

Ward Petroleum – Ivey Oil & Gas Site

Frequently Asked Questions

Ward Petroleum is applying for permits from the Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) and Adams County to develop oil and gas resources. The Ivey oil and gas site will be located near 152nd Ave. and York St. The following questions represent inquiries from local stakeholders.

Q: Why should I trust your company to develop my minerals?

A: Ward Petroleum has been owned and operated solely by the Ward family for over 50 years and prides itself on developing oil and gas resources responsibly and with the utmost integrity. We are an experienced team and believe operating safely is a cornerstone of everything we do. We appreciate our community and seek to provide value to the areas in which we operate, including treating our surface and mineral owners as valued partners and hosts to our operations.

Q: I've heard there is a lot of traffic associated with oil and gas sites. Will this affect the safety of my neighborhood and damage the roads?

A: Our team has submitted a Traffic Plan to Adams County as part of our Administrative Use by Special Review permit application. The plan is specifically tailored to the Ivey site and takes into consideration input from Adams 12 School District, local fire districts, the City of Thornton, and Adams County. Although a significant portion of the traffic will be eliminated because of pipelines, we are utilizing the safest and most efficient routes for our trucks. Traffic that is necessary for our construction and operations will use E-470 exiting at York Street.

Q: Is your project going to affect my family's health?

A: In 2014, Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper requested the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) conduct an assessment of existing studies on the effects of oil and gas development on public health. The assessment was released in 2017 and found that "based on currently available air monitoring data, the risk of harmful health effects is low for residents living near oil and gas operations." Ward follows all federal, state, and local regulations regarding environmental impacts and public health. The CDPHE study is available at <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/oil-and-gas-health-assessment>.

Q: Will you be using pipelines for this project?

A: Temporary pipelines will be utilized to transport water to the site for drilling and completion operations. For the life of the wells, permanent pipelines will be installed to transport oil and natural gas from the site during production. Pipelines are integral to reducing emissions, reducing traffic, and in decreasing the number of tanks onsite.

Q: What happens if there is an emergency or accident on your site?

A: As part of our Administrative Use by Special Review permit to Adams County, we submitted an Emergency Preparedness Plan. The plan is unique to our site and includes input from the Brighton Fire District, North Metro Fire District, and Adams 12 School District. In addition, we have hosted site visits for emergency responders and coordinated a drill with the North Metro and Brighton Fire Districts.

Operating safely is always a top priority for our company. The site will be equipped with remote automation to monitor conditions at the site and allow for a remote shut-in if needed.

Q: How do you know your project won't ruin my water?

A: The COGCC requires every oil and gas well to be encased in multiple layers of industrial-grade steel casing, which is then surrounded by cement to create several levels of protection. In addition, baseline water well testing requires sampling and monitoring of at least 4 wells within ½ mile of the site prior to drilling, after the wells are completed and one cycle thereafter.

Our team worked with a specialized flood plain consultant who confirmed the Ivey Site is outside of the 100-year Flood

Plain. As part of our permit application, we comply with Storm Water Management Plan requirements to ensure we are properly managing any runoff.

Q: I've heard oil and gas development uses a lot of water. How much do you use, where do you get it, and what happens when you're done with it?

A: According to the COGCC, the amount of water used for hydraulic fracturing is less than .08% of water consumed in the state. The water we use for hydraulic fracturing will come from a source approved by the State Engineer. Rather than using trucks to transport the water, our project will utilize temporary pipelines to further reduce road impacts.

Wastewater from our site will be transported by truck to a Class II Disposal Well in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the COGCC standards. A plan for our wastewater management was submitted to the county as part of our permit application.

Q: Will your operation be loud?

A: Oil and gas development is an industrial process that does include noise during the construction, drilling, and hydraulic fracturing phases. Our team completed sound modeling and will install sound walls around three sides of the site, with the open side on the west toward E-470. The sound walls will significantly reduce noise levels during these initial phases, and Ward will meet or exceed the state's noise level requirements.

Q: Will your project be an eyesore?

A: We are sensitive to community concerns about the visual impact of the site and are submitting a Visual Mitigation Plan as part of our permit application to Adams County. We have done visual renderings and simulations to determine how best to reclaim the site and utilize landscaping. After the initial construction, drilling, and hydraulic fracturing phases, the size of the site will be greatly reduced.

Q: What happens if there are spills on your site?

A: The first priority in Ward operations is to prevent a spill. The onsite tanks will be located within a steel berm containment area with capacity sufficient to hold at least 150% of the largest tank with an allowance for precipitation. The tanks will have alarms to notify our team remotely if they are too full. In addition, an impervious liner will be underneath the secondary containment steel berm.

Our team will be checking the site 5 to 7 times a week for extra precaution. If a spill does occur, we are required to report it to the COGCC and Adams County. The threshold for a spill report is anything which reaches a waterway, over 1 barrel (42 gallons) outside of secondary containment and greater than 5 barrels even it remains within secondary containment.

Q: Is this project going to affect our air quality? Who makes sure you are following the law?

A: The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment requires oil and gas operators to control emissions, particularly those made up of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), through combustion devices and leak detection programs. Colorado's Air Quality Control Commission has implemented some of the most stringent air quality regulations in the nation that we must comply with.

Q: Why should I support Ward's project in my community?

A: During our 50 year history operating 350 wells, including 85 within urban areas, Ward has had no unresolved environmental complaints and no unresolved issues with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission or the Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission. We take full responsibility for our operations and contractors and hold ourselves accountable for the lifecycle of a project. The team at Ward takes pride in our strong work ethic and our commitment to deliver value to our investors, community partners, and stakeholders. We strive to be a community partner of which you can be proud.