



May 04, 2012

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American Exploration & Production Council Expresses Concern with Bureau of Land Management's Proposed Rule For Operations on Federal Lands

Washington, DC - The American Exploration & Production Council ("AXPC") today expressed concern that the proposed rule issued earlier today by the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") covering operations on federal lands would discourage the development of the nation's oil and natural gas resources.

Noting that the various states have and continue to effectively regulate hydraulic fracturing as well as other phases of operations, AXPC's President, Bruce Thompson, said, "**The imposition of duplicative and potentially conflicting rules as well as additional requirements for certifications and reporting would make it considerably more expensive to operate on federal lands and would add delays to an already burdensome permitting process, all while providing no environmental, safety or sustainability benefits. Each state has unique geologic and surface conditions that are more effectively regulated and managed at the state level. This proposed rule is a solution looking for a problem and is another effort to federalize the regulation of the production of our nation's energy resources. The result of the imposition of this proposed rule would be higher energy costs, fewer jobs, lower revenues to the US Treasury, all for no positive benefit. The emphasis should be on empowering states to do their jobs and not on adding another layer of regulation. AXPC and its members have worked with BLM since the first draft rule was circulated and will continue to do so to arrive at a result that benefits all stakeholders.**"

The American Exploration & Production Council (AXPC) represents 32 of the nation's leading independent natural gas and oil exploration and production companies. Our members safely provide the secure, domestic supplies of natural gas and oil America needs to heat its homes, to operate its farms and to fuel its economy. We are committed to doing what is right to ensure the abundant energy supplies in environmentally responsible ways. Learn more about AXPC at www.axpc.us.

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