

LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



1341 Russell Road
Shreveport, LA 71107
Email: gloverc@legis.la.gov
Office: 318.221.7775
Fax: 318.221.3335

COMMITTEES:
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Insurance
Municipal, Parochial and
Cultural Affairs
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CEDRIC BRADFORD GLOVER
State Representative ~ District 4

July 12, 2021

Mr. Richard Ieyoub, Louisiana Commissioner of Conservation
P.O. Box 94275
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Dear Commissioner Ieyoub,

While Louisiana has a long and extensive history of being an oil and gas state, the dynamics attendant to the exploration and extraction of minerals within an urban setting is still a relatively new phenomenon. Market forces have generally limited the activity to areas where minerals owners possess large blocks of acreage.

Old assumptions shifted with the discovery of the Barnett Shale in northern Texas in the early 2000s. Suddenly neighborhoods and other urbanized areas were at the center of considerable mineral driven activity. To a lesser extent, a similar pattern flowed from the discovery of the Haynesville Shale. However, market forces shifted downward before the situation in Louisiana in any way matched that of northern Texas.

It appears now in 2021 that the market has shifted again and urban drilling activity is returning to the Haynesville Shale. The request before you on 20 July 2021 from Trinity Operating (USG) LLC to dissolve drilling unit Haynesville Shale Zone, Reservoir A, designated HA RA SUP in the Longwood Field Caddo Parish and simultaneously create a revised single drilling and production unit to be designated HA RA SURR is an example of the challenges faced by mineral owners in populated urbanized areas. The northern portion of the requested unit is primarily rural acreage that is outside of the city limits of Shreveport and comprised of relatively large land parcels. The southern half is composed of the central portion of the northern half of the MLK/Cooper Road neighborhood. As such, the land has been broken down into smaller, primarily residential lots since as far back as the 1930s.

Land being configured in such a manner does not easily lend itself to effectively empowering the mineral owners in their efforts to fairly negotiate with those seeking to secure access to their property. Combine this reality with the fact that most residents of the MLK/Cooper Road neighborhood have limited knowledge and exposure to the dynamics of our state's oil and gas industry and you have a profoundly unfair set of circumstances.

Additionally, residents of the MLK/Cooper Road community were only made aware of the current intentions of Trinity Operating (USG) LLC a little over 60 days ago. While this may meet the minimal statutory requirements of the law, it does not serve the interests of common, everyday people trying to ensure that they are making intelligent and informed decisions regarding matters to which they have limited experience, exposure and understanding.

Therefore, as the duly elected member from the Fourth Representative District, I am requesting that you postpone any further action on this referenced request for at least 180 days. During which time I will work with my fellow elected officials and other members of the community to ensure that residents of the MLK/Cooper Road community are fully informed of what is at stake with the request that has been made of your office by Trinity. I will also assist them in gaining access to the kind of information needed by those who live in developed and densely populated areas where oil and gas exploration is being advanced. It is only with this knowledge and understanding in hand that they will be able to effectively protect, safeguard and maximize their interests against forces that are at present much more experienced and much better resourced. Please advise at your earliest convenience.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. B. Glover".

Cedric B. Glover
Fourth Representative District

Copy: Governor John Bel Edwards, Matthew Block, Mark Cooper