

(Wyo.)-Wyo. Explores Oil-Gas Regs For Groundwater Testing

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CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - The Wyoming governor's office is looking into possibly requiring petroleum companies to test for groundwater pollution before they drill for oil or gas.

Gov. Matt Mead's natural resources adviser, Jerimiah Rieman, said Monday the governor looks to implement a groundwater testing requirement by the end of this year.

The goal would be to make it easier to pinpoint the source of any groundwater contamination that turned up during or after drilling. That could help any homeowners with contaminated well water to find out if oil or gas drilling caused their problem.

Right now, some oil and gas developers do baseline groundwater testing but others do not. Rieman says the Wyoming governor's office is looking to new regulations in Colorado as a possible example for Wyoming to follow.