



IOGCC BACKGROUNDER

A quick description and history of the organization.

ABOUT US

The Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission is a multi-state government agency that is passionate about advancing the quality of life for all Americans. Without energy, the quality of life we enjoy today would not exist. That's why the Commission works to ensure our nation's oil and natural gas resources are conserved and maximized, while protecting health, safety and the environment.

We accomplish this by providing governors of member states with a clear and unified voice, while also serving as the authority on issues surrounding these vital resources.

It's no secret that American energy is most valuable to our nation. The responsible development of our resources not only strengthens our economy by creating and maintaining jobs, but also lessens our dependence on foreign resources, making oil and natural gas more affordable for consumers.

The Commission also assists states in balancing a multitude of interests through sound regulatory practices. Our unique structure offers a highly effective forum for states, industry, Congress and the environmental community to share information and viewpoints to advance our nation's energy future. We stand dedicated to securing domestic resources needed so that all Americans can maintain their quality of life.

HISTORY

In 1935, six states took advantage of a constitutional right to "compact," or agree to work together, to resolve common issues. Faced with unregulated petroleum overproduction and the resulting waste, the states endorsed and Congress ratified a compact to take control of the issues. The result was a unique multi-state government agency now known as the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission.

Several governors played important roles in laying the groundwork for the Commission in the early 1930s. However, lackluster support of the concept by industry, which at the time favored federal intervention, forced early supporters to abandon their work. Former U.S. Congressman and Oklahoma Governor, E.W. Marland provided the vision and energy to revitalize the notion of state regulation of oil and gas resources, and is considered a founding father of the Commission.

Since that time, the Commission's member states have established effective regulation of the oil and natural gas industry through a variety of programs designed to gather and share information, technologies and regulatory methods. The rich history of the Commission continues to contribute to the success of our nation's energy future.