

# STATE OF NEW YORK

2099

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

January 23, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. COLTON, L. ROSENTHAL, COOK -- Multi-Sponsored by  
-- M. of A. RIVERA, WALKER -- read once and referred to the Committee  
on Labor

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to enacting CJ's Law--oil and  
gas drilling workplace safety act

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-  
bly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The labor law is amended by adding a new article 35 to read  
2 as follows:

### ARTICLE 35

#### OIL AND GAS DRILLING WORKPLACE SAFETY

##### Section 1020. Short title.

##### 1021. Rules and regulations.

##### 1022. Applicability of the workers' compensation law.

##### 1023. Special requirements.

##### 1024. Reports of injuries.

10 § 1020. Short title. This article shall be known and may be cited as  
11 "CJ's law--oil and gas drilling workplace safety act".

12 § 1021. Rules and regulations. 1. The department, in conjunction with  
13 the department of environmental conservation, shall issue rules and  
14 regulations to provide for enhanced workplace safety requirements and  
15 employee training requirements for all oil and gas drilling operations  
16 in the state. Such rules and regulations shall include, but shall not be  
17 limited to, requirements relating to exposure to chemicals, work hours  
18 for both drilling site employees and employees involved in transporta-  
19 tion, including truck drivers working on and off the drill rig site,  
20 safety of machinery, proper care and treatment of clothing worn on  
21 drilling sites, use of proper masks to protect worker respiratory  
22 health, use of proper lighting, safety of living conditions for workers,  
23 safety of site location, including stability of ground surfaces neces-

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD02847-01-3

1 sary to support all equipment used at drilling sites, and required dura-  
2 tion of training.

3 2. The rules and regulations issued pursuant to subdivision one of  
4 this section shall be printed in English in at least fourteen point type  
5 and conspicuously posted in a visible and prominent location at each oil  
6 and gas drilling site location.

7 § 1022. Applicability of the workers' compensation law. Pursuant to  
8 section three of the workers' compensation law, all employees engaged in  
9 oil and gas drilling operations in the state of New York shall be  
10 considered to be engaged in hazardous employment, for which compensation  
11 shall be payable for injuries or death incurred by such employees in the  
12 course of such hazardous employment. In the event any covered employer  
13 conducting oil and gas drilling operations in this state fails to make  
14 provision of payment of disability benefits as required by section two  
15 hundred eleven of the workers' compensation law, such employer shall be  
16 subject to the penalties set forth in section two hundred twenty of the  
17 workers' compensation law.

18 § 1023. Special requirements. All applicants for a new drilling permit  
19 for an oil and gas drilling operation shall utilize union laborers;  
20 and/or laborers who have been trained or are undergoing training, appro-  
21 priate for the type of and scope of work to be performed, where such  
22 training is through a valid department apprenticeship program pursuant  
23 to article twenty-three of this chapter, or an educational institution  
24 or school chartered, licensed or registered by the department of educa-  
25 tion, or a provider approved by the department of education. Following  
26 completion of training required by this section, a certificate of  
27 completion shall be issued by such department apprenticeship program,  
28 educational institution, school or provider, and shall be conspicuously  
29 posted at each site location where the holder of the certificate is  
30 employed and shall be made available to the public upon request. Any  
31 subcontractors or other independent contractors at such permitted sites  
32 shall also agree to the employment of or contractual relation with the  
33 same type of laborers. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this  
34 section shall be construed to mandate an employer or contractor that is  
35 subject to the provisions of this section to exclusively require the use  
36 of union labor at a construction site or to be in violation of any  
37 federal prohibition regarding the same.

38 § 1024. Reports of injuries. 1. A drilling permit holder must report  
39 to the commissioner any workplace accident occurring at the oil or gas  
40 drilling location by the close of business of the commissioner's next  
41 business day. In the event a drilling permit holder fails to report any  
42 workplace accident pursuant to this subdivision, the commissioner may by  
43 order which particularly describes the nature of the violation, assess  
44 the permit holder a civil penalty of not more than one thousand dollars  
45 for the first such violation, not more than two thousand dollars for a  
46 second violation and not more than three thousand dollars for a third or  
47 subsequent violation. Such penalty shall be paid to the commissioner for  
48 deposit in the treasury of the state. In assessing the amount of the  
49 penalty, the commissioner shall give due consideration to the size of  
50 the employer's business, the good faith of the employer, the history of  
51 previous violations and the failure with any other record-keeping  
52 requirements.

53 2. The commissioner must publish a quarterly report on all workplace  
54 accidents occurring at oil or gas drilling locations. Such quarterly  
55 reports shall be available for public review, in writing and via an  
56 online format on the department's website.

1     § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after  
2     it shall have become a law; provided, however, that no new permits or  
3     renewal permits for oil and gas drilling shall be issued until the rules  
4     and regulations referred to in section one of this act take effect.  
5     Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule  
6     or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effec-  
7     tive date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such  
8     effective date.