



INTERSTATE
Oil & Gas
COMPACT COMMISSION

RESOLUTION 09.106 SHALE GAS

OCTOBER, 2009

RESOLUTION 09.106

SUPPORTING CONTINUED ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT OF SHALE GAS IN THE UNITED STATES

WHEREAS, the United States relies on natural gas for 23 percent of its energy supply, and demand for natural gas as a clean-burning energy source is expected to increase in the upcoming decades; and,

WHEREAS, natural gas, in addition to being a significant component of our energy supply, is a critical raw material used in many commercial, industrial, and agricultural applications, including chemicals, plastics, fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, and others; and

WHEREAS, domestic sources of natural gas are expected to increase as a share of U.S. supply from 84 percent in 2007 to 97 percent in 2030; and

WHEREAS, gas from shale formations is expected to be the fastest growing source of domestic natural gas supplies; and

WHEREAS, concerns have been expressed over potential impacts of shale gas development associated with hydraulic fracturing, infrastructure, development in urban areas, and related issues; and

WHEREAS, the member states of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC) have proven to have effective regulatory systems that protect water, air, soils, and other resources as well as public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial for U.S. citizens, policy-makers, and lawmakers to understand the importance of shale gas to our economy and energy security, as well as the safeguards in place to minimize impacts from shale gas exploration and production;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the IOGCC, that shale gas development should be encouraged under conditions that protect the environment and public health and safety; and.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the IOGCC urges the EPA to provide for the states to participate as a partner in any new studies to be undertaken on the impacts of hydraulic fracturing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the IOGCC urges the U.S. Department of Energy to continue to provide financial and technical support for the IOGCC to maintain and enhance initiatives supporting the safe and environmentally sound development of shale gas.

Submitted by James Welsh, Official Representative, Louisiana, October 1, 2009. Approved October 2009