



# INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

Jack Dalrymple  
Governor

Wayne Stenehjem  
Attorney General

Doug Goehring  
Agriculture Commissioner

**N**EW

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## **New mapping tool helps road planning in oil country communities**

BISMARCK – The North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources has developed a new mapping tool to help community leaders plan for road maintenance, dust control and other traffic-related problems in oil country.

“This new resource is a layer in the Oil and Gas Division’s online GIS mapping system,” said Gov. Jack Dalrymple. “The layer enables planners to see where truck traffic could be most concentrated for a given period.”

The new layer, known as “permit status before spud,” was developed as a part of the governor’s planning initiative released in February. Spud is a term referring to the beginning of the well-drilling process.

“The new layer shows the date range for when permits could expire, be renewed or drilled,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “It also shows how many times the permit has been renewed.”

“Users will be able to identify the operator of the rig and or well, as well as possible time frames when permits could be drilled,” said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem. “Because operators are shifting to efficiency drilling, rigs may end up on a location for months at a time,”

Lynn Helms, director of the Oil and Gas Division, said the project had taken several months, and that division staff looks forward to working with community leaders in using the new map layer.

The GIS map server is available at [www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas](http://www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas).

Governor Dalrymple, Agriculture Commissioner Goehring and Attorney General Stenehjem comprise the North Dakota Industrial Commission and oversee the Department of Mineral Resources and its subsidiary, the Oil and Gas Division.

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