

Department of Natural Resources - Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
Special Environmental Protection and Mitigation Studies Line Item
Annual Report of Expenditures per HB06-1385, Footnote 99

Special Study/Project Name	Description	FY 2006-07 Expenditures
Soil Gas Surveys of Environmental Response Fund Projects	The OGCC conducted soil gas surveys at the sites of 194 orphaned wells that had been previously plugged and abandoned by the agency. Of those sites, four were found to be leaking methane gas. Follow-up investigations are currently underway. The OGCC will remediate these sites, as needed, to ensure the protection of public health, safety and welfare.	\$144,327
Moffat County Baseline Water Quality Study	Recent permitting for coalbed methane wells in southeast Moffat County generated the need for baseline ground water quality data. Twenty-five water wells, in Townships 6 and 7 North, Range 92 West, 6 th P.M., were sampled for general water quality parameters, dissolved methane concentration, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes. The final report of this study was posted on the OGCC's website in August 2007. Total cost was \$24,902 (\$4,965 in FY 2006-07 and \$19,937 in FY 2007-08).	\$4,965
Ogallala Baseline Water Study – Washington and Yuma Counties	Increased natural gas drilling activity in northeast Colorado generated the need for collecting baseline ground water quality data. Water samples were collected from 75 water wells throughout Washington and Yuma counties. These samples were tested for general water quality parameters, dissolved methane concentration, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes. The final report of this study is expected to be available on the OGCC's website in early November, 2007.	\$90,979

Special Study/Project Name	Description	FY 2006-07 Expenditures
Impacts of Oil and Gas Development on Wildlife	The OGCC and the Division of Wildlife (DOW) produced a video that demonstrates efforts by the oil and gas industry, the DOW, and the OGCC to mitigate impacts to the state's wildlife. It was designed to educate the public, operators, and local governments about techniques that can be used by oil and gas operators to protect wildlife habitat and mitigate energy development-related impacts. The video is currently undergoing final editing by the Department of Natural Resources' staff.	\$25,000
Total Expenditures		\$265,271

*** HB 06-1385 – Footnote #99: (Department of Natural Resources, Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, Special Environmental Protection and Mitigation Studies -- It is the intent of the General Assembly that funding for this line item be used for special environmental protection and mitigation studies including, but not limited to gas seepage mitigation studies, outcrop monitoring studies, soil gas surveys in the vicinity of plugged orphaned wells, and baseline water quality and subsequent follow-up studies. The Oil and Gas Conservation Commission is requested to include in its annual budget request a report detailing all expenditures made in the previous year from this line item.)*