current trigger price the rate of change of the producer

 price index for industrial commodities as calculated and published by the United

 States department of labor, bureau of labor statistics, for the twelve months ending

 June thirtieth of that year and the indexed trigger price so determined is the trigger

 price for the following calendar year.
- 12. "Two-year inactive well" means any well certified by the industrial commission that didnot produce oil in more than one month in any consecutive twenty-four-month periodbefore being recompleted or otherwise returned to production after July 31, 1995. Awell that has never produced oil, a dry hole, and a plugged and abandoned well are eligible for status as a two-year inactive well.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. Section 57-51.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1	— 57-51.1-02. Imposition of oil <u>Oil</u> extraction tax <u>rate</u> .		
2	— There is hereby imposed an excise tax, to be known as the "oil extraction tax", upon the		
3	activity in this state of extracting oil from the earth, and every owner, including any royalty		
4	owner, of any part of the oil extracted is deemed for the purposes of this chapter to be engaged		
5	in the activity of extracting that oil.		
6	The rate of tax is six and one-half percent of the gross value at the well of the oil extracted,		
7	except that the rate of tax is four percent of the gross value at the well of the oil extracted in the		
8	following situations:		
9	1. For oil produced from wells drilled and completed after April 27, 1987, commonly		
10	referred to as new wells, and not otherwise exempt under section 57-51.1-03;		
11	2. For oil produced from a secondary or tertiary recovery project that was certified as		
12	qualifying by the industrial commission before July 1, 1991;		
13	3. For oil that does not qualify as incremental oil but is produced from a secondary or		
14	tertiary recovery project that is certified as qualifying by the industrial commission after		
15	June 30, 1991;		
16	4. For incremental oil produced from a secondary or tertiary recovery project that is		
17	certified as qualifying by the industrial commission after June 30, 1991, and which		
18	production is not otherwise exempt under section 57-51.1-03; or		
19	5. For oil produced from a well that receives an exemption pursuant to subsection 4 of		
20	section 57-51.1-03 after June 30, 1993, and which production is not otherwise exempt		
21	under section 57-51.1-03.		
22	However, if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in		
23	any consecutive five-month period, then the rate of tax on oil extracted from all taxable wells is		
24	six and one-half percent of the gross value at the well of the oil extracted until the average price		
25	of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive		
26	five-month period, in which case the rate of tax reverts to four percent of the gross value at the		
27	well of the oil extracted for any wells subject to a reduced rate under subsections 1 through 5.		
28	1. Six percent for production from wells drilled and completed on or after the first day of		
29	the third calendar month following a period of three consecutive calendar months in		
30	which average statewide daily production exceeds eight hundred thousand barrels per		
31	day.		

- 2. Five and one-half percent for production from wells drilled and completed on or after the first day of the third calendar month following a period of three consecutive calendar months in which average statewide daily production exceeds nine hundred thousand barrels per day.
- 3. Five percent for production from wells drilled and completed on or after the first day of the third calendar month following a period of three consecutive calendar months in which average statewide daily production exceeds one million barrels per day, or for production from wells drilled and completed on or after the first day of July 2015, whichever event occurs first.
- SECTION 5. AMENDMENT. Section 57-51.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:
- 57-51.1-03. (Effective through June 30, 2013) Exemptions from oil extraction tax.
- The following activities are specifically exempted from the oil extraction tax:
- 1. The activity of extracting from the earth any oil that is exempt from the gross-production tax imposed by chapter 57-51.
- 2. The activity of extracting from the earth any oil from a stripper well property or individual stripper well. A well in the Bakken or Three Forks formation which was certified as a stripper well or as part of a stripper well property at the time it is reentered or reworked retains its stripper well or stripper well property exempt status for the first twelve months of production from that well after completion of the reentry or reworking project. After that period, the stripper well or stripper well property exempt status is lost after the average daily production of the well exceeds one hundred barrels per day for a calendar month and the well is then subject to a reduced tax rate of two percent under this chapter until production from that well individually meets the requirements of the definition of stripper well under section 57-51.1-01.
 - 3. For a well drilled and completed as a vertical well, the initial production of oil from the well is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of fifteen months, except that oil produced from any well drilled and completed as a horizontal well is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of twenty-four months. Oil recovered during testing prior to well completion is exempt from the oil extraction tax. The exemption under this subsection becomes ineffective if the average-

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.

- The production of oil from a qualifying well that was worked over is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of twelve months, beginning with the first day of the third calendar month after the completion of the work-over project. The exemption provided by this subsection is only effective if the well operator establishes to the satisfaction of the industrial commission upon completion of the project that the cost of the project exceeded sixty-five thousand dollars or production is increased atleast fifty percent during the first two months after completion of the project. A qualifying well under this subsection is a well with an average daily production of nomore than fifty barrels of oil during the latest six calendar months of continuousproduction. A work-over project under this subsection means the continuous employment of a work-over rig, including recompletions and reentries. The exemptionprovided by this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-monthperiod. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomeseffective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price foreach month in any consecutive five-month period.
- 5. a. The incremental production from a secondary recovery project which has been certified as a qualified project by the industrial commission after July 1, 1991, is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of five years from the date the incremental production begins.
 - b. The incremental production from a tertiary recovery project that does not use carbon dioxide and which has been certified as a qualified project by the industrial commission is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of ten years from the date the incremental production begins. Incremental production from a tertiary recovery project that uses carbon dioxide and which has been certified as a qualified project by the industrial commission is exempt

1 from any taxes imposed under this chapter from the date the incremental-2 production begins. 3 4 manner: 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 must be applied from the last month in the twelve-month period of time.

For purposes of this subsection, incremental production is defined in the following-(1) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision a and with respect to a unit where there has not been a secondary recoveryproject, incremental production means the difference between the totalamount of oil produced from the unit during the secondary recovery project and the amount of primary production from the unit. For purposes of thisparagraph, primary production means the amount of oil which would have been produced from the unit if the secondary recovery project had not been commenced. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of primary production in a manner which conforms to the practice and procedure used by the commission at the time the project is certified. For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision a and with respect to a unit where a secondary recovery project was in existence prior to July 1, 1991, and where the industrial commission cannot establish an accurate production decline curve, incremental production means the difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during a new secondary recovery project and the amount of production which wouldbe equivalent to the average monthly production from the unit during the most recent twelve months of normal production reduced by a productiondecline rate of ten percent for each year. The industrial commission shalldetermine the average monthly production from the unit during the mostrecent twelve months of normal production and must upon request or uponits own motion hold a hearing to make this determination. For purposes of this paragraph, when determining the most recent twelve months of normalproduction the industrial commission is not required to use twelveconsecutive months. In addition, the production decline rate of ten percent

1	(3)	For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision a and
2		with respect to a unit where a secondary recovery project was in existence-
3		before July 1, 1991, and where the industrial commission can establish an
4		accurate production decline curve, incremental production means the
5		difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during the
6		new secondary recovery project and the total amount of oil that would have
7		been produced from the unit if the new secondary recovery project had not-
8		been commenced. For purposes of this paragraph, the total amount of oil
9		that would have been produced from the unit if the new secondary recovery
10		project had not been commenced includes both primary production and
11		production that occurred as a result of the secondary recovery project that
12		was in existence before July 1, 1991. The industrial commission shall-
13		determine the amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if-
14		the new secondary recovery project had not been commenced in a manner
15		that conforms to the practice and procedure used by the commission at the
16		time the new secondary recovery project is certified.
17	(4)	For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision b and
18		with respect to a unit where there has not been a secondary recovery
19		project, incremental production means the difference between the total-
20		amount of oil produced from the unit during the tertiary recovery project and
21		the amount of primary production from the unit. For purposes of this
22		paragraph, primary production means the amount of oil which would have
23		been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been
24		commenced. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of
25		primary production in a manner which conforms to the practice and
26		procedure used by the commission at the time the project is certified.
27	(5)	For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision b and
28		with respect to a unit where there is or has been a secondary recovery
29		project, incremental production means the difference between the total
30		amount of oil produced during the tertiary recovery project and the amount
31		of production which would be equivalent to the average monthly production-

from the unit during the most recent twelve months of normal production reduced by a production decline rate of ten percent for each year. The industrial commission shall determine the average monthly production from the unit during the most recent twelve months of normal production and must upon request or upon its own motion hold a hearing to make this determination. For purposes of this paragraph, when determining the most recent twelve months of normal production the industrial commission is not required to use twelve consecutive months. In addition, the production decline rate of ten percent must be applied from the last month in the twelve-month period of time.

- with respect to a unit where there is or has been a secondary recovery project and where the industrial commission can establish an accurate production decline curve, incremental production means the difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during the tertiary recovery project and the total amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced. For purposes of this paragraph, the total amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced includes both primary production and production that occurred as a result of any secondary recovery project. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced in a manner that conforms to the practice and procedure used by the commission at the time the tertiary recovery project is certified.
- d. The industrial commission shall adopt rules relating to thisthe exemption that under this subsection which must include procedures for determining incremental production as defined in subdivision c.
- 6. The production of oil from a two-year inactive well, as determined by the industrial commission and certified to the state tax commissioner, for a period of ten years after the date of receipt of the certification. The exemption under this subsection becomes

- ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.
- 7. The production of oil from a horizontal reentry well, as determined by the industrial commission and certified to the state tax commissioner, for a period of nine months after the date the well is completed as a horizontal well. The exemption under this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.
- 8.4. The initial production of oil from a well is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of sixty months if:
 - a. The well is located within the boundaries of an Indian reservation;
- b. The well is drilled and completed on lands held in trust by the United States for an Indian tribe or individual Indian; or
- c. The well is drilled and completed on lands held by an Indian tribe if the interest is in existence on August 1, 1997.
 - 9. The first seventy-five thousand barrels or the first four million five hundred thousand dollars of gross value at the well, whichever is less, of oil produced during the first eighteen months after completion, from a horizontal well drilled and completed after April 30, 2009, is subject to a reduced tax rate of two percent of the gross value at the well of the oil extracted under this chapter. A well eligible for a reduced tax rate under this subsection is eligible for the exemption for horizontal wells under subsection 3, if the exemption under subsection 3 is effective during all or part of the first twenty four months after completion. The rate reduction under this subsection becomes effective on the first day of the month following a month for which the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than fifty-five dollars. The rate reduction under this subsection becomes ineffective on the first day of the month following a month in which the

average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds seventy dollars. If the rate reduction under this subsection is effective on the date of completion of a well, the rate reduction applies to production from that well for up to eighteen months after completion, subject to the other limitations of this subsection. If the rate reduction under this subsection is ineffective on the date of completion of a well, the rate reduction under this subsection does not apply to production from that well at any time.

(Effective after June 30, 2013) Exemptions from oil extraction tax. The following activities are specifically exempted from the oil extraction tax:

- 1. The activity of extracting from the earth any oil that is exempt from the grossproduction tax imposed by chapter 57-51.
- 2. The activity of extracting from the earth any oil from a stripper well property.
- 3. For a well drilled and completed as a vertical well, the initial production of oil from the well is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of fifteen months, except that oil produced from any well drilled and completed as a horizontal well is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of twenty-four-months. Oil recovered during testing prior to well completion is exempt from the oil extraction tax. The exemption under this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.
 - 4. The production of oil from a qualifying well that was worked over is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of twelve months, beginning with the first day of the third calendar month after the completion of the work-over project. The exemption provided by this subsection is only effective if the well operator establishes to the satisfaction of the industrial commission upon completion of the project that the cost of the project exceeded sixty-five thousand dollars or production is increased at least fifty percent during the first two months after completion of the project. A qualifying well under this subsection is a well with an average daily production of no more than fifty barrels of oil during the latest six calendar months of continuous production. A work-over project under this subsection means the continuous-

employment of a work-over rig, including recompletions and reentries. The exemption-provided by this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month-period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.

- 5. a. The incremental production from a secondary recovery project which has been certified as a qualified project by the industrial commission after July 1, 1991, is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of five years from the date the incremental production begins.
 - b. The incremental production from a tertiary recovery project that does not use carbon dioxide and which has been certified as a qualified project by the industrial commission is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of ten years from the date the incremental production begins. Incremental production from a tertiary recovery project that uses carbon dioxide and which has been certified as a qualified project by the industrial commission is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter from the date the incremental production begins.
 - For purposes of this subsection, incremental production is defined in the following manner:
 - with respect to a unit where there has not been a secondary recoveryproject, incremental production means the difference between the totalamount of oil produced from the unit during the secondary recovery projectand the amount of primary production from the unit. For purposes of this
 paragraph, primary production means the amount of oil which would havebeen produced from the unit if the secondary recovery project had not been
 commenced. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of
 primary production in a manner which conforms to the practice and
 procedure used by the commission at the time the project is certified.

- (2) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision a and with respect to a unit where a secondary recovery project was in existenceprior to July 1, 1991, and where the industrial commission cannot establishan accurate production decline curve, incremental production means the difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during a new secondary recovery project and the amount of production which wouldbe equivalent to the average monthly production from the unit during the most recent twelve months of normal production reduced by a productiondecline rate of ten percent for each year. The industrial commission shalldetermine the average monthly production from the unit during the mostrecent twelve months of normal production and must upon request or uponits own motion hold a hearing to make this determination. For purposes of this paragraph, when determining the most recent twelve months of normalproduction the industrial commission is not required to use twelveconsecutive months. In addition, the production decline rate of ten percent must be applied from the last month in the twelve-month period of time.
 - with respect to a unit where a secondary recovery project was in existence before July 1, 1991, and where the industrial commission can establish an accurate production decline curve, incremental production means the difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during the new secondary recovery project and the total amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the new secondary recovery project had not been commenced. For purposes of this paragraph, the total amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the new secondary recovery project had not been commenced includes both primary production and production that occurred as a result of the secondary recovery project that was in existence before July 1, 1991. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the new secondary recovery project had not been commenced in a manner

1 that conforms to the practice and procedure used by the commission at the 2 time the new secondary recovery project is certified. 3 For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision b and 4 with respect to a unit where there has not been a secondary recovery-5 project, incremental production means the difference between the total 6 amount of oil produced from the unit during the tertiary recovery project and 7 the amount of primary production from the unit. For purposes of this 8 paragraph, primary production means the amount of oil which would have 9 been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been 10 commenced. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of 11 primary production in a manner which conforms to the practice and 12 procedure used by the commission at the time the project is certified. 13 (5) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision b and 14 with respect to a unit where there is or has been a secondary recovery-15 project, incremental production means the difference between the total-16 amount of oil produced during the tertiary recovery project and the amount-17 of production which would be equivalent to the average monthly production-18 from the unit during the most recent twelve months of normal production-19 reduced by a production decline rate of ten percent for each year. The 20 industrial commission shall determine the average monthly production from 21 the unit during the most recent twelve months of normal production and 22 must upon request or upon its own motion hold a hearing to make this 23 determination. For purposes of this paragraph, when determining the most-24 recent twelve months of normal production the industrial commission is not-25 required to use twelve consecutive months. In addition, the production-26 decline rate of ten percent must be applied from the last month in the 27 twelve-month period of time. 28 (6) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision b and 29 with respect to a unit where there is or has been a secondary recovery-30 project and where the industrial commission can establish an accurate 31 production decline curve, incremental production means the difference-

between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during the tertiary recovery project and the total amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced. For purposes of this paragraph, the total amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced includes both primary production and production that occurred as a result of any secondary recovery project. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced in a manner that conforms to the practice and procedure used by the commission at the time the tertiary recovery project is certified.

- d. The industrial commission shall adopt rules relating to this exemption that mustinclude procedures for determining incremental production as defined in
 subdivision c.
- 6. The production of oil from a two-year inactive well, as determined by the industrial commission and certified to the state tax commissioner, for a period of ten years after the date of receipt of the certification. The exemption under this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.
- 7. The production of oil from a horizontal reentry well, as determined by the industrial commission and certified to the state tax commissioner, for a period of nine months after the date the well is completed as a horizontal well. The exemption under this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.

15-05-10. Royalties from oil leases - Rents from other leases - Rules.

Oil leases must be made by the board of university and school lands at such annual minimum payments as are determined by the board, but the royalty shall be not less than twelve and one-half percent of the gross output of oil from the lands leased. Oil leases made by the board may authorize a royalty of less than twelve and one-half percent for production from stripper well properties or individual stripper wells and qualifying secondary recovery and qualifying tertiary recovery projects as defined in section 57-51.1-01. Leases for gas, coal, cement materials, sodium sulfate, sand and gravel, road material, building stone, chemical substances, metallic ores, or colloidal or other clays must be made by the board in such annual payments as are determined by the board. The board may adopt rules regarding annual payments and royalties under this section.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Subsection 4 of section 38-08-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4. To classify wells as oil or gas wells for purposes material to the interpretation or enforcement of this chapter, to classify and determine the status and depth of wells that are stripper well property as defined in subsection 8 of section 57-51.1-01, to certify to the tax commissioner which wells are stripper wells and the depth of those wells, to recertify stripper wells that are reentered and recompleted as horizontal wells, and to certify to the tax commissioner which wells involve secondary or tertiary recovery operations under section 57-51.1-01, and the date of qualification for the reduced rate of oil extraction tax for secondary and tertiary recovery operations.

SECTION 3. A new section to chapter 57-38 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Withholding requirement for oil and gas royalty payments to nonresidents.

- 1. For purposes of this section:
 - a. "Publicly traded partnership" means a publicly traded partnership as defined in section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code [26 U.S.C. 7704] which is not treated as a corporation.
 - b. "Remitter" means any person who distributes royalty payments to royalty owners.
 - c. "Royalty owner" means a person or entity entitled to receive periodic royalty payments for a nonworking interest in the production of oil or gas.

1 Except as provided in subsection 3, each remitter shall deduct and withhold from the 2 net amount of the royalty payment made to each nonresident individual or business 3 entity that does not have its commercial domicile in this state at the highest marginal 4 rate provided in sections 57-38-30 and 57-38-30.3. Sections 57-38-59 and 57-38-60 5 apply to the filing of the returns and payment of the tax under this subsection. 6 This section does not apply to royalty payments made to a royalty owner if the royalty 7 owner is: 8 The United States or an agency of the federal government, this state or a political 9 subdivision of this state, or another state or a political subdivision of another 10 state; 11 A federally recognized Indian tribe with respect to on-reservation oil and gas 12 production pursuant to a lease entered under the Indian Mineral Leasing Act of 13 1938 [25 U.S.C. 396a through 396g]; 14 The United States as trustee for individual Indians: 15 A publicly traded partnership: 16 An organization that is exempt from the tax under this chapter; or The same person or entity as the remitter. 17 18 This section does not apply to a remitter that produced less than three hundred 19 fifty thousand barrels of oil or less than five hundred million cubic feet of gas in 20 the preceding calendar year as certified to the tax commissioner in the manner 21 and on forms prescribed by the tax commissioner. 22 Each remitter that is exempt from withholding under this subsection shall make 23 an annual return to report royalty payments that exceed the dollar amounts in 24 subsection 6 and must be reported in the same manner as provided in section 25 57-38-60. 26 Each year, a publicly traded partnership that is exempt from withholding under_ 27 subsection 3 shall transmit to the tax commissioner, in an electronic format 28 approved by the tax commissioner, each partner's United States department of 29 the treasury schedule K-1, form 1065, or form 1065-B, as applicable, filed 30 electronically for the year with the United States internal revenue service.

- b. A royalty owner that is a publicly traded partnership, or an organization exempt from taxation under section 57-38-09, shall report to the remitter and tax commissioner under oath, on a form prescribed by the tax commissioner, all information necessary to establish that the remitter is not required under subsection 2 to withhold royalty payments made to the partnership or organization.
- 6. If the royalty payment made to a royalty owner under this section is less than six

 hundred dollars for the current withholding period, or is less than one thousand dollars

 if the payment is annualized, the tax commissioner may grant a remitter's request to

 forego withholding the tax from the royalty payment made to that royalty owner for the

 current withholding period or, if applicable, the royalty payments for the annual period.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. Section 57-51.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

57-51.1-01. Definitions for oil extraction tax.

For the purposes of the oil extraction tax law, the following words and terms shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this sectionthis chapter:

- 1. "Average daily production" of a well means the qualified maximum total production of oil from the well during a calendar month period divided by the number of calendar days in that period, and "qualified maximum total production" of a well means that the well must have been maintained at the maximum efficient rate of production as defined and determined by rule adopted by the industrial commission in furtherance of its authority under chapter 38-08.
- 2. "Average price" of a barrel of crude oil means the monthly average of the daily closing price for a barrel of west Texas intermediate cushing crude oil, as those prices appear in the Wall Street Journal, midwest edition, minus two dollars and fifty cents. When computing the monthly average price, the most recent previous daily closing price must be considered the daily closing price for the days on which the market is closed.
- 3. "Horizontal reentry well" means a well that was not initially drilled and completed as a horizontal well, including any well initially plugged and abandoned as a dry hole, which is reentered and recompleted as a horizontal well.

- "Horizontal well" means a well with a horizontal displacement of the well bore drilled at
 an angle of at least eighty degrees within the productive formation of at least three
 hundred feet [91.44 meters].
 - 5. "Oil" means petroleum, crude oil, mineral oil, casinghead gasoline, and all liquid hydrocarbons that are recovered from gas on the lease incidental to the production of the gas.
 - 6. "Property" means the right which arises from a lease or fee interest, as a whole or any designated portion thereof, to produce oil. A producer shall treat as a separate property each separate and distinct producing reservoir subject to the same right to produce crude oil; provided, that such reservoir is recognized by the industrial commission as a producing formation that is separate and distinct from, and not in communication with, any other producing formation.
 - 7. "Qualifying secondary recovery project" means a project employing water flooding. To be eligible for the tax reduction provided under section 57-51.1-02, a secondary recovery project must be certified as qualifying by the industrial commission and the project operator must have achieved for six consecutive months an average production level of at least twenty-five percent above the level that would have been recovered under normal recovery operations. To be eligible for the tax exemption provided under section 57-51.1-03 and subsequent thereto the rate reduction provided under section 57-51.1-02, a secondary recovery project must be certified as qualifying by the industrial commission and the project operator must have obtained incremental production as defined in subsection 5 of section 57-51.1-03.
 - 8. "Qualifying tertiary recovery project" means a project for enhancing recovery of oil which meets the requirements of section 4993(c), Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended through December 31, 1986, and includes the following methods for recovery:
 - a. Miscible fluid displacement.
 - b. Steam drive injection.
 - c. Microemulsion.
 - d. In situ combustion.
 - e. Polymer augmented water flooding.

f. Cyclic steam injection.

- g. Alkaline flooding.
- h. Carbonated water flooding.
- i. Immiscible carbon dioxide displacement.
- j. New tertiary recovery methods certified by the industrial commission.

It does not include water flooding, unless the water flooding is used as an element of one of the qualifying tertiary recovery techniques described in this subsection, or immiscible natural gas injection. To be eligible for the tax reduction provided under section 57-51.1-02, a tertiary recovery project must be certified as qualifying by the industrial commission, the project operator must continue to operate the unit as a qualifying tertiary recovery project, and the project operator must have achieved for at least one month a production level of at least fifteen percent above the level that would have been recovered under normal recovery operations. To be eligible for the tax exemption provided under section 57-51.1-03 and subsequent thereto the rate reduction provided under section 57-51.1-02, a tertiary recovery project must be certified as qualifying by the industrial commission, the project operator must continue to operate the unit as a qualifying tertiary recovery project, and the project operator must have obtained incremental production as defined in subsection 5 of section 57-51.1-03.

- 9. "Royalty owner" means an owner of what is commonly known as the royalty interest and shall not include the owner of any overriding royalty or other payment carved out of the working interest.
- 10. "Stripper well" means a well drilled and completed, or reentered and recompleted as a horizontal well, after June 30, 2013, whose average daily production of oil during any preceding consecutive twelve-month period, excluding condensate recovered in nonassociated production, per well did not exceed ten barrels per day for wells of a depth of six thousand feet [1828.80 meters] or less, fifteen barrels per day for wells of a depth of more than six thousand feet [1828.80 meters] but not more than ten thousand feet [3048 meters], and thirty barrels per day for wells of a depth of more than ten thousand feet [3048 meters] outside the Bakken and Three Forks formations,

and forty barrels per day for wells of a depth of more than ten thousand feet [3048 meters] in the Bakken or Three Forks formation.

- "Stripper well property" means wells drilled and completed, or a well reentered and recompleted as a horizontal well, before July 1, 2013, on a "property" whose average daily production of oil, excluding condensate recovered in nonassociated production, per well did not exceed ten barrels per day for wells of a depth of six thousand feet [1828.80 meters] or less, fifteen barrels per day for wells of a depth of more than six thousand feet [1828.80 meters] but not more than ten thousand feet [3048 meters], and thirty barrels per day for wells of a depth of more than ten thousand feet [3048 meters] during any preceding consecutive twelve-month period. Wells which did not actually yield or produce oil during the qualifying twelve-month period, including disposal wells, dry wells, spent wells, and shut-in wells, are not production wells for the purpose of determining whether the stripper well property exemption applies.
- Trigger price" means thirty-five dollars and fifty cents, as indexed for inflation. By December thirty-first of each year, the tax commissioner shall compute an indexed trigger price by applying to the current trigger price the rate of change of the producer price index for industrial commodities as calculated and published by the United States department of labor, bureau of labor statistics, for the twelve months ending June thirtieth of that year and the indexed trigger price so determined is the trigger price for the following calendar year.
- 12.13. "Two-year inactive well" means any well certified by the industrial commission that did not produce oil in more than one month in any consecutive twenty-four-month period before being recompleted or otherwise returned to production after July 31, 1995. A well that has never produced oil, a dry hole, and a plugged and abandoned well are eligible for status as a two-year inactive well.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENT. Section 57-51.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

57-51.1-03. (Effective through June 30, 2013) Exemptions from oil extraction tax.

The following activities are specifically exempted from the oil extraction tax:

1. The activity of extracting from the earth any oil that is exempt from the gross production tax imposed by chapter 57-51.

- 2
- 4 5
- 6 7 8
- 9 10
- 11 12

- 14 15 16
- 17 18 19
- 20 21
- 22 23
- 24 25 26
- 27 28

29

- The activity of extracting from the earth any oil from a stripper well property or individual stripper well.
- 3. For a well drilled and completed as a vertical well, the initial production of oil from the well is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of fifteen months, except that oil produced from any well drilled and completed as a horizontal well is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of twenty-four months. Oil recovered during testing prior to well completion is exempt from the oil extraction tax. The exemption under this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.
 - The production of oil from a qualifying well that was worked over is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of twelve months, beginning with the first day of the third calendar month after the completion of the work-over project. The exemption provided by this subsection is only effective if the well operator establishes to the satisfaction of the industrial commission upon completion of the project that the cost of the project exceeded sixty-five thousand dollars or production is increased at least fifty percent during the first two months after completion of the project. A qualifying well under this subsection is a well with an average daily production of no more than fifty barrels of oil during the latest six calendar months of continuous production. A work-over project under this subsection means the continuous employment of a work-over rig, including recompletions and reentries. The exemption provided by this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.
- 5. The incremental production from a secondary recovery project which has been a. certified as a qualified project by the industrial commission after July 1, 1991, is

- exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of five years from the date the incremental production begins.
- b. The incremental production from a tertiary recovery project that does not use carbon dioxide and which has been certified as a qualified project by the industrial commission is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of ten years from the date the incremental production begins. Incremental production from a tertiary recovery project that uses carbon dioxide and which has been certified as a qualified project by the industrial commission is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter from the date the incremental production begins.
- c. For purposes of this subsection, incremental production is defined in the following manner:
 - (1) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision a and with respect to a unit where there has not been a secondary recovery project, incremental production means the difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during the secondary recovery project and the amount of primary production from the unit. For purposes of this paragraph, primary production means the amount of oil which would have been produced from the unit if the secondary recovery project had not been commenced. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of primary production in a manner which conforms to the practice and procedure used by the commission at the time the project is certified.
 - (2) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision a and with respect to a unit where a secondary recovery project was in existence prior to July 1, 1991, and where the industrial commission cannot establish an accurate production decline curve, incremental production means the difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during a new secondary recovery project and the amount of production which would be equivalent to the average monthly production from the unit during the most recent twelve months of normal production reduced by a production decline rate of ten percent for each year. The industrial commission shall

- determine the average monthly production from the unit during the most recent twelve months of normal production and must upon request or upon its own motion hold a hearing to make this determination. For purposes of this paragraph, when determining the most recent twelve months of normal production the industrial commission is not required to use twelve consecutive months. In addition, the production decline rate of ten percent must be applied from the last month in the twelve-month period of time.
- For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision a and (3) with respect to a unit where a secondary recovery project was in existence before July 1, 1991, and where the industrial commission can establish an accurate production decline curve, incremental production means the difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during the new secondary recovery project and the total amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the new secondary recovery project had not been commenced. For purposes of this paragraph, the total amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the new secondary recovery project had not been commenced includes both primary production and production that occurred as a result of the secondary recovery project that was in existence before July 1, 1991. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the new secondary recovery project had not been commenced in a manner that conforms to the practice and procedure used by the commission at the time the new secondary recovery project is certified.
- (4) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision b and with respect to a unit where there has not been a secondary recovery project, incremental production means the difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during the tertiary recovery project and the amount of primary production from the unit. For purposes of this paragraph, primary production means the amount of oil which would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of

29

- primary production in a manner which conforms to the practice and procedure used by the commission at the time the project is certified.
- (5) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision b and with respect to a unit where there is or has been a secondary recovery project, incremental production means the difference between the total amount of oil produced during the tertiary recovery project and the amount of production which would be equivalent to the average monthly production from the unit during the most recent twelve months of normal production reduced by a production decline rate of ten percent for each year. The industrial commission shall determine the average monthly production from the unit during the most recent twelve months of normal production and must upon request or upon its own motion hold a hearing to make this determination. For purposes of this paragraph, when determining the most recent twelve months of normal production the industrial commission is not required to use twelve consecutive months. In addition, the production decline rate of ten percent must be applied from the last month in the twelve-month period of time.
- (6) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision b and with respect to a unit where there is or has been a secondary recovery project and where the industrial commission can establish an accurate production decline curve, incremental production means the difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during the tertiary recovery project and the total amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced. For purposes of this paragraph, the total amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced includes both primary production and production that occurred as a result of any secondary recovery project. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced in a manner

- that conforms to the practice and procedure used by the commission at the time the tertiary recovery project is certified.
- d. The industrial commission shall adopt rules relating to this exemption that must include procedures for determining incremental production as defined in subdivision c.
- 6. The production of oil from a two-year inactive well, as determined by the industrial commission and certified to the state tax commissioner, for a period of ten years after the date of receipt of the certification. The exemption under this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.
- 7. The production of oil from a horizontal reentry well, as determined by the industrial commission and certified to the state tax commissioner, for a period of nine months after the date the well is completed as a horizontal well. The exemption under this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.
- 8. The initial production of oil from a well is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of sixty months if:
 - a. The well is <u>drilled and completed before July 1, 2013, on nontrust lands located</u> within the boundaries of an Indian reservation;
 - b. The well is drilled and completed <u>before July 1, 2013</u>, on lands held in trust by the United States for an Indian tribe or individual Indian; or
 - c. The well is drilled and completed <u>before July 1, 2013,</u> on lands held by an Indian tribe if the interest is in existence on August 1, 1997.
- 9. The first seventy-five thousand barrels or the first four million five hundred thousand dollars of gross value at the well, whichever is less, of oil produced during the first

eighteen months after completion, from a horizontal well drilled and completed after April 30, 2009, and before July 1, 2015, is subject to a reduced tax rate of two percent of the gross value at the well of the oil extracted under this chapter. A well eligible for a reduced tax rate under this subsection is eligible for the exemption for horizontal wells under subsection 3, if the exemption under subsection 3 is effective during all or part of the first twenty-four months after completion. The rate reduction under this subsection becomes effective on the first day of the month following a month for which the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than fifty-five dollars. The rate reduction under this subsection becomes ineffective on the first day of the month following a month in which the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds seventy dollars. If the rate reduction under this subsection is effective on the date of completion of a well, the rate reduction applies to production from that well for up to eighteen months after completion, subject to the other limitations of this subsection. If the rate reduction under this subsection is ineffective on the date of completion of a well, the rate reduction under this subsection does not apply to production from that well at any time.

10. The first seventy-five thousand barrels of oil produced during the first eighteen months after completion, from a well drilled and completed outside the Bakken and Three Forks formations, is subject to a reduced tax rate of two percent of the gross value at the well of the oil extracted under this chapter. A well eligible for a reduced tax rate under this subsection is eligible for the exemption under subsection 3, if the exemption under subsection 3 is effective during all or part of the first twenty-four months after completion.

(Effective after June 30, 2013) Exemptions from oil extraction tax. The following activities are specifically exempted from the oil extraction tax:

- 1. The activity of extracting from the earth any oil that is exempt from the grossproduction tax imposed by chapter 57-51.
- 2. The activity of extracting from the earth any oil from a stripper well property.
- 3. For a well drilled and completed as a vertical well, the initial production of oil from the well is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of fifteen months, except that oil produced from any well drilled and completed as a horizontal

31

well is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of twenty-four-months. Oil recovered during testing prior to well completion is exempt from the oil extraction tax. The exemption under this subsection becomes ineffective if the average-price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.

- The production of oil from a qualifying well that was worked over is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of twelve months, beginning with the first day of the third calendar month after the completion of the work-over project. The exemption provided by this subsection is only effective if the well operator establishes to the satisfaction of the industrial commission upon completion of the project that the cost of the project exceeded sixty-five thousand dollars or production is increased at least fifty percent during the first two months after completion of the project. A qualifying well under this subsection is a well with an average daily production of nomore than fifty barrels of oil during the latest six calendar months of continuousproduction. A work-over project under this subsection means the continuousemployment of a work-over rig, including recompletions and reentries. The exemptionprovided by this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-monthperiod. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomeseffective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.
- 5. a. The incremental production from a secondary recovery project which has been certified as a qualified project by the industrial commission after July 1, 1991, is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of five years from the date the incremental production begins.
 - b. The incremental production from a tertiary recovery project that does not use carbon dioxide and which has been certified as a qualified project by the industrial commission is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of ten years from the date the incremental production begins. Incremental

1 production from a tertiary recovery project that uses carbon dioxide and which 2 has been certified as a qualified project by the industrial commission is exempt-3 from any taxes imposed under this chapter from the date the incremental-4 production begins. 5 For purposes of this subsection, incremental production is defined in the following 6 manner: 7 (1) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision a and 8 with respect to a unit where there has not been a secondary recovery-9 project, incremental production means the difference between the total-10 amount of oil produced from the unit during the secondary recovery project-11 and the amount of primary production from the unit. For purposes of this-12 paragraph, primary production means the amount of oil which would have 13 been produced from the unit if the secondary recovery project had not been 14 commenced. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of 15 primary production in a manner which conforms to the practice and 16 procedure used by the commission at the time the project is certified. 17 (2) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision a and 18 with respect to a unit where a secondary recovery project was in existence-19 prior to July 1, 1991, and where the industrial commission cannot establish-20 an accurate production decline curve, incremental production means the 21 difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during a 22 new secondary recovery project and the amount of production which would-23 be equivalent to the average monthly production from the unit during the 24 most recent twelve months of normal production reduced by a production-25 decline rate of ten percent for each year. The industrial commission shall-26 determine the average monthly production from the unit during the most-27 recent twelve months of normal production and must upon request or upon-28 its own motion hold a hearing to make this determination. For purposes of 29 this paragraph, when determining the most recent twelve months of normal-30 production the industrial commission is not required to use twelve-

1 consecutive months. In addition, the production decline rate of ten percent-2 must be applied from the last month in the twelve-month period of time. 3 (3) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision a and 4 with respect to a unit where a secondary recovery project was in existence-5 before July 1, 1991, and where the industrial commission can establish an 6 accurate production decline curve, incremental production means the 7 difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during the 8 new secondary recovery project and the total amount of oil that would have 9 been produced from the unit if the new secondary recovery project had not-10 been commenced. For purposes of this paragraph, the total amount of oil-11 that would have been produced from the unit if the new secondary recovery-12 project had not been commenced includes both primary production and 13 production that occurred as a result of the secondary recovery project that 14 was in existence before July 1, 1991. The industrial commission shall-15 determine the amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if-16 the new secondary recovery project had not been commenced in a manner-17 that conforms to the practice and procedure used by the commission at the 18 time the new secondary recovery project is certified. 19 (4) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision b and 20 with respect to a unit where there has not been a secondary recovery-21 project, incremental production means the difference between the total-22 amount of oil produced from the unit during the tertiary recovery project and 23 the amount of primary production from the unit. For purposes of this 24 paragraph, primary production means the amount of oil which would have-25 been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been 26 commenced. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of 27 primary production in a manner which conforms to the practice and 28 procedure used by the commission at the time the project is certified. 29 (5) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision b and 30 with respect to a unit where there is or has been a secondary recovery-31 project, incremental production means the difference between the total-

amount of oil produced during the tertiary recovery project and the amount of production which would be equivalent to the average monthly production-from the unit during the most recent twelve months of normal production reduced by a production decline rate of ten percent for each year. The industrial commission shall determine the average monthly production from the unit during the most recent twelve months of normal production and must upon request or upon its own motion hold a hearing to make this determination. For purposes of this paragraph, when determining the most recent twelve months of normal production the industrial commission is not required to use twelve consecutive months. In addition, the production decline rate of ten percent must be applied from the last month in the twelve-month period of time.

- (6) For purposes of determining the exemption provided for in subdivision b and with respect to a unit where there is or has been a secondary recovery project and where the industrial commission can establish an accurate production decline curve, incremental production means the difference between the total amount of oil produced from the unit during the tertiary recovery project and the total amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced. For purposes of this paragraph, the total amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced includes both primary production and production that occurred as a result of any secondary recovery project. The industrial commission shall determine the amount of oil that would have been produced from the unit if the tertiary recovery project had not been commenced in a manner that conforms to the practice and procedure used by the commission at the time the tertiary recovery project is certified.
- d. The industrial commission shall adopt rules relating to this exemption that mustinclude procedures for determining incremental production as defined insubdivision c.

- 6. The production of oil from a two-year inactive well, as determined by the industrial commission and certified to the state tax commissioner, for a period of ten years after the date of receipt of the certification. The exemption under this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.
- 7. The production of oil from a horizontal reentry well, as determined by the industrial commission and certified to the state tax commissioner, for a period of nine months after the date the well is completed as a horizontal well. The exemption under this subsection becomes ineffective if the average price of a barrel of crude oil exceeds the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period. However, the exemption is reinstated if, after the trigger provision becomes effective, the average price of a barrel of crude oil is less than the trigger price for each month in any consecutive five-month period.
- 8. The initial production of oil from a well is exempt from any taxes imposed under this chapter for a period of sixty months if:
 - a. The well is located within the boundaries of an Indian reservation;
 - b. The well is drilled and completed on lands held in trust by the United States for an Indian tribe or individual Indian; or
 - c. The well is drilled and completed on lands held by an Indian tribe if the interest is in existence on August 1, 1997.
- 9. The first seventy-five thousand barrels of oil produced during the first eighteen months after completion, from a horizontal well drilled and completed in the Bakken formation after June 30, 2007, and before July 1, 2008, is subject to a reduced tax rate of two-percent of the gross value at the well of the oil extracted under this chapter. A well eligible for a reduced tax rate under this subsection is eligible for the exemption for horizontal wells under subsection 3, if the exemption under subsection 3 is effective during all or part of the first twenty four months after completion.

27

28

29

30

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 57-51.1-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

 To receive, from the first day of eligibility, a tax exemption on production from a stripper well property or individual stripper well under subsection 2 of section 57-51.1-03, the industrial commission's certification must be submitted to the tax commissioner within eighteen months after the end of the stripper well property's or stripper well's qualification period.

SECTION 7. AMENDMENT. Section 57-51.2-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

57-51.2-02. Agreement requirements.

An agreement under this chapter is subject to the following:

- The only taxes subject to agreement are the state's oil and gas gross production and oil extraction taxes attributable to production from wells located within the exterior boundaries of the Fort Berthold Reservation.
- The state's oil and gas gross production tax under chapter 57-51 and oil extraction tax under chapter 57-51.1 must apply to all wells located within the Fort Berthold Reservation.
- 3. The state's oil extraction tax under chapter 57-51.1 as applied to oil and gas production attributable to trust lands on the Fort Berthold Reservation may not exceed six and one-half percent but may be reduced through negotiation between the governor and the Three Affiliated Tribes.
- 4. Any exemptions for oil and gas production from trust lands under chapters 57-51 and 57-51.1 do not apply to production within the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Reservation except as otherwise provided in the agreement.
- 5. The allocation of revenue from oil and gas production taxes on the Fort Berthold Reservation must be as follows:
 - a. Production attributable to trust lands. All revenues and exemptions from all oil and gas gross production and oil extraction taxes attributable to production from trust lands on the Fort Berthold Reservation must be evenly divided between the tribe and the state.

- b. All other production. The tribe must receive twenty percent of the total oil and gas gross production taxes collected from all production All revenues and exemptions from all oil and gas gross production and oil extraction taxes attributable to production from nontrust lands on the Fort Berthold Reservation must be evenly divided between the tribe and the state in lieu of the application of the Three Affiliated Tribes' fees and taxes related to production on such lands. The state must receive the remainder.
- c. The state's share of the revenue as divided in subdivisions a and b is subject to distribution among political subdivisions as provided in chapters 57-51 and 57-51.1.
- 6. An oil or gas well that is drilled and completed during the time of an agreement under this chapter must be subject to the terms of the agreement for the life of the well.
- 7. The Three Affiliated Tribes must agree not to impose a tribal tax or any fee on future production of oil and gas on the Fort Berthold Reservation during the term of the agreement.
- 8. To address situations in which the tax commissioner refunds taxes to a taxpayer, the agreement must allow the tax commissioner to offset future distributions to the tribe.
- 9. The tax commissioner must retain authority to administer and enforce chapters 57-51 and 57-51.1 as applied to wells subject to any agreement authorized by this chapter.
- 10. An oil or gas well that is drilled and completed during the time an agreement under this chapter is in effect is subject to state regulatory provisions for the life of the well in addition to any other applicable regulatory provisions.
- 11. The federal district court for the western division of North Dakota is the venue for any dispute arising from a revenue-sharing agreement between the state and the Three Affiliated Tribes.
- 12. The agreement must require that the Three Affiliated Tribes report annually to the budget section of the legislative management and that the report, at a minimum, informs the budget section of tribal investments in essential infrastructure and fees, expenses, and charges the tribe imposes on the oil industry.

- **SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Section 3 of this Act is effective for taxable years
- 2 beginning after December 31, 2013, and the remainder of this Act is effective for taxable events
- 3 occurring after June 30, 2013.