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American Exploration & Production Council Supports Legislation Ensuring State Regulation of Hydraulic Fracturing

Washington, DC - The American Exploration & Production Council ("AXPC") today announced its full support for the FRESH ACT, introduced earlier today by Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK), ranking member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, that would re-affirm the sole authority of states to regulate hydraulic fracturing within their respective state borders.

In expressing AXPC's support for this legislation, AXPC's President, Bruce Thompson, said, **"AXPC wholeheartedly endorses Senator Inhofe's FRESH Act. Hydraulic fracturing has been safely used by this nation's natural gas and oil producers for over 60 years and has been a critical piece in the developing of America's vast shale natural gas and oil resources and generating untold numbers of jobs in the process. Re-affirming the authority of states to regulate hydraulic fracturing, which they have successfully done for decades, is an important step ensuring that our nation can continue to develop these resources safely and on an environmentally sound basis. Clarity in this regulatory process is a huge positive for the country and for all of America's natural gas and oil producers.**

"In addition to Senator Inhofe, we would like to thank Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), ranking member on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Senator David Vitter (R-LA), Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL), Senator John Cornyn (R-TX), Senator James Risch (R-ID) and Senator John Hoeven (R-ND), each of whom is a co-sponsor of the FRESH

Act. Finally, it should be noted that Congressman Louis Gohmert (R-TX) will be introducing companion legislation in the House. The goal of any regulatory effort should be to protect the environment and, at the same time allow for the development of our natural resources. The FRESH ACT would do just that."

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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