

September 20, 2011

President Barack Obama
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The shale gas and oil revolution in America today has been good news for job creation, economic growth and energy security, and it promises hundreds of thousands of more new jobs, billions of dollars more in revenue to governments, and vast supplies of domestic, affordable and clean-burning energy for generations to come.

It has already significantly reduced costs of energy, including for home heating for millions of American consumers, for electricity production, and for many manufacturers who use natural gas as a fuel or raw material. We urge you to continue to support the development of this vital energy source here in the United States and also support the hydraulic fracturing technology that is indispensable to making its development possible.

The importance of hydraulic fracturing has grown with the recent discovery of promising shale gas and oil plays around the country. It has been employed in more than one million wells for more than 60 years with a proven track record for safety. Studies by both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2004) and the Ground Water Protection Council (2009) have attested to the safety of the hydraulic fracturing process. In July, U.S. Bureau of Land Management Director Robert Abbey said, "We have not seen any impacts to groundwater as a result of hydraulic fracturing." And the U.S. Department of Energy's Shale Gas Production Subcommittee recently said in its initial 90-day report, it "shares the prevailing view that the risk of fracturing fluid leakage into drinking water sources through fractures made in deep shale reservoirs is remote."

Effective state and federal regulations are in place to ensure this track record continues. However, state regulators have the primary responsibility to conduct inspections, oversee well construction, test wells, track well plugging, and monitor the fracturing process itself. Because they understand the regional and local geological conditions, they are in the best position to protect groundwater and drinking water sources. Industry also has strong incentives to maintain a high level of environmental performance, and it has worked hard to review and improve its operations and communications with the public – for example, by establishing new standards and industry practices and working to increase disclosure of chemicals contained in fracturing fluids.

Natural gas is an enormously versatile fuel that helps power our nation and enhances its energy security. There is huge potential to expand development, which can strengthen our nation's economic recovery and put people back to work. Without hydraulic fracturing, that potential will not be realized, and we will not enjoy the tremendous economic and job creation benefits our nation's abundant supplies of natural gas can provide. Government policies must encourage the continued investment in new energy development and allow it to proceed efficiently. Hydraulic fracturing is of critical importance to the success of both oil and

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natural gas production here at home, and the industry is committed to ensuring that it will continue to be employed in a safe and responsible manner.

Sincerely,

60 Plus

American Chemistry Council

American Energy Alliance

American Exploration & Production Council

American Farm Bureau Federation

American Foundry Society

American Highway Users Alliance

American Iron and Steel Institute

American Petroleum Institute

Americans for Tax Reform

America's Natural Gas Alliance

Arkansas Environmental Federation

Arkansas Independent Producers and

Royalty Owners Association

Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce

Associated Equipment Distributors

Associated General Contractors of North Dakota

Bismarck-Mandan Chamber

Boilermakers-Local 5

Bowling Centers Association of Ohio

Bowman County Development Corporation

Building Environment Council of Ohio

Catalyst Connection

Citizens Against Government Waste

Coalition of Labor for Energy and Jobs

Colorado Oil and Gas Association

Colorado Petroleum Association

Commonwealth Foundation

Consumer Energy Alliance

Dow Chemical Company

Dupré Logistics, LLC

Energy-In-Depth

Energy Makes America Great Inc.

EnerMAX Services Inc.

Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce

Fay-Penn Economic Development Council

Fidelity Exploration & Production Company

Georgia Rural Groundwater Association

Grand Junction Area Realtors Association

Hispanic Alliance for Prosperity Institute

Hispanic Leadership Fund

Independent Community Banks of North Dakota

Independent Oil & Gas Association of New York

Independent Petroleum Association of America

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers-Local 25

Iowa Motor Truck Association

Joint Landowners of New York State

Kansas Oil and Gas Association

Logicos LLC

Marcellus Shale Coalition

Michigan Manufacturers Association

Michigan Oil and Gas Association

Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association of Oklahoma

Montana Petroleum Association

National Association of Manufacturers

National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors

National Petrochemical and Refiners Association

National Taxpayers Union

Natural Gas Supply Association

Natural Resources Growth Coalition

New Mexico Oil and Gas Association

Newfield Exploration Company

North American Die Casting Association

North Dakota Association of Counties

North Dakota Auto & Implement Dealers

North Dakota Bankers Association

North Dakota Chamber of Commerce

North Dakota Corn Growers Association

North Dakota Ethanol Producers Association

North Dakota Farm Bureau

North Dakota Grain Growers Association

North Dakota Grocers Association

North Dakota Hospitality Association

North Dakota Lignite Energy Council

North Dakota Motor Carriers Association

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North Dakota Oil & Gas Producing Counties Association	Petroleum Association of Wyoming
North Dakota Petroleum Council	Pine Petroleum, Inc.
North Dakota Petroleum Marketers Association	Pittsburgh Regional Alliance
North Dakota Retailers Association	Pittsburgh Technology Council
North Dakota Stockmen's Association	Portland Cement Association
Nucor Steel	Professional Photographers of Ohio
Ohio Association of Convenience Stores	Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council
Ohio Association of Convention and Visitor Bureaus	Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates
Ohio Association of Senior Centers	Texas Oil and Gas Association
Ohio Chamber of Commerce	The Business Council of New York
Ohio Coin Machine Association	The Fertilizer Institute
Ohio Council of Retail Merchants	Trimac USA
Ohio Grocers Association	US Chamber of Commerce
Ohio Licensed Beverage Association	US Oil and Gas Association
Ohio Oil and Gas Association	Utility Shareholders of North Dakota
Ohio Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association	West Slope Colorado Oil & Gas Association
Ohio State Coroners Association	West Virginia Chamber of Commerce
Pennsylvania Chamber of Business	West Virginia Manufacturers Association
Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry	West Virginia Oil and Gas Association
Pennsylvania Coalition for Responsible Government	Western Colorado Contractors Association
Pennsylvania General Energy Company, LLC	Wyoming Contractors Association-McMurray Training Center
Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association	Wyoming Taxpayers Association
Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association	