



STATE OF OHIO

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

RANDALL J. MEYER, INSPECTOR GENERAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OHIO INSPECTOR GENERAL INVESTIGATES COMPLAINT ON COLLECTION OF OIL AND GAS FEES BY OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Columbus, Ohio, October 20, 2016

The inspector general has issued a report of investigation today, initiated after a complaint was received from the Ohio Office of Budget and Management Office of Internal Audit which raised concerns about alterations in the accounting records managed by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management.

The investigation determined there were problems in the treatment of payments made for permits to drill and extract oil or natural gas. The inspector general also found a number of issues involving the processing and administration of oil and gas well permits in general.

While there was not a reasonable cause to believe a wrongful act or omission occurred, the inspector general made a number of recommendations in the report of investigation delivered to the director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The report has also been provided to the Ohio Auditor of State and the chief audit executive of the Ohio Office of Budget and Management Office of Internal Audit for consideration.

Ohio Inspector General Report of Investigation file number 2015-CA00032 is now available at:
<http://watchdog.ohio.gov/Investigations/2016Investigations.aspx>

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