

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Urging the Congress of the United States, the U.S. Department of Interior, and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to Establish Processes for Delegating Primacy to the States for the Regulation of Oil and Gas Operations on Federal Public Lands

WHEREAS, the member states of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission have endorsed and support the States First Initiative established by IOGCC in 2013,

WHEREAS, States have historically demonstrated the ability to efficiently and effectively regulate oil and gas operations within their respective borders,

WHEREAS, State regulatory processes have proven successful in ensuring responsible, economic, and environmentally protective development of oil and gas resources,

WHEREAS, State oil and gas regulatory agencies have the local and regional knowledge and experience to make scientifically sound decisions to promote economic recovery of oil and gas while protecting the environment,

WHEREAS, examples of effective federal primacy delegation from federal government to the states exist both in the U.S. Department of Interior and other federal organizations,

WHEREAS, delegation of primacy to the states for regulation of oil and gas operations would allow the BLM to devote its administrative resources to other necessary resource management functions such as mineral leasing and associated analysis,

WHEREAS, the U.S. Senate recently approved the BLM Permit Processing Improvement Act of 2014 reauthorizing the Federal Permit Streamlining Pilot Project established as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005,

WHEREAS, federal primacy delegation of oil and gas regulation to the states could be considered as part of a permit streamlining pilot project,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the IOGCC urges Congress, the Department of Interior, and the BLM to establish the appropriate mechanism to allow federal primacy delegation to the States for the regulation of oil and gas operations either legislatively or through innovative use of the Federal Permit Streamlining Pilot Project established as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

ACTION PLAN FOR DRAFT RESOLUTION

Urging the Congress of the United States, the U.S. Department of Interior, and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to Establish Processes for Delegating Primacy to the States for the Regulation of Oil and Gas Operations on Federal Public Lands

1. Send copies of the resolution to all IOGCC Governors and Official Representatives, including all directors of member state oil and gas divisions.
2. Send copies of the resolution to the President, the Vice President, the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, and key administrative officials urging them to work with IOGCC in implement the objectives of this resolution.
3. Send copies of the resolution to Congressional leaders and provide testimony to Congressional Committees, as appropriate.
4. Send copies of the resolution to state and national industry associations.
5. Monitor status of legislation, advocate in Congress for the objectives of this resolution, and keep states informed and involved in the process.