



INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

Jack Dalrymple
Governor

Wayne Stenehjem
Attorney General

Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner

For Immediate Release

Nov. 16, 2011

Natural Gas Capture Capabilities Continue to Improve as Oil Development Expands

Bismarck - The Industrial Commission has told the state's congressional delegation that by year end 2012 natural gas processing capacity in North Dakota is expected to increase 389 percent since 2006.

The commission recently wrote Sens. Kent Conrad and John Hoeven and Congressman Rick Berg regarding North Dakota's natural gas gathering and processing capabilities. The letter was prompted by questions by members of Congress and by national news coverage of the flaring of natural gas in North Dakota.

"We sent this letter as a way to inform our delegation of the great progress we are making to capture and process this vital resource," said Gov. Jack Dalrymple. "We think it's important for them to be well aware of the facts."

"We know this issue is of concern both on a state and national level," said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem. "Everyone involved wants to see these flaring numbers decline and we believe that will happen as our processing capabilities continue to rise."

By the end of 2012, North Dakota's natural gas processing plants will be capable of processing one billion cubic feet of natural gas per day.

"This letter describes the direction these industries are going," said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. "It's important that the state continue to focus on increasing the amount of natural gas produced and captured."

In the letter, the Commission stated that North Dakota is currently able to capture 92 percent of all the potential energy extracted from the ground in western North Dakota and sell it to market.

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

The Industrial Commission consists of Gov. Jack Dalrymple, Chairman and includes Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring.

-30-

For more information contact Alison Ritter at 328-8036

Karlene Fine, Executive Director & Secretary
State Capitol, 14th Floor - 600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 405 - Bismarck, ND 58505-0840
E-Mail: kfine@nd.gov
PHONE: 701-328-3722 FAX: 701-328-2820
"Your Gateway to North Dakota": www.nd.gov