



DEPA DRILLER

DEPA REPORT ON INDUSTRY, LEADERSHIP, LEGISLATION AND ENERGY REGULATION

2026 DC FLY-IN & AND Q1 BOARD MEETING RECAP

The Domestic Energy Producers' Alliance (DEPA) convened in Washington, D.C. on April 15–16 for its 2026 Fly-In and First Quarter Board Meeting—two days marked by substantive policy discussions, legal updates, and meaningful engagement with federal leaders shaping the future of American energy.

The Board Meeting featured a full agenda and robust dialogue centered on DEPA's ongoing efforts to advocate for reliable, affordable domestic energy. A key focus was the organization's active legal portfolio, with updates provided on the ten lawsuits in which DEPA is currently engaged.

Several major cases have recently shifted due to congressional action. Challenges to the EPA's Tailpipe Emissions Rules for both heavy-duty vehicles (HDV) and light-duty vehicles (LDV), along with the California Waiver and Diesel Waiver cases, and the EPA Methane Rule, have all been dismissed following legislative intervention. These developments underscore the increasing role of Congress in shaping regulatory outcomes that directly impact the oil and gas industry.

The SEC Climate Disclosure Rule remains in a state of uncertainty. While portions of the rule have faced legal challenges and implementation delays, the broader regulatory trajectory remains unclear. Market participants and regulators alike continue to monitor whether the rule will ultimately be enforced, revised, or withdrawn entirely.



HAROLD HAMM, BRUCE WESTERMAN, AND PATRICK MONTALBAN

DEPA's first-filed lawsuit, challenging the EPA Emissions Standards, remains pending before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. A decision has been delayed as the court awaits guidance from the Supreme Court of the United States in *Diamond Alternative Energy v. EPA*. The outcome of that case is expected to have significant implications for federal regulatory authority and the scope of emissions standards.

In the EPA Subpart "W" methane reporting case, DEPA has withdrawn participation following a change in legal representation when attorney Jim Elliot departed the firm leading the case. This strategic decision reflects DEPA's continued commitment to effective and aligned legal advocacy.

Most recently, DEPA has taken additional legal action by filing a motion to intervene regarding the extension of compliance deadlines under Standards of Performance for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources, as well as Emissions Guidelines for Existing Sources. DEPA has also moved to intervene as a respondent in defense of the EPA's Repeal Rule rescinding the 2009 Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding—an issue with far-reaching consequences for federal climate policy and regulatory authority.

Following the Board Meeting, members gathered for dinner overlooking the U.S. Capitol, joined by Deputy Secretary of

Welcome

JENNIFER MULL



We are very pleased to announce Jennifer Mull, CEO of Kansas based Mull Companies was officially voted onto the DEPA Board of Directors during our Q1 meeting in DC.

We are truly excited to have her join our ranks.

Jennifer Mull is the Chief Executive Officer of MDC, Inc., a third-generation, family-led exploration, acquisition, and production company operating in Kansas since 1954. Leading the company into its eighth decade, Jennifer has sharpened its focus on operational performance, sound resource development, and environmental stewardship — while building a leadership culture with a long-term view.

Her path to energy ran through managed care, retail, and entrepreneurship, giving her a cross-industry lens she puts to work every day. At its core, she is an operator who thinks like a strategist.

She holds a Master's in Jurisprudence in Energy Law alongside graduate and undergraduate degrees from the University of Kansas — credentials she applies daily at the intersection of operations, regulation, and policy.

Jennifer's industry involvement is extensive and her leadership record within it consistent. She currently chairs the Kansas Independent Oil and Gas Association (KIOGA) and is serving on the board of the National Stripper Well Association. She has also been an active board member across conservation and community organizations, including the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation — reflecting her belief that strong industry leaders invest in the communities and land they work with.

WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN OIL AND NATURAL GAS

DEPA

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DEPA believes in seeking common ground, through common sense solutions, to the challenges facing our industry. Our bipartisan approach provides a uniquely powerful voice for our members at the state and national level.

*Our work is critical.
Your support is vital.*

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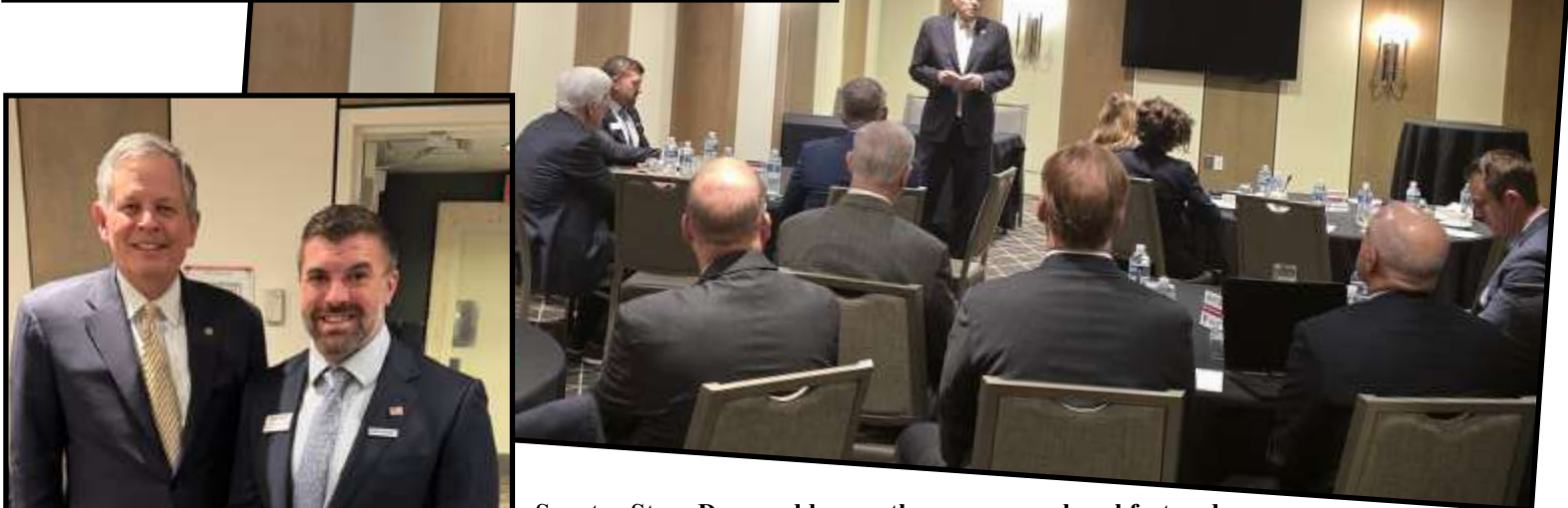


Energy James Danly. The evening provided an opportunity for candid discussion on energy policy priorities and the role of domestic production in ensuring national security and economic stability.

The Fly-In continued the next morning with a breakfast meeting featuring Steve Daines, a member of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Senator Daines shared insights into current legislative priorities and the importance of maintaining a strong domestic energy sector.



Throughout the day, DEPA members engaged in a series of high-level meetings, including discussions with EPA Deputy Administrator David Fotouhi; Kevin Hern, who serves on the House Committee on Ways and Means; and John Hoeven, a member of multiple key committees including Energy and Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Appropriations.



Senator Steve Daines addresses the group over breakfast and poses with DEPA Emerging Leader Jeremah Anderson, a Montana native





**DEP. SEC
JAMES DANLY**



**DEP. ADMIN.
DAVID FOTOUHI**



**CONGRESSMAN
KEVIN HERN**

DEPA also met with Bruce Westerman, Chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources, and Tim Sheehy, who serves on the Senate Committees on Veterans’ Affairs, Commerce, Science and Transportation, and Armed Services.

These conversations reinforced the value of direct engagement with policymakers—particularly when addressing issues actively under consideration within their respective committees. Ensuring that lawmakers are well-informed on the operational realities and policy implications facing domestic energy producers remains a cornerstone of DEPA’s advocacy efforts.

The 2026 Fly-In and Q1 Board Meeting highlighted the importance of sustained, strategic engagement in Washington. From navigating complex legal challenges



**SENATOR KEVIN CRAMER (R-ND),
PATRICK MONTALBAN, DEPA SECRETARY/TREASURER
AND NSWA CHAIRMAN**

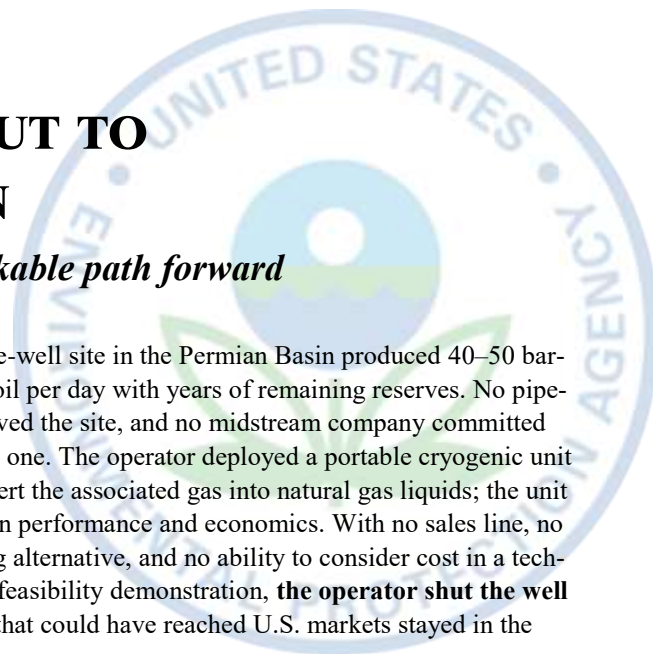
to strengthening relationships with key decision-makers, DEPA continues to lead on behalf of its members and the broader domestic energy industry.



**SENATOR
TIM SHEEHY**



**SENATOR
JOHN HOVEN**



EPA'S METHANE RULE IS ABOUT TO SHUT IN U.S. OIL PRODUCTION

A narrow regulatory cliff on May 7, 2026 — and a workable path forward

On **May 7, 2026**, a key compliance safety valve in EPA's 2024 Methane Rule expires for a large class of new oil wells. After that date, operators of those wells must either (1) route every cubic foot of associated natural gas into a pipeline — even when no pipeline exists or a third-party pipeline is down — or (2) **shut the well in and leave the oil in the ground**.

The rule, 40 C.F.R. § 60.5377b, bars flaring as a default and allows operators to prove “technical infeasibility” as a narrow escape hatch — but bars them from considering cost, bars recognition of third-party infrastructure failures, and sunsets the pathway entirely for wells built after May 2024. The result is a rule that functions less like an emission-control standard and more like a **production ban** on new domestic energy development.

- **Domestic energy production.** A single DEPA member company has documented **more than 630 extended flaring events** across the Bakken, Anadarko, Powder River, and Permian basins over the last two years. **Roughly 65 percent** were caused by conditions outside the operator's control — third-party pipeline outages, weather-driven freeze-offs, midstream capacity constraints, or the absence of any pipeline at all.

- **Jobs and State Revenue.** Forced shut-ins reduce royalty payments to state treasuries (including ND and OK severance taxes), federal and tribal mineral owners, and private landowners — and idle the crews and service companies that sustain basin economies.

- **Operators cannot control the third parties who cause the problem.** A producer cannot dispatch a midstream company's repair crew, accelerate a gas plant's maintenance schedule, or compel a pipeline to be built into a frontier area. Yet the rule treats these third-party failures as the operator's compliance problem.

- **This is not a rollback of emissions control.** Producers do not routinely flare and have invested heavily in leak detection, vapor recovery, and gas-capture infrastructure. State and federal flaring limits remain in place. The issue is narrow: the rule's technical infeasibility mechanism does not work as written.

A single-well site in the Permian Basin produced 40–50 barrels of oil per day with years of remaining reserves. No pipeline served the site, and no midstream company committed to build one. The operator deployed a portable cryogenic unit to convert the associated gas into natural gas liquids; the unit failed on performance and economics. With no sales line, no working alternative, and no ability to consider cost in a technical infeasibility demonstration, **the operator shut the well in**. Oil that could have reached U.S. markets stayed in the ground.

WHAT EPA SHOULD DO

Four targeted, interim fixes while EPA reconsiders the broader rule:

1. **Eliminate the May 7, 2026 sunset** by making the technical infeasibility pathway permanent for all post-December 2022 wells.
2. **Allow consideration of cost** in technical infeasibility determinations — consistent with the Clean Air Act, which requires EPA to account for cost when setting performance standards.
3. **Extend the “exigent circumstances” relief** that EPA already adopted on April 4, 2026 to cover third-party gathering-system interruptions (currently capped at 30 days regardless of cause).
4. **Codify EPA's existing guidance** that third-party pipeline capacity constraints qualify as technical reasons supporting an infeasibility determination, and remove the vague “another useful purpose” requirement that no operator can bound.

HOW YOU CAN ENGAGE

- **Letters to EPA** urging the agency to act on the May 7 sunset before it takes effect and to reconsider the BSER for associated gas in the pending second reconsideration rulemaking (Docket ID EPA-HQ-OAR-2025-0162).
- **Questions for the record** in upcoming oversight hearings on EPA's implementation of the Methane Rule and on its coordination with the Administration's domestic energy policy.
- **Constituent casework.** Operators, royalty owners, and service companies in producing districts are directly affected. District-specific operational data is available on request.

TRUMP INVOKES DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT

In a decisive move to address rising energy demand and reliability concerns, Donald Trump has invoked the Defense Production Act (DPA) to accelerate investment across key sectors of America's energy system — including oil, natural gas, coal, and the electric grid.

The action unlocks authorities under the Cold War-era law to direct federal support toward critical infrastructure, enabling the Department of Energy to deploy funding aimed at strengthening domestic energy production and delivery. The initiative builds on broader efforts to ensure the United States maintains a stable, affordable, and secure energy supply amid growing demand.

At its core, the administration's approach recognizes a simple reality: energy security is national security.

Addressing Reliability in a High-Demand Era

Electricity demand in the U.S. is climbing rapidly, driven in part by the expansion of energy-intensive technologies like artificial intelligence and data centers. At the same time, aging grid infrastructure and supply chain bottlenecks — particularly for essential components like transformers — have raised concerns about the system's ability to keep pace.

By invoking the DPA, the administration is positioning the federal government to help close these gaps. The orders prioritize domestic manufacturing and deployment of grid equipment, including transmission components, substations, and advanced conductors — all critical to expanding capacity and preventing outages.

Supporting Oil, Natural Gas, and LNG Expansion

The determinations also extend across the full oil and natural gas value chain, from upstream production to pipelines, storage, and export infrastructure. This in-

cludes support for liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities — a sector that has become increasingly important for both U.S. economic growth and global energy security.

By enabling federal financing tools such as loans, purchase commitments, and equipment installation, the administration aims to reduce barriers to capital-intensive projects that are essential for meeting domestic and international demand.

For industry stakeholders, this signals a renewed federal commitment to ensuring that American energy producers can continue to deliver reliable and affordable resources at scale.

Recognizing Coal's Strategic Role

Coal is also a key component of the administration's strategy. The DPA determinations highlight coal's importance to base-load power generation and grid stability — particularly as intermittent energy sources continue to expand.

Federal support could be directed toward improving plant efficiency, strengthening supply chains, and maintaining critical mining and transportation infrastructure. For many in the energy sector, this represents a long-overdue acknowledgment of coal's ongoing role in supporting a resilient grid.

A Strategic Use of Federal Authority

The Defense Production Act has been used by administrations of both parties to support industries deemed vital to national interests. In this case, the focus is squarely on reinforcing the systems that power the American economy.

While critics have raised concerns about the scope of the action, supporters argue that the move reflects a pragmatic response to real-world challenges: rising energy costs, infrastructure constraints, and increasing global uncertainty.

The Bottom Line

As energy demand accelerates and reliability becomes an even greater priority, the administration's use of the DPA underscores a broader shift toward strengthening domestic capacity across all major energy sources.





Our industry has a great story. We do essential things for humankind. We are one of the most technologically advanced industries on the planet. Modern life doesn't happen without us. So, let's get our story out.

Our collaborating association the International Association of Drilling Contractors has launched a campaign to reintroduce the drilling industry to the world—grounded in reality, built by the people who live it every day. Watch the anthem video. Then help them carry that message forward! This industry's story is powerful. The more we tell it, the more impactful it will be.

Campaign materials are available through a dedicated portal. They have asked the industry to use their materials far and wide: <https://portal.iadc.org/>



Here's how to use the industry messaging material.

We've included a variety of video, print, digital and social assets intended for broad use by IADC Members and the drilling industry. Assets can be filtered by topic and/or media type and downloaded directly from the portal.

Please contact IADC with specific requests or to inquire about Member branding options: marketing@iadc.org.



April 18, 2026

On behalf of the [National Stripper Well Association](#) the [Domestic Energy Producers Alliance](#) and the [Independent Petroleum Association of America](#) we are writing to express our support for the **Protecting America's Small Oil and Gas Producers and Rural Jobs Act - HR 8034** in the House (sponsored by Rep. Tracey Mann, KS) and a companion bill in the Senate (sponsored by Sen. Roger Marshall, KS). These bills propose targeted, commonsense updates to the percentage depletion rules under IRC §613A that are long overdue, and we urge you to support them.

America Runs on Stripper Wells

In America, approximately 10,000 small operators and millions of mineral owners provide domestic oil & gas production by continuing to produce stripper wells. These are family businesses, generational landowners, and small operators working on razor thin margins. These

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In America, approximately 10,000 small operators and millions of mineral owners provide domestic oil & gas production by continuing to produce stripper wells. These are family businesses, generational landowners, and small operators working on razor-thin margins. These families are caught in a cost-revenue squeeze that gets worse every year. Since 2005, operating costs are up more than 70%. The depletion rules these Americans rely on haven't kept pace and were written for a different era and a different cost environment.

What This Bill Does

The legislation modernizes four outdated provisions: it removes the net income limitation that penalizes operators for investing in well maintenance; updates the \$20/barrel marginal well threshold set in 1990 to \$70 (still below the true inflation-adjusted value of \$88); raises the depletable quantity cap from 1,000 to 2,000 BOE per day to reflect decades of industry change; and repeals the 65% taxable income limitation that

hits the smallest, full-time producers hardest. By design, the bulk of these updates phase in during low-price periods and costs essentially nothing when prices are high.

The Cost of Doing Nothing

We estimate if prices reach the Administration target of \$50, over 30% of marginal wells will be shut in, the country could lose more than 300,000 barrels per day of domestic production and 90,000 jobs. The damage to rural counties, local tax bases, schools, roads, and emergency services would be severe and lasting. Once a well is plugged, that production does not come back.

Our Ask

We urge you to cosponsor and vote in support of this bill. Independent producers are not asking for a handout. We are asking for a fair and updated tax code that reflects the real economic environment our members operate in every day.

Thank you,

Patrick Montalban,
Chairman NSWA & Secretary/Treasurer, DEPA

Sam Bradley, Executive Committee, NSWA

Jerry Simmons, President/CEO, DEPA

Edith Naegele, President CEO, IPAA

THE MUSIC WAS ELECTRIC— THE RIDE HOME WAS ANOTHER STORY

The music may have faded, but for many festivalgoers, the real encore came on the long—and often unpredictable—road home.

Each year, the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival transforms the California desert into a hub of energy, drawing more than 100,000 attendees for a weekend of unforgettable performances. This year delivered all the excitement fans expected. But as the final acts wrapped and the crowds began to leave, a different kind of reality took center stage—one defined by congestion, delays, and, for some, unexpected complications tied to how they powered their trip.

The exodus from the festival grounds quickly overwhelmed nearby roadways, especially along Interstate 10. What is usually about a 90-minute drive stretched into hours as traffic slowed to a crawl. Even drivers who tried to outmaneuver the congestion by taking alternate routes found themselves stuck in similar conditions. Heavy traffic after major events is nothing new—but this year, it highlighted a growing challenge as more drivers rely on electric vehicles.

For EV drivers, the journey home introduced an added layer of unpredictability. Unlike traditional refueling, which typically takes just a few minutes, charging requires more time—and more planning. In ideal conditions, that's manageable. But in a scenario where thousands of vehicles are leaving the same location at the same time, those plans can quickly unravel.

Reports from travelers described long lines at charging stations, with waits of 30 minutes or more just to plug in—before the charging process even began. For drivers already sitting in hours of traffic, that delay compounded quickly.



Heavy traffic after major events is nothing new—but this year, it highlighted a growing challenge as more drivers rely on electric vehicles.

And unlike gas stations, where multiple pumps and quick turnover can keep lines moving, charging infrastructure can become a bottleneck under heavy demand.

That unpredictability forced some travelers to rethink their plans while in route to the airport. Concerns about making flights, meeting schedules, or even reaching the next available charger became part of the equation. For some, it meant adjusting routes mid-trip. For others, it raised the possibility of returning later to retrieve belongings or rescheduling travel altogether.

None of this diminished the experience of the festival itself—but it did serve as a real-world reminder of how infrastructure and logistics matter, especially as transportation choices evolve. Large-scale events like Coachella don't just test traffic flow; they highlight how different types of vehicles perform under pressure when demand spikes all at once.

THE FUTURE IS NOW

HOW VIRTUAL REALITY IS TRANSFORMING OIL & GAS TRAINING



If you had told most of us even five years ago that oil and gas workers would be training inside a virtual reality headset—walking through a hydraulic fracturing site before ever stepping foot on one—we probably would have assumed you were talking about science fiction.

But today, that future is already here.

Companies like Pixela Labs and others are leveraging advanced virtual reality (VR) platforms—often using hardware like the HTC Vive Pro—to create immersive, highly detailed simulations of real-world oil and gas operations, including complex processes like hydraulic fracturing.

What Is VR Training in Oil & Gas?

At its core, VR training places a worker inside a fully simulated environment where they can interact with equipment, processes, and scenarios just as they would in the field.

Instead of reading a manual or watching a video, trainees can:

- Walk around a virtual wellsite
- Operate equipment
- Respond to emergencies
- Practice procedures step-by-step

All without any real-world risk.

These simulations are not simplistic—they are often built using real operational data and designed to mirror actual field conditions. The result is a hands-on experience that feels remarkably close to reality.

Our industry has always been complex—and at times, dangerous. VR training is gaining traction because it addresses several long-standing challenges at once.

1. Safer Training Environments

Workers can practice high-risk scenarios—like equipment failures or well control events—without exposure to real hazards. This dramatically reduces the risk of accidents during training.

2. Better Prepared Workforce

VR allows employees to experience situations before they encounter them in the field. That familiarity builds confidence and improves decision-making under pressure.

3. Cost and Efficiency Gains

Traditional training often requires travel, equipment, and downtime. VR eliminates many of those costs while allowing workers to train anytime, anywhere.

4. Reduced Human Error

By simulating operations in advance, workers can better understand processes and avoid mistakes during real-world execution—particularly in complex operations like drilling or completions.

5. Data-Driven Insights

These platforms don't just train—they measure. Companies can track performance, identify knowledge gaps, and refine training programs based on real data.

Beyond Training: A Broader Digital Shift

What makes this technology even more interesting is that it doesn't stop at training.

VR is increasingly being used to:

- Visualize facilities and infrastructure before construction
- Create “digital twins” of assets for planning and maintenance
- Enable remote collaboration between teams across different locations

Who's Using It?

This isn't experimental anymore. Major energy companies—including Shell, BP, Chevron, and ExxonMobil—are already integrating VR into their training and operational workflows.

And adoption is only expected to grow as the technology becomes more accessible and cost-effective.

Why This Matters for Policy and Advocacy Professionals

The the government affairs people inside our industry, this is an important reminder: the oil and gas industry is not static—it is constantly evolving.

Technologies like VR demonstrate:

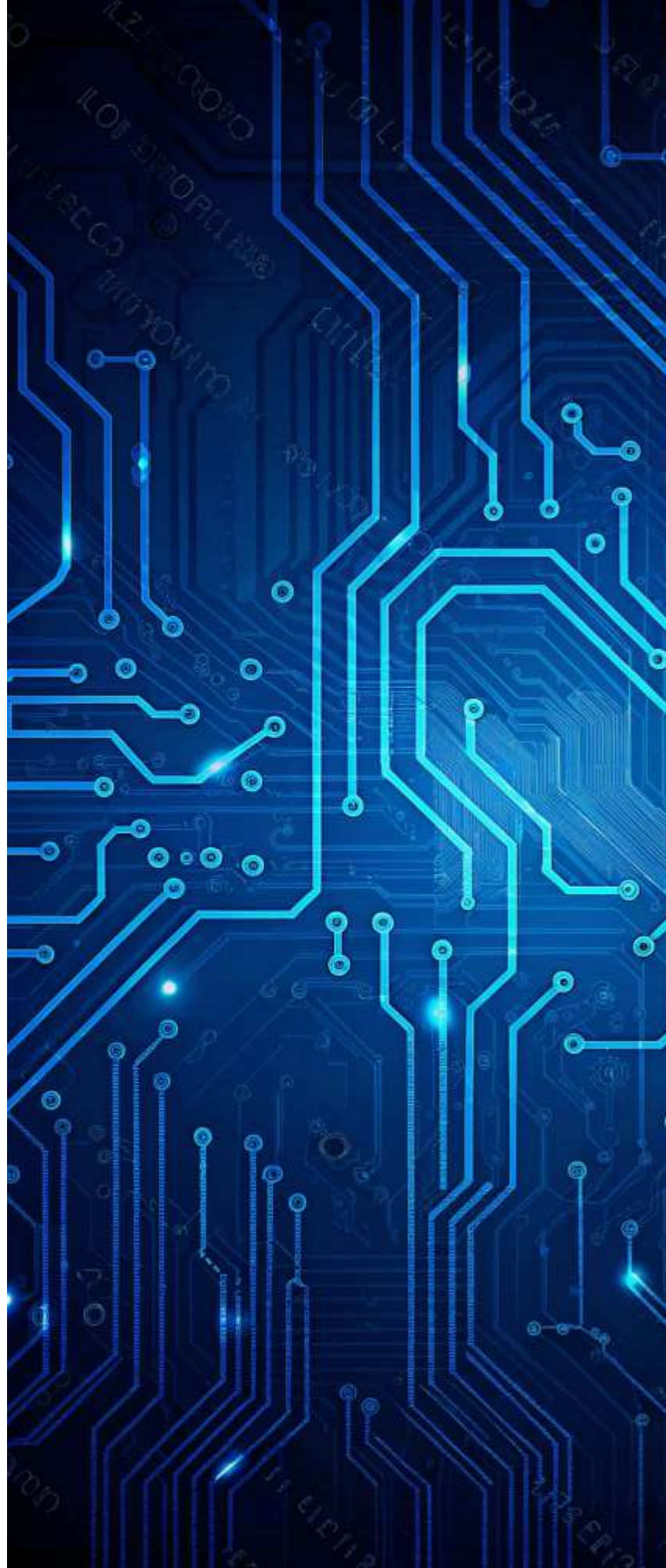
- The industry's commitment to **safety and workforce development**
- Ongoing **innovation and modernization**
- Investments in **efficiency and operational excellence**

These are critical points when engaging policymakers, regulators, and the public.

Virtual reality training is no longer a novelty—it is becoming a standard tool in how the energy workforce is trained and prepared.

It allows workers to “learn by doing” in a safe, controlled environment, while giving companies better data, better outcomes, and ultimately, safer operations.

In short, the future of oil and gas training isn't coming. It's already here—you just might have to put on a headset to see it.





COMMITTEE ON RULES HEARING ON THE RELIABLE FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE ACT AND RESOLUTION TO STRENGTHEN RURAL COMMUNITIES

As policymakers in Washington continue to shape the future of America’s energy and infrastructure landscape, decisions made at the federal level have real, immediate consequences for producers, consumers, and communities—especially those in energy-producing regions. For those of us who understand the importance of reliability, affordability, and energy choice, staying informed isn’t just helpful—it’s essential. That’s why DEPA is tracking legislation like H.R. 4690 and related efforts that could significantly impact how energy is produced, delivered, and regulated across the country. We remain committed to keeping you informed on where these issues stand and what they mean for your business, your communities, and the broader energy landscape.

Congressman Brett Guthrie (KY-02), Chairman of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, delivered the following opening statement at the Committee on Rules hearing on H.R. 4690, the Reliable Federal Infrastructure Act, and H. Res. 1182, which expresses support for rural communities across the United States, held April 20.

Good afternoon, Chairwoman Foxx and Ranking Member McGovern. I am pleased to discuss a bill and a resolution today that demonstrate how the Energy and Commerce Committee continues to work to improve the lives of Americans.

“First, I am pleased to speak in support of H.R. 4690, the Reliable Federal Infrastructure Act. Led by my friend Congressman Langworthy, this legislation would repeal a ban on fossil fuels for new and renovated federal buildings.

“Current law requires the Department of Energy to revise federal energy efficiency standards to eliminate the use of fossil fuels in new and renovated federal buildings by 2030.

“Unfortunately, renewable energy cannot be expected to perform. Take this past January during Winter Storm Fern, when coal and natural gas significantly increased their output to meet demand while, in New England, burning trash contributed more energy than wind and solar combined.

“This legislation does not say federal buildings cannot use renewable energy. The bill simply reverses a top-down mandate that eliminates energy choice.

“If an energy source can contribute to the electricity mix without a parallel, reliable backup like natural gas, then there’s nothing prohibiting its consideration. Based on experience, however, wind and solar have not been able to keep up.

“Republicans this Congress have fought for consumer choice—allowing Americans to make the best decisions for themselves when it comes to their appliances, vehicles, and how they power their homes.

“I am also here today to support House Resolution 1182, which highlights several additional ways in which House Republicans have sought to strengthen rural communities this Congress.

“For example, we have enacted legislation to unleash domestic energy production, such as reversing Department of Energy restrictions on LNG and requiring FERC approval that grid policies will preserve electricity reliability.

“House Republicans have worked to enhance health care quality and access; we have bolstered health resources for rural communities; we also enacted the SUPPORT Act and HALT Fentanyl Act to provide crucial resources to rural communities devastated by the opioid crisis.

“The Energy and Commerce Committee—and the House Republican Conference—have worked hard and continue to work hard this Congress to accelerate economic growth and opportunity for the American people.

DOE '27 BUDGET HEARING

April 16, Congressman Bob Latta (OH-05), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy, led a hearing titled The Fiscal Year 2027 Department of Energy Budget.

“This subcommittee has spent considerable time examining this historic load growth and what type of energy system is needed to fuel data center demand,” said **Chairman Latta**. “Without fail, experts across the field have testified that the answer is dispatchable, reliable, and affordable supplies of baseload power. In recognition of these needs, the Department has prioritized dispatchable resources that can power next-generation technologies and keep the lights on when we need it most.”

Congressman Rick Allen (GA-12): “Nuclear energy plays a vital role, and I'm proud to highlight that my district is home to Plant Vogtle, the nation's largest and most advanced clean nuclear energy facility, with Units 3 and 4 now fully operational. Nuclear energy is critical for our nation's energy security, and I'm glad that the Trump Administration is promoting nuclear energy. I look forward to continuing to work with you on deploying our nuclear energy capabilities.”

“The refocused Office of Energy Dominance Financing is committed to the responsibility of deploying capital to projects that meaningfully contribute to energy security and lower energy costs for Americans. These are projects that can be built quickly and start making a real difference, generating electricity and a return on investment alike. Mr. Secretary, how can the EDF be utilized to expand existing nuclear plants, gas generating plants, and grid components to build our capacity and usher forward the next generation of reactors?”

Secretary Wright: “Two of our early loans from the Energy Dominance Finance program are for nuclear plant restarts, both the Palisades plant in Michigan and the formerly Three Mile Island, which will be rechristened the Crane Clean Energy Center. Those are EDF loans from the Department of Energy in partnership with solid corporate partners that are leading the effort and funding with equity. We're just their debt partners coming along with them.”

“EDF loans will almost certainly be part of the first five or ten new reactors that are built in this country. Commercial lenders will be right there along with us, and after we get that ball rolling again, I think the commercial capital markets will fill that role nicely. But there is an important role for us at the start. We need key equity partners, and we need the right projects. The enthusiasm is high, and I believe we'll get the nuclear ball moving again.”

Congressman John James (MI-10): “What we saw during Winter Storm Fern should be a wake-up call for Michigan, because when the grid was under maximum stress, the truth became very clear: reliability is not theoretical. It's tested in moments like these.”

“Look at New England at the peak of the storm. They weren't relying on wind and solar. They were burning fuel oil for 35 percent of their power, natural gas for 32 percent, and even garbage and wood to keep the lights on. Wind produced just 2 percent. Solar, effectively zero. Now think about that, even if you doubled wind capacity, you're talking about 4 percent. If you doubled solar, you're still at zero percent during a winter storm. These are not reliable sources when you need them the most.”

“And let's be honest about the environmental reality: burning archaic fuel oil, wood, and garbage for power is far worse for the environment than modern natural gas or nuclear energy. That's not the example we want to follow in Michigan, but that's exactly the path that Lansing's net-zero mandates are pushing us toward. They are forcing reliable thermal generation off the grid while flooding the interconnection queue with intermittent wind and solar that clearly don't perform during peak demand.”

Congressman Craig Goldman (TX-12): “Mr. Secretary, thank you very much for being here. Let's talk about affordability. My friends across the aisle like to talk about gas prices, but more importantly, gas taxes. Every state is not equal, is it?”

Secretary Wright: “No, and the differences are pretty dramatic. We've made maps on this, and they look like political maps. You want to know where gasoline is expensive, where electricity is expensive — look in the blue states. There are political choices across this country in blue states to make electricity expensive and to make gasoline expensive.”

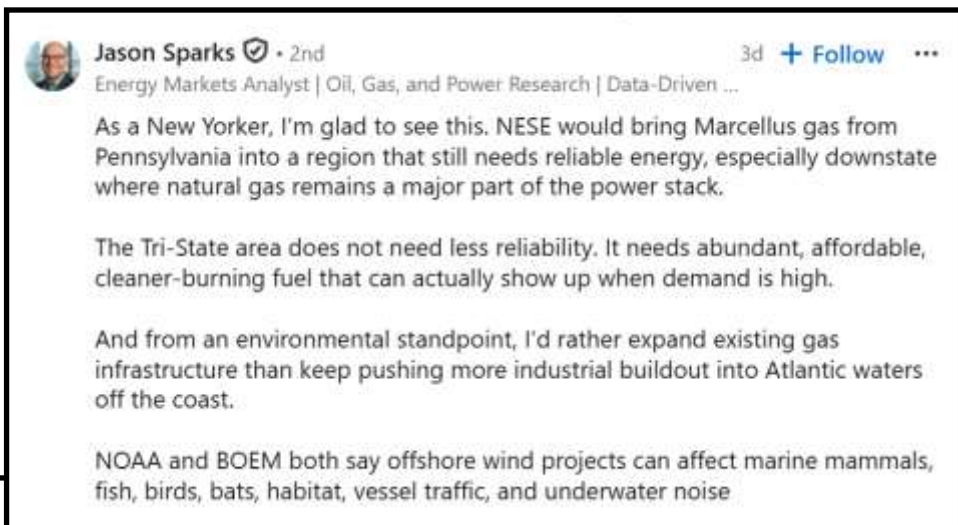
FEDERAL LEADERS LAUNCH NESE PIPELINE, SIGNALING SHIFT TOWARD ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE GROWTH

April 16 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lee Zeldin, U.S. Secretary of the Department of Interior (DOI) Doug Burgum, and U.S. Secretary of the Department of Energy (DOE) Chris Wright participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for the Northeast Supply Enhancement (NESE) Pipeline.

This pipeline, of Williams Companies, will transport natural gas from Pennsylvania into New York City and Long Island, providing affordable and reliable energy for millions of Americans while meeting the growing energy demands of the region.

President Trump and his National Energy Dominance Council worked across party lines to secure the necessary permits for this project from the states of New York and New Jersey last fall. NESE is an expansion of Williams' Transco pipeline system across Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York that will add 400,000 dekatherms per day of capacity. This is enough energy to serve the equivalent of 2.3 million homes. NESE remains on track to be in service by the fourth quarter of 2027.

"Breaking ground on the NESE pipeline marks a massive milestone for millions of New Yorkers seeking access to reliable, affordable natural gas. Delivering natural gas from Pennsylvania to New York City and Long Island will lower costs while helping to meet the growing energy demand of this region," said EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin. "I, like so many New Yorkers, am extremely grateful for President Trump's leadership, along with his National Energy Dominance Council, for getting the permits necessary to allow this project to advance. We celebrate this incredible accomplishment and will continue pursuing every way possible to make life more affordable for all Americans."



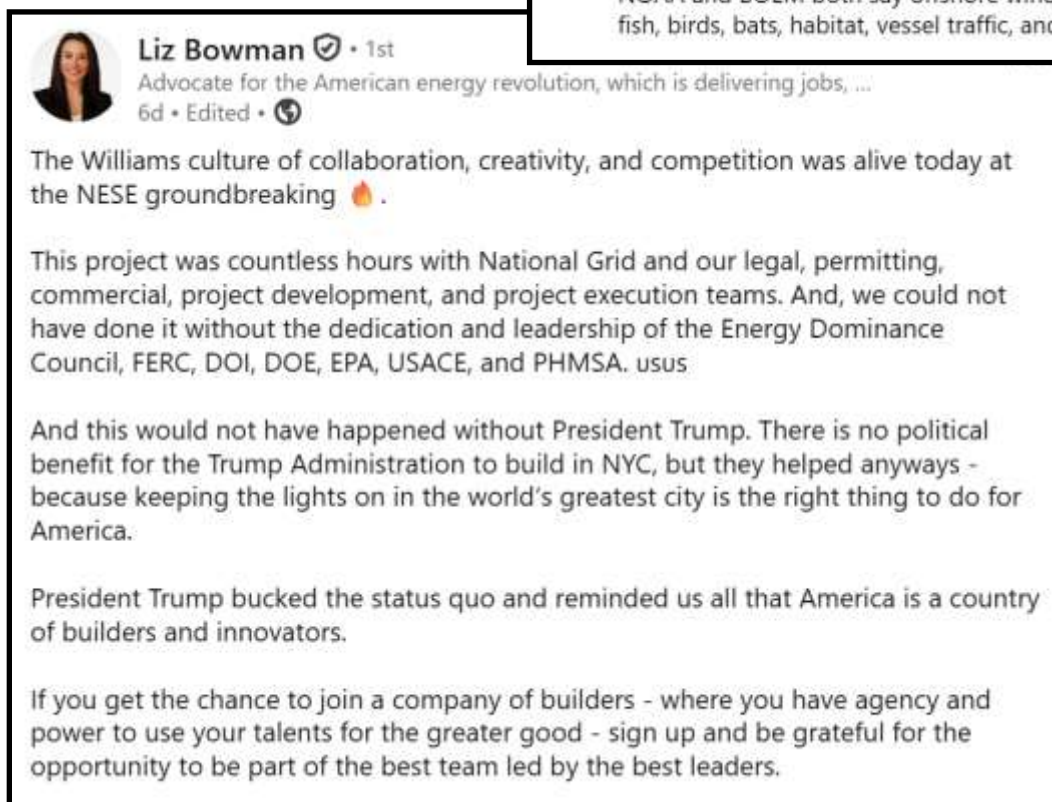
Jason Sparks • 2nd
Energy Markets Analyst | Oil, Gas, and Power Research | Data-Driven ...
3d + Follow ...

As a New Yorker, I'm glad to see this. NESE would bring Marcellus gas from Pennsylvania into a region that still needs reliable energy, especially downstate where natural gas remains a major part of the power stack.

The Tri-State area does not need less reliability. It needs abundant, affordable, cleaner-burning fuel that can actually show up when demand is high.

And from an environmental standpoint, I'd rather expand existing gas infrastructure than keep pushing more industrial buildout into Atlantic waters off the coast.

NOAA and BOEM both say offshore wind projects can affect marine mammals, fish, birds, bats, habitat, vessel traffic, and underwater noise



Liz Bowman • 1st
Advocate for the American energy revolution, which is delivering jobs, ...
6d • Edited •

The Williams culture of collaboration, creativity, and competition was alive today at the NESE groundbreaking 🔥.

This project was countless hours with National Grid and our legal, permitting, commercial, project development, and project execution teams. And, we could not have done it without the dedication and leadership of the Energy Dominance Council, FERC, DOI, DOE, EPA, USACE, and PHMSA. usus

And this would not have happened without President Trump. There is no political benefit for the Trump Administration to build in NYC, but they helped anyways - because keeping the lights on in the world's greatest city is the right thing to do for America.

President Trump bucked the status quo and reminded us all that America is a country of builders and innovators.

If you get the chance to join a company of builders - where you have agency and power to use your talents for the greater good - sign up and be grateful for the opportunity to be part of the best team led by the best leaders.



*“While China has outpaced American electricity production, past administrations put our energy and national security at risk by burying America’s Balance Sheet under red tape,” said **Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum**. “Under President Donald J. Trump, we’re reversing course with projects like the NESE pipeline to unleash American Energy Dominance, lower costs for American consumers, and restore a strong, reliable grid. This project alone is expected to lower electricity bills by \$6 billion over the next 15 years and stimulate up to \$1.8 billion in economic development. That’s a huge win for American families!”*

*“For decades, poor political choices obstructed the building of energy infrastructure, leading to higher energy costs for millions of Americans. President Trump promised to lower energy costs and to get America building again — that is exactly what the groundbreaking of the NESE pipeline will accomplish,” said **Secretary of the Department of Energy Chris Wright**. “This project is a win-win: natural gas is a reliable, low-cost, clean burning option for New*

Yorkers to heat and power their homes and businesses. President Trump, Secretary Burgum, Administrator Zeldin and I will continue fighting to build more energy infrastructure so that all Americans have access to affordable, reliable and secure American energy.”

*“When government, labor, and industry pull in the same direction, there’s nothing we can’t accomplish, and NESE is a \$1 billion direct investment in the American worker,” said **Williams Companies CEO Chad Zamarin**.*

Up next on the priority list: getting Constitution Pipeline approved to allow many New England residents to tap into the same abundant resources, especially during brutally cold winter months. This project has been blocked by Democrats in Albany, restricting many Americans from accessing the jobs, resources, and lower energy costs that will come with this vital project.





“The participation of federal leadership in the groundbreaking signals a renewed commitment to permitting reform and infrastructure development. After years of delays and regulatory uncertainty, the NESE Pipeline stands as an example of what can be achieved when policymakers prioritize energy security, affordability, and common-sense infrastructure solutions.

As energy demand continues to rise—driven by population growth, electrification, and economic expansion—projects like NESE will be essential to ensuring that the United States remains both energy secure and globally competitive.” — Jerry Simmons, DEPA CEO/President

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS AND ARTICLES YOU SHOULDN'T MISS



 **Texas Alliance of Energy Producers** 3h • 




The Texas House Committee on Energy Resources is holding a hearing in Austin this morning about Interim Charges. Alliance President and Petroleum Economist [Karr Ingham](#) is testifying on three of the four agenda topics:

1. Implementation of House Bill 2663: Wildfire bill strengthening the attestation that certain wildfire mitigation steps have been taken on the lease as required by law
2. Implementation of House Bill 48: An update to the committee on the work of the Oilfield Theft Task Force
3. A global energy overview of consequential events affecting energy, and any potential outcomes and impacts affecting Texas and Texas oil and gas.

You can still catch the hearing live at: <https://lnkd.in/gTMcQRmr>



[#energy](#) [#txlege](#) [#oilandgas](#) [#TexasEnergy](#)




 **Tim Tarpley**  • 1st
President at Energy Workforce & Technology Council
1d • 


Permitting reform is critical to American energy security. We can't have one without the other. Congress needs to act with urgency to pass comprehensive permitting reform, the time to kick the can down the road is over.

Appreciated working with [Daniel Romito](#) on a op-ed detailing the urgency we face in the Washington Examiner.

 **Energy Workforce & Technology Council**
1d • 

 Washington keeps talking about "energy dominance."

... more

 **Washington talks energy dominance. Without permitting reform, it can't build**
washingtonexaminer.com



Jodie Muller, CAE, IOM • 1st

Western States Petroleum Association President & CEO. Advocating for affordable, ...
2d • Edited •

Why does California gas cost so much?

Taxes, high operating expenses, costly environmental regulations, and an isolated market all drive up our state's energy prices.

The CBS investigation underscores key factors we've identified for years: California's fuel prices start higher because the underlying costs are higher. If policymakers truly want to tackle California's affordability issues, they need to acknowledge these structural cost drivers and manage them.

[Western States Petroleum Association](https://lnkd.in/gpY4REcd) educates consumers with monthly reports on the taxes and fees Californians pay at the pump - now \$1.38 per gallon. <https://lnkd.in/gpY4REcd>



Jarrod Agen • 1st

Make America Energy Dominant Again!
5h •

"Pipeline flows from the Permian Basin to Gulf Coast export terminals have climbed to an all-time high"

Drill Baby Drill
Go Texas Go.
Permian Stepping Up.
[#EnergyDominance](#)

Texas Oil Pipes Are Running All-Out to Supply War-Driven Overseas Demand



A gas flare at an oil refinery in Baytown, Texas. *Photographer: Antranik Tavitian/Bloomberg*



Katie Altshuler • 1st

Deputy Executive Director @ Hamm Institute | Energy Security | Firm ...
2w •

Check out our new website and learn more about the exciting and impactful work we are doing at the Hamm Institute - Energy Security, Natural Gas, Geothermal, Nuclear, AI, Critical Minerals, Produced Water, Workforce and more!



Hamm Institute for American Energy

3w •

We've refreshed our website!



2026 events

We appreciate the partnerships we have with our state trade associations that allows us to attend many of the collaborating association annual meetings across the country to explain what DEPA is doing in DC on behalf of domestic producers, service companies, refiners and pipelines. **Click the organization name to see the event webpage and register to attend!**

[North Dakota Petroleum Council](#)

WILLISTON BASIN PETROLEUM CONFERENCE- BISMARCK, ND MAY 19-21

[Petroleum Alliance of Oklahoma](#)

ANNUAL MEETING- IRVING TX, JUNE 2-5

[Kansas Independent Oil and Gas Association](#)

ANNUAL MEETING— WICHITA KS, AUGUST 24-26



The welfare of the United States—and our allies around the world—continues to begin with energy. As we move forward under the Trump administration, domestic oil and natural gas are once again being recognized as strategic assets critical to economic strength, national security, and global stability.

This administration has made it clear that American energy production is not a liability to be managed away, but a strength to be fully utilized. Efforts to restore regulatory balance, advance permitting reform, and reassert U.S. energy leadership are creating meaningful opportunities for domestic producers and service companies. That shift matters—not just for our industry, but for American families, manufacturers, and communities that depend on affordable, reliable energy.

Yet this moment also comes with responsibility. A supportive administration does not eliminate opposition to fossil fuels, nor does it guarantee lasting policy outcomes. Regulations can return. Misinformation can regain ground. Political winds can change quickly. **That is why DEPA's work is more important now than ever.**

DEPA exists to ensure that facts—not ideology—guide energy policy. Our mission is to educate policymakers on the realities of domestic oil and gas production, highlight the real-world consequences of regulatory overreach, and advocate for policies that protect energy reliability, affordability, and American jobs. Our presence in Washington, D.C., and our engagement with Congress and federal agencies remain essential to sustaining the progress being made today.

Membership in DEPA is not a passive exercise—it is a strategic investment in the future of American energy. Your support strengthens our ability to advocate effectively, respond quickly to policy threats, and ensure industry voices are heard at the highest levels of government. Active members amplify our impact by engaging with lawmakers, sharing DEPA's work, and standing united in defense of domestic energy.

This is a pivotal moment for our industry. With the right leadership, informed advocacy, and sustained engagement, we can secure long-term energy strength for our nation. I encourage you to join DEPA, renew your membership, and stay actively involved as we work together to protect and promote American oil and natural gas.

Thank you for your continued support of DEPA and for the vital role you play in powering America's future.
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Simmons".

Jerry Simmons, DEPA President/CEO

Thank you
for joining



MEMBER INFORMATION

Member Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Phone: _____

Primary

Email: _____

Secondary Email: _____

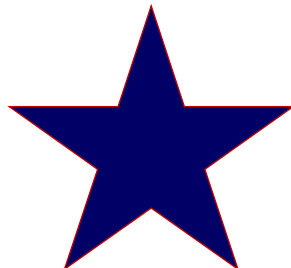
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*Our Industry is
worth fighting for!*

DEPA gives a loud, clear voice to the majority of individuals and companies responsible for the current North American energy renaissance.



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Member Levels:

- \$100,000: DEPA Underwriter
- \$75,000: Lead Investor
- \$50,000: Executive Investor
- \$25,000: Principal Investor
- \$15,000: Partner Investor
- \$10,000: Associate Investor
- \$5,000: Affiliate Investor
- \$2,500: Colleague
- \$1,000: Advocate
- \$500: Friend of the Industry
- \$100: DEPA Supporter
- Other: \$ _____

Return completed form

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Or call to pay by credit card
405-669-6646

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Remittance is not deductible as charitable,
but 70% may be deductible as ordinary business expenses.

DEPA PAC

DOMESTIC ENERGY PRODUCERS' ALLIANCE POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

DEPA PAC Co-CHAIRMEN | DAVID LE NORMAN AND DAN BOREN

The DEPA PAC works to ensure there is a loud, clear voice for the industry. Reliable, clean, efficient, affordable, energy is vital to our country, and the world. We are unapologetic about being the driver of economic growth and security across the globe.

We believe the only way to accomplish our sharply focused agenda is to establish common ground. We consistently seek common sense solutions to the challenges that face us in business, including our relations with the legislative and executive branches of the Federal government.

Please support American Energy Independence with your DEPA PAC Donation.

**AMERICAN ENERGY POLICY IS NOT
A REPUBLICAN ISSUE OR A DEMOCRAT ISSUE.
IT IS AN AMERICAN PROSPERITY AND A LEADERSHIP ISSUE.**



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DEPA PAC

DOMESTIC ENERGY PRODUCERS' ALLIANCE POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

**DEPA PAC Co-CHAIRMEN
DAVID LE NORMAN AND DAN BOREN**

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