



# SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

May 14, 2020

**Subject: Notice to Operators – Updates to the DOE Exploration and Production Operators Manual.**

Dear Operators and Right of Way Holders,

This letter is a Notice to Operators to inform you that the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's (SUIT) Department of Energy (DOE) has updated the DOE Exploration and Production Operators Manual. The manual can be found on the SUIT DOE Website at <https://www.suitdoe.com/exploration-production/>.

Revisions to the manual are summarized in Section 9 on Pg. 57 of the manual. DOE is in the process of expanding the inspection program from only evaluating well site compliance and reclamation, to encompass all energy related facilities and infrastructure. New inspections to come will assess the active and post construction of all energy related work, day to day compliance and the decommissioning and abandonment of facilities (compressor stations, central delivery points etc.), roads and pipeline ROW's.

Other relevant changes to the manual revolve around the proper abandonment and verification of safely decommissioned gathering pipelines and well site flowlines. These are new forms and processes that have already been brought to your attention through previous NTO's. However, in the spirit of continually making necessary adjustments to these forms to better serve the purpose, DOE encourages operators to always use the forms on the DOE website to ensure operators are using the most current version of the form.

DOE is planning to host an operator outreach meeting once circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 virus allow.

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