



INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

Jack Dalrymple
Governor

Wayne Stenejem
Attorney General

Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner

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Industrial Commission urges EPA to back off on fracking regulations

Bismarck -- The North Dakota Industrial Commission has told the Environmental Protection Agency that federal oversight of hydraulic fracturing is unnecessary because the state already has rules and programs in place to regulate the process.

"North Dakota has been regulating the full life cycle of hydraulic fracturing for decades and we see no reason for that to change; not only because of our unique geology, but because of our continued effort to keep our rules current with changes in technology," said commission members in a letter to EPA's Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.

The commission said North Dakota is currently in the process of clarifying and strengthening its hydraulic fracturing regulations.

"In light of the action taken by the Legislature during the special session, we wanted to stress to EPA that hydraulic fracturing must continue to be regulated at the state level," said Gov. Jack Dalrymple. "North Dakota has shown over the years its ability to regulate fracturing operations in an environmentally sound manner. We don't need to have the federal government stepping in when the state is doing a good job."

"EPA should recognize that we have the ability at the state level to adopt rules that regulate hydraulic fracturing for current technology and for the geology found in our state," said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring.

"We also want to go on record that any efforts by the EPA to regulate hydraulic fracturing without going through the proper procedures will be opposed by the state in every venue available," said Attorney General Stenejem.

The letter is on the Industrial Commission website at www.nd.gov/ndic under press releases.

The North Dakota Industrial Commission is chaired by Gov. Jack Dalrymple and includes Attorney General Wayne Stenejem and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring.

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