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Economic Impact of Kansas Oil & Gas Industry

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PUBLISHED FOR

KIOGA Topeka Office 800 SW Jackson Street, Suite #1400 Topeka, KS 66612 p. 785-232-7772 www.kioga.org

PUBLISHED BY

E&M Consulting, Inc. p. 800-572-0011 www.emconsultinginc.com

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DANA WREATH KIOGA CHAIR



s we look forward to a successful 2024, we should not forget the key issues we faced in 2023 and how they

will impact us in the future. One of those issues is threats from new regulations driven by climate change lobbyists, which are not going away and will likely get worse over time.

During the COP meeting in Dubai this December, the Biden administration unveiled details of their new methane emission rules. KIOGA recognizes the risk these rules will cause is a perma-



CHALLENGING 2024 AWAITS

nent closure of many marginal wells in Kansas and a resultant loss of jobs. In response, KIOGA is actively engaged in a multi-state legal effort to oppose, or at least greatly delay, the implementation of these rules. Beyond burdensome and costly compliance work for operators, these rules would also impose tremendous staffing requirements for state agencies and create mountains of paperwork for little benefit. KIOGA is committed to adding value for its members by taking up this fight.

Energy Hypocrisy proliferated in 2023, and the COP meeting gave us a prominent demonstration on a world scale. News reports indicate there were over 85,000 delegates to the COP conference! These delegates didn't swim or walk to the conference but rather flew in on planes burning jet fuel and then stayed in fancy hotels eating what I presume were very nice meals grown and transported in using oil and gas. However, these same folks are pushing for governments to phase out oil and gas, demanding other people be

deprived of the energy and food they need to lead productive lives. It's an example of the old saying, "rules for thee, but not for me." It's also odd to think about a conference like this in Dubai of all places, a city thriving because of oil and gas, and without which would be a poor fishing village.

This last year, I personally experienced energy hypocrisy right here in Kansas. On a cold winter day in February 2023, I was in Topeka testifying before a Kansas Senate committee concerning an ESG bill to prevent state money from being invested with financial firms that vote shares in a manner detrimental to the Kansas economy. This bill subsequently became law with KIOGA's support.

After the testimony concluded, Ed Cross and I were chatting in the hall, and a local environmental lobbyist approached us. Naturally, he disagreed with almost everything I had stated since his job involves advocating for the elimination of oil and gas. Despite our differences, he is a personable fellow, so we talked a

bit. I happened to know he lives out in the country between Topeka and Lawrence, and since the weather was chilly that day, I asked him if he was using propane to heat his house. He said no, he had a natural gas pipeline out to his house. I said, "Oh, that's good you have a pipeline." And I asked if the gas heat was working fine. His answer: yes, his house was staying nice and warm. Pleased to hear his gas heat was effective, I then asked how he got to the capitol that day. He said he was driving an old car, but it got him there just fine. I said that's good too, and thanked him for being such a good customer of oil and gas.

This fellow could choose to attempt to heat his home with solar and wind. He could choose to purchase an electric car and try to charge it with solar panels. Doing so would be expensive and require him to make some sacrifices. But he didn't make those choices, despite advocating for policies to stop others from using oil and gas. It's Energy Hypocrisy.

There is a natural tendency to read absurd articles written by reporters with no technical background concerning irrational and unrealistic energy proposals and think they are all crazy, and none of this will come to pass. However, we have to appreciate the power of propaganda and accept some folks cannot, or will not, make the connection between draconian energy policies and how their own lives will be affected. It's important to speak out against such hypocrisy and be realistic about impractical and costly energy policies.

KIOGA is doing just that and adding value for our members through the many excellent articles Ed Cross writes for various publications and testimony Ed provides in both Topeka and Washington, D.C. Moreover, plans are underway for the KIOGA Midyear Meeting in Hays,

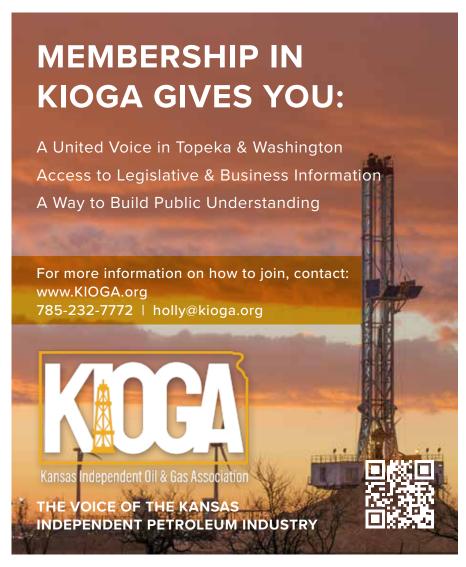
April 17–19, 2024, which promises to be educational, informative, and fun. Do not miss this opportunity to network with colleagues and catch up with old friends.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude to all of you who work tirelessly each day, regardless of the weather, to produce the oil and gas we all need, even for environmental lobbyists! I hope you have a happy and prosperous 2024! κ

DURING THE COP
MEETING IN DUBAI THIS
DECEMBER, THE BIDEN
ADMINISTRATION
UNVEILED DETAILS OF
THEIR NEW METHANE
EMISSION RULES."

DanaWreath

KIOGA Chair





EDWARD CROSS KIOGA PRESIDENT

uring the give and take of public discourse, few truly stop to think how absolutely essential oil and natural gas are to our lives, to our prosperity and security, and to our future. Oil and natural gas are the foundation of our energy-dependent economy. They profoundly affect how we live and work. They are key to our mobility, to keeping our homes and businesses warm, to providing us with electric power, and to supplying the raw materials for countless consumer and industrial products.

The energy policy choices our nation makes today are among the most important and far-reaching policy decisions we will make in the 21st century. U.S. oil production reached a record high in 2023. If we are to continue our nation's positive energy trends, we must implement energy policies based on current reality and our potential as an energy leader. American energy policy should focus on what's important: American jobs, American energy security, and American global energy leadership.

Building a better future takes energy, and oil and natural gas are central to continued progress. To do this, we need policies based on science and the

Oil & Gas Policy Integral to 2024 ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

A Message from your KIOGA President, Edward Cross

free market to continue the positive effects of American energy abundance.

Policymakers at the federal and state levels can move forward and build upon our nation's energy abundance, self-determination, and global leadership. Federal and state policymakers have a unique opportunity to find solutions for many of today's most prominent issues, such as creating jobs, ensuring affordable and reliable energy for consumers, and enhancing our national security. And for all of these goals and more, the American oil and gas industry offers solutions.

The good news is that recent polls show the American voter clearly wants policymakers to set aside outdated assumptions and partisan talking points and work together on safe, responsible, and fact-based energy policy that grows our economy, creates well-paying jobs, and maintains our nation's global energy leadership.

Voters clearly expect their elected leaders to place what's best for our state and nation's economy and energy future above partisan ideology and political posturing. I strongly believe that the American people need and want moral, intellectual, and strategic clarity and courage from our policymakers.

A growing world demand for energy is why energy experts, economists, and government agencies around the world, including the U.S. government's own Energy Information Administration (EIA), estimate that fossil fuels will continue to provide most of the U.S. and world energy needs far into the future.

Worldwide energy consumption will increase 23% by 2045, and 54% of that energy consumption will be met by oil and natural gas. The world will need more energy in the future, and oil and natural gas are poised to be the primary sources of that energy for decades to come.

Beyond consumption, we continue to make and pursue advancements in energy efficiency. A recent EIA study indicated the U.S. used 15% less energy and emitted 23% fewer energy-related CO_2 emissions in 2022 than in 2005. Methane emissions have also declined even as oil and natural gas production has soared.



According to the EIA, U.S. air pollutants have fallen by 70% since 1970. Further, thanks in part to the increased use of domestic natural gas, ozone concentrations have dropped by 17% since 2000, all of which makes the U.S. not just an energy superpower but also a global emissions reduction leader.

The fact is that domestically produced oil and natural gas are economical and abundant. This market-driven success has helped our nation achieve significant emission reductions. The oil and gas industry has helped prove, conclusively, that oil and natural gas production and environmental stewardship are compatible. Clearly, a majority of Americans reject the stale

mindset of last century's thinking peddled by some that oil and natural gas production and environmental stewardship are not compatible.

As the 2024 elections approach, we must stay focused on energy solutions for the American consumer and work together regardless of political party. The stakes are high, and together, we are bringing the benefits of our nation's energy abundance to all. From supporting more jobs and lowering energy costs to ensuring clean water and air, energy is not a partisan issue.

Going forward into 2024, we need smart pro-growth energy policies. Americans support developing domestic energy resources and believe that can be done in a way protective of our environment. Policymakers at all levels should pursue energy policies that drive economic growth, lower costs for consumers, protect the environment, increase American competitiveness, and use our considerable energy resources as a way to lift people up. For our part, the oil and natural gas industry will continue our high standard of environmental stewardship. American energy policy is not a Republican issue or a Democrat issue. It is an American prosperity and leadership issue. \mathcal{K}

Edward P. Cross

KIOGA President





BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY

Federal March Toward Over-Regulation Continues

tions affecting oil and natural gas production continues to grow. KIOGA's advocacy efforts for the problems our industry faces have only gotten more urgent. Active engagement by KIOGA and our allies is necessary to minimize the damage to the industry as the Biden administration seeks to implement dubious regulatory policy decisions. Since there is no room to include an in-depth look into all of KIOGA's efforts in every issue of our magazine, please check our website (www. kioga.org) for all the latest information on KIOGA's efforts on behalf of the Kansas independent oil and gas industry. Some of the most recent federal regulatory actions in which KIOGA has been engaged are

xpansion of federal regula-



summarized here.

EPA Unveils New Methane Regulations for U.S. Oil & Natural Gas Industry

The U.S. EPA finalized new rules expanding methane emission regulations for the U.S. oil and natural gas industry in early December 2023. The new rule will impose strict new standards on releases of methane by the oil and gas industry, including, for the first time, emissions from existing sources nationwide. Once the rule takes effect, the EPA's new policies will also ban flaring of natural gas that is produced by new oil wells, require companies to monitor for leaks from well sites and compressor stations, and implement reductions to emissions from high-emitting equipment like controllers, pumps, and storage tanks. The EPA said they would hold training sessions in early 2024 to provide an overview of the rule for stakeholders and small businesses. Information on the trainings will be posted on the EPA website as they are scheduled.



The Biden administration rushed the EPA to get the pre-Federal Register final rules out during the COP28 climate summit. The Biden administration has a history of dropping climate-related activity just prior to a COP meeting to garner a single round of applause. We will likely see a Federal Register version of the rule sometime at the end of 2023 or early 2024. That will start a 60-day clock for interested parties to petition for review of the rules on the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. With the elections coming in 2024, the D.C. Circuit might slow-walk any substantive briefings on the issues until after the election. If we have a Republican administration, we will likely see new proposals and litigation stayed. If

the Democrats retain the White House, we will have to litigate the issues.

The federal government has set its sights on methane emissions. Methane has become villain #2, right behind CO₂. Methane has been determined to be an even more potent greenhouse gas than CO2. Not a single methane molecule must get out, or we are all going to die from climate change. Never mind that methane breaks down a lot more quickly, which diminishes its effect. But that doesn't matter to climate alarmists and overreaching federal regulatory agencies. The Biden administration seems to see every challenge as an opportunity to impose more burdensome regulations and raise taxes.

Several Congressional Leaders Vocal in Opposing EPA's Final Oil and Natural Gas Methane Regulations



Several Congressional leaders have warned that the rule package will unnecessarily increase the regulatory burden on energy producers and have other damaging economic impacts.



"The Biden administration has piled on another massive regulatory burden designed to encumber and even shut down American energy production," said U.S. Senator Kevin



Cramer (R-ND), a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee. "I led all of my Republican colleagues on the EPW Committee in warning the EPA its proposal oversteps their authority with third-party enforcement, disregards foundational principles of the Clean Air Act, establishes dupli-

cative well-plugging requirements, and forces new burdens on small, independent producers. There's no good time for a terrible rule, but this seems like a crude joke in the wake of heightened geopolitical tensions and global oil instability caused by OPEC."

Meanwhile, House Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Cathy Mc-Morris Rodgers (R-WA) said she also was "deeply concerned" by the rules that dramatically expand the EPA's regulatory reach in a manner that will increase operational costs for U.S. energy producers and likely raise the price of energy. "These burdens will fall directly on American families and businesses, potentially jeopardizing thousands of American jobs and billions of dollars in local economic development. The EPA must be accountable to the American people about how their rush-to-green is encroaching on people's way of life and the futures they want to build for themselves."

The chairman of the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Joe Manchin (D-WV), expressed concerns over the agency's rules expanding methane regulations on oil and gas facilities, as well as other proposed changes from the EPA that would modify the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP).

"The current administration has made its intentions clear: It is determined to target our flourishing oil and gas sector, despite its substantial progress in reducing methane emissions, irrespective of how it might impact American energy security, reliability, and consumer cost. This has put pressure on the EPA to hastily finalize and implement these extensive new regulations, leading to proposals that lack thorough consideration and alignment. This lack of alignment unjustly burdens industry while simultaneously hindering EPA's ability to achieve its own stated emissions reduction objectives," Chairman Manchin said. "Because EPA is so singularly

focused on its anti-fossil agenda, it has missed an opportunity to craft calibrated proposals that achieve emissions reductions while ensuring that the domestic oil and natural gas industry can continue to provide affordable and dependable energy to meet global market demands. While the federal government has a role in responsibly regulating methane emissions, a failure to harmonize these rules before they are finalized will have severe consequences for the nation and our strategic partners, putting our energy and national security at risk."

Manchin said the EPA should revise its approach to make sure that new regulatory standards also align with the objectives and requirements of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).

What is KIOGA Doing?

EPA wants the implementation of the new rule to be done by state agencies. The Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE) is the Kansas agency charged with implementing air emission regulations. KIOGA President Edward Cross met with KDHE Deputy Secretary Leo Henning and other KDHE staff in late 2023 to offer our assistance in helping make sure Kansas gets delegation of the regulatory program. If not, EPA writes the regulations and enforces them.

KIOGA participated as a member of the 21-state oil and gas associations' industry methane coalition in a meeting with EPA policy folks in July of 2023 to discuss issues with the EPA's proposed methane rule for oil and gas. The EPA said states could get as much as \$350 million through a DOE grant to help producers of low-volume wells identify and reduce methane emissions. KIOGA and others pointed out that:

- Existing oil and natural gas facilities are far more numerous than the EPA methane proposal was designed to manage.
- Hundreds of thousands of existing oil and natural gas facilities are low-

production wells operated by small businesses where EPA proposed methane regulations could make them uneconomic with no substantive environmental benefits.

 The EPA-proposed oil and gas methane rule presents an unnecessary potential federal-state conflict that adversely affects producers.

KIOGA, as part of a broad group of national and state trade associations led by the Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA), is currently working to review the EPA's final methane emissions regulations. In the meantime, the producer associations issued a joint statement citing initial concerns, particularly for the nation's smallest independent producers. "The new source requirements will impose complicated new requirements, and the 2022 proposed existing source requirements have been estimated to lead to the shutdown of 300,000 of the nation's 750,000 low-production wells, wells that are essential to our country's energy production," the producer associations said. "The producer associations support the cost-effective management of methane and volatile organic compounds emissions related to the oil and natural gas production industry that achieve sound environmental benefits while reflecting the significant differences between aspects of the industry."

KIOGA Meets with Kansas AG Kobach-

KIOGA President Edward Cross met with Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach in late 2023, expressing the concerns the Kansas oil and gas industry has with the EPA oil and gas methane rules. AG Kobach listened to our concerns about EPA actions to impose methane regulations on marginal wells and facilities. One important point is that the EPA-proposed methane regulations override Congress' decision to protect low-volume oil and gas wells as outlined in the Inflation Reduction Act. It appears the EPA is engaged in

the practice of changing, altering, and amending laws after the fact. They are saying that their role and responsibility at the agency level is to improve upon a statute if they disagree with it. This creates a lot of regulatory uncertainty.



AG Kobach listened and was empathetic to KIOGA's concerns about the EPA oil and gas methane rule. KIOGA will be working closely with Kansas AG Kobach going forward on this very important concern.

Kansas Joins Coalition of States Pushing Back Against EPA's Proposed Oil & Gas Methane Rule—Legal officers representing over 20 states recently wrote the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator expressing concerns over the federal government's efforts to expand regulatory oversight over the nation's energy industry.



Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach joined a West Virginia-led letter commenting on the EPA's proposed rule,

"Standards of Performance for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources and Emissions Guidelines for Existing Sources: Oil and Natural Gas Sector Climate Review." Kobach and the other state attorneys general warned in their letter that the EPA's regulations overextend statutory and legal authority allowed by the federal agency under the Clean Air Act. Officials also said the EPA's proposed rule would impose unnecessary costs on the country's energy industry, with regulatory expenses anticipated to become especially burdensome on smaller production operations. This will lead to increased costs for the production of energy and drive up expenses to Americans, asserted the attorneys general.

"Reducing methane emissions is a noble goal that industry stakeholders have already been working toward," explained the attorneys general in the comment letter. "The oil sector, for instance, reduced methane missions relative to production by 60% between 2011 and 2020. Admirable environmental goals do not justify crushing the American energy sector. Top-down, heavy-handed governmental control is not the way to achieve the right balance between energy needs and environmental concerns-rather, we should look to American ingenuity and innovation, fostered by private initiative and state leadership, to provide solutions. The Supplemental Proposal leaves little room for that. ... The agency should, therefore, abandon its latest methane misadventure and confine itself to lawful, reasonable rules that don't upset a crucial sector of our economy."

KIOGA Works with Congressional

Delegation—KIOGA keeps the Kansas Congressional delegation informed of our concerns with the EPA's supplemental proposed rule on oil and gas methane emissions. Senator Roger Marshall (R-KS) submitted comments, joined by U.S. Senator Steve Daines (R-MT), urging the EPA to reconsider the impact of the proposed regulations on small oil









producers. In addition, Congressman Ron Estes (R-KS) and Congressman Jodey Arrington (R-TX) submitted comments as well. All the Congressional members noted in their comments that the EPA's supplemental proposal is in direct opposition to congressional intent. The Inflation Reduction Act directly exempted smaller wells from a methane fee. The EPA's supplemental proposal completely oversteps by seeking to override the will of Congress in terms of regulations on low-production facilities.

KIOGA Continues Legal Challenge to Lesser Prairie Chicken Listing



The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) listed the Lesser Prairie Chicken (LPC) as a threatened/endangered species in March 2023. The USFWS listed the LPC as "threatened" in the northern distinct population segment and listed the LPC as "endangered" in the southern distinct population segment. The northern distinct population segment includes Kansas.

Listing the LPC as a "threatened" species in Kansas under the ESA makes it illegal to "take" an LPC. "Take" means to harm and harass, as well as kill. "Harass" is defined to include annoying an animal to such an extent as to disrupt its normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering habits. Therefore, after March 27, 2023, it is illegal to so much as disrupt the normal habits of an LPC in much of western Kansas.

What is KIOGA Doing?

KIOGA joined legal action against the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) concerning the listing of the lesser prairie chicken (LPC) in March 2023. The legal challenge is being led by the Permian Basin Petroleum Association (PBPA) and includes KIOGA, Petroleum Alliance of Oklahoma, National Cattleman's Beef Association, Texas Cattle Feeder's Association, Kansas Livestock Association, Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association, New Mexico Cattle Grower's Association, and several New Mexico Counties. In addition, the Kansas, Texas, and Oklahoma Attorney Generals (AGs) also filed legal action against the LPC concerning the listing of the LPC.

The Kansas Natural Resources Coalition (KNRC) filed an additional LPC lawsuit in July 2023. The KNRC lawsuit filed in Kansas challenges the 4(d) grazing rule and restrictions in Kansas but not the actual "threatened" designation.

The court transferred the KNRC lawsuit to WDTX (the same court as our case) and consolidated our lawsuit and the lawsuits filed by the AGs and KNRC. We sent our settlement demand to the defendants in mid-September 2023. Our settlement demand is for the defendants to vacate the LPC listing decision with prejudice. Unsurprisingly, in October 2023, the federal defendants rejected our settlement demand. The case will now proceed as scheduled through most of 2024.

KIOGA President Edward Cross met with Kansas Attorney
General Kris Kobach to review the concerns the Kansas oil and gas industry has with the USFWS listing of the LPC.
AG Kobach listened and was empathetic to our concerns.
KIOGA will be working closely with the PBPA and Kansas AG Kobach going forward on this very important concern.

KIOGA Submits Comments and Provides Briefing on Lesser Prairie Chicken List-

ing—The USFWS accepted comments in 2021/2022 regarding their intent to list the LPC. KIOGA prepared and submitted comprehensive comments. KIOGA's comments provided a body of information to support a "Not Warranted" USF-WS determination for listing LPC. KIOGA provided a briefing on the LPC listing and the impact of the listing on the Kansas oil and gas industry to the Kansas House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee in January 2023 and before the U.S. House Small Business Committee in April 2023. KIOGA President Edward Cross provided comments that specifically underscored that the best scientific and commercial information available demonstrates that the LPC does not meet the ESA's definitions of either a threatened or endangered species. None of the five factors utilized by the USFWS under the ESA to determine if a species is endangered or threatened are present in the case of the LPC in the northern distinct population segment. The LPC has a stable and growing habitat and range. There is no overutilization that places the species at risk. There is no disease or predation beyond the typical norm. There are adequate existing regulatory mechanisms in place that have already produced demon-









Tracey Mann



Ron Estes

strable successes. And there are no other natural or manmade factors that affect the continued viability of the species. In short, there is no basis for action under the ESA and its implementation regulations. Through a combination of public and private efforts, the LPC is now better protected than at any previous time. A listing as threatened or endangered will not provide any additional conservation benefits above what already exists.

Kansas Congressional Delegation

Response—U.S. Senator Marshall (R-KS) introduced a Congressional Review Act (CRA) challenge to the listing of the LPC. Congressman Tracey Mann (R-KS) introduced a measure in the U.S. House to prohibit the U.S. Interior Secretary and U.S. Commerce Secretary from listing a species as threatened or endangered under the ESA without congressional approval. Congressman Ron Estes (R-KS) introduced a measure in the U.S. House that would delist the LPC and put the LPC habitat protection under local control.

KIOGA Continues Working with Key Federal Policymakers and Agency Officials

To address issues of regulatory concern, KIOGA continues our vigilant regulatory advocacy efforts. We continue to express our concerns to key federal policymakers, officials from EPA, USFWS, and more. We also submit comments to EPA,

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KIOGA KEEPS THE KANSAS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION INFORMED OF OUR CONCERNS WITH THE EPA'S SUPPLEMENTAL PROPOSED RULE ON OIL AND GAS METHANE EMISSIONS.

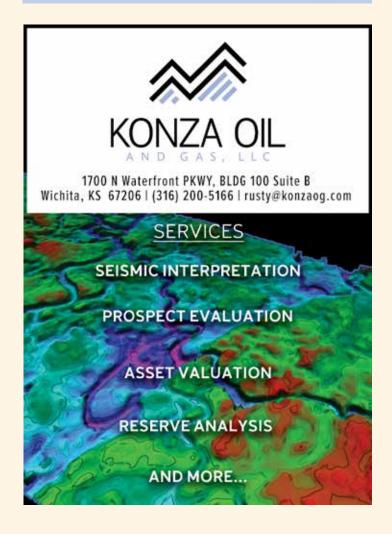
USFWS, and other agencies on issues of endangered species listings, air emissions, and more. Federal agency economic analyses frequently ignore jobs lost, competitiveness, and energy reliability. KIOGA's comments underscore these points. KIOGA continues working with our partners to file legal challenges. Federal regulatory agencies have shown a propensity to base decisions on political motivations instead of sound science. We work with subject matter experts, analyze issues, and work with other groups who share our challenges and concerns. And we continue to keep members informed.

As we continue to educate federal policymakers, state legislators, regulators, and the public about important environmental and regulatory issues, we continually update our fact sheets and reference material. You can find KIOGA's reference material on our website at www.kioga.org.

KIOGA is actively engaged with our allies at DEPA, IPAA, and others to craft strategies and aggressively push back against unwarranted regulatory measures and proposals targeting oil and natural gas production. KIOGA is working with our allies to share information and intelligence on agency proposals. We also share technical resources to inform governmental agency officials of the operational impacts stemming from regulatory proposals. KIOGA also works with our allies to aggressively respond to agency proposals, engage specialized legal expertise, and, where necessary, initiate litigation against unwarranted federal activities. KIOGA also seeks out key regulatory officials with EPA, USF-WS, and other federal agencies to gain a better understanding of potential agency regulatory proposals. KIOGA will continue our aggressive engagement as these issues progress. Finally, KIOGA continues to educate members of Congress regarding the administration's efforts to include oil and natural gas production operations in the President's broader strategy to address global climate issues. KIOGA will continue to monitor the events related to air emissions, the Endangered Species Act, and more and advocate for Kansas independent producer interests. K



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COP28 CLIMATE SUMMIT ENDS WITH A THUD



The COP28 climate summit in Dubai, UAE, ended last December without a global agreement for the phaseout of oil and gas. There have been 28 climate summits since 1995. Every year, there is a lot of talk about shifting away from fossil fuels and a lot of financial commitments. Only both oil and gas demands continue to rise. Oil-producing nations are opposed to an oil and gas phaseout.

The Biden administration should have touted America's successes in reducing emissions. Since 2005, U.S. energy-related emissions fell by 10% as the economy grew by 25%. The Biden administration should have compared that to the fact that energy-related emissions from the rest of the world have increased by 24%. The president should have stood up for his people. Our people.

The Biden administration did not say a word about the record-breaking U.S. oil output in 2023. And it was the Biden administration that sold 180 million barrels of oil from the *Strategic Petroleum Reserve* to keep prices at the pump low. Climate summits like COP28 are nothing more than expensive energy-burning theater. Their main message is that people should use less and do with less. Climate summits should focus on emission reductions, not energy choices.

The truth about climate summits and energy policy is that people don't want high energy costs, and their governments must respond—in China, in Europe, or in America, the ramifications of high-energy costs are politically dangerous whether they go to the ballot box or have revolutions. \mathcal{K}



IEDWARD CROSS

CHOSEN AS
TOP LOBBYIST

T

he National Institute for Lobbying & Ethics (NILE) released its list of 2023 Top Lobbyist award recipients. The Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association President was among them.

Nominated by colleagues, Congressional staff, or clients for their outstanding work in 2023, Cross was selected from over 500 nominations. According to NILE, the selection process was rigorous and competitive, and each nominee was blindly evaluated to ensure this honor was 100% merit based on the following criteria:

- Saw significant legislative success in 2023,
- Were innovative in their field or policy area during 2023,
- · Are held in high regard by their clients and peers, and
- Are individuals who give back to their community through charity or pro bono work.

NILE said Cross' work exemplifies the highest standards of integrity, ethics, and excellence.

"I am honored and humbled to have been selected for this prestigious designation," said Cross. "It is my honor to serve the oil and gas industry as an energy policy lobbyist for over 20 years. The oil and gas industry enhances life experiences and improves the quality of life for people around the world. Lobbyists understand that the advocacy they practice is part of the democratic process. Lobbying helps find real solutions."

In 2020, NILE embarked on a mission to create an annual list that recognizes excellence in lobbying while ensuring the selection process is purely merit-based. NILE said a dedicated panel of judges blindly evaluated each nominee to guarantee that the honor of being a Top Lobbyist is earned solely through outstanding performance and dedication to their profession in the given year.



"This award celebrates the top in our profession this year," stated Jocelyn Hong, NILE President. "This award recognizes those who have made significant contributions to those they represent, as well as those who have made a commitment to giving back through pro-bono work. Given the number of local, state, and federal lobbyists, grassroots, and PAC professionals, to be singled out by your peers for this award has real meaning," added Hong.

The 2023 Top Lobbyist list is a diverse representation of the advocacy profession. It features lobbyists, PAC professionals, and grassroots professionals who were nominated by their peers. These individuals have demonstrated their exceptional skills in advocacy in addition to showcasing innovation and thought leadership. They have earned high regard from their

clients and peers and actively contributed to their community through charity/pro bono work. Their dedication, expertise, and commitment to ethical practices have made them exemplary representations of the profession. Cross was honored with the recognition at a black-tie event in the Russell Senate Office building in Washington, D.C.

The National Institute for Lobbying & Ethics (NILE) is a national organization representing lobbying, public policy, and government affairs professionals. Our mission is to promote professionalism, competence, and high ethical standards through education. We work to provide a unified voice for the profession and the Constitution's First Amendment right to petition the government.



Above all else, NILE is committed to promoting ethical lobbying. Members of our board of directors have been at the forefront of both calling for and helping to write laws that require federal lobbyists to register with

Congress. We promote transparency so that anyone can go online and see who our clients are, what issues we are working on, and how much we are paid.

NILE prescribes a strong Code of Ethics for its members to follow, as well as, a rigorous Public Policy Certificate Program that assures lobbyists have a complete knowledge of the legislative and regulatory processes.

The National Institute for Lobbying & Ethics Public Policy Certificate (PPC) program is today's gold standard for certifying that lobbyists, government affairs, and grassroots professionals possess in-depth knowledge of legislative and political processes plus the rules, regulations, and ethics that shape lobbying requirements. The PPC program is FOR the profession, BY the profession. It is critical for government affairs professionals to keep up to date on the latest insights into working with policymakers and stakeholders, especially at a time when technology and social media are changing the way we all advocate. PPC participants will learn the keys to success for getting results while meeting the highest standards of ethics and professionalism. \mathcal{K}



ECONOMIC IMPACT OF KANSAS OIL & GAS INDUSTRY THE NUMBERS TELL THE TALE



here would the Kansas economy be without the oil and gas industry? KIOGA has compiled statistics that paint a remarkable picture of the oil and natural gas industry's impact on the economic vitality of Kansas

and the level of state taxes imposed on the industry.

"The Kansas oil and gas industry has contributed tremendous amounts of government revenues and created some of the highest-paying jobs in Kansas," said Edward Cross, KIOGA President. "Kansas' oil and natural gas businesses have brought together technology, labor, and investment to keep Kansas a top energy-producing state despite turbulent times in energy markets. Under threat from the Biden administration to destroy domestic oil and natural gas production, Kansas' oil and natural gas industry remains a key contributor to the Kansas economy today and a critical part of the economy going forward."

After many decades of productive stewardship, oil and natural gas resources continue to play an important part in the livelihoods of Kansans. In 2023, the Kansas oil and gas industry generated nearly \$2.4 billion in output, put tens of thousands of people across Kansas to work, and pumped hundreds of millions of dollars into the state's economy. The industry supports 100,000 jobs, \$3 billion in family income, and \$1.4 billion in state/local tax revenue. The industry is an important element of the Kansas economy today and will be a critical part of the economy in the future.

The economy is one big circle. The oil and natural gas industry employs people who pay taxes to various governmental entities, which then provide services such as schools, roads, and hospitals to individuals. When the oil and natural gas industry thrives, everyone benefits!

While the U.S. and Kansas economies continue to grow, significant concerns exist, including high inflation, U.S. monetary policy, volatility in energy markets, U.S. trade and foreign policies, and more. Most destructive for the economy has been Biden's historic spending spree (\$4.8 trillion in new spending), which the Federal Reserve said was the main inflation contributor. Kansas crude oil prices averaged \$67.85/barrel in 2023, recovering from \$30 in 2020.

Crude oil markets remain subject to heightened levels of uncertainty related to inflation, volatility in energy prices, U.S. trade and foreign policy, and demand. The crude oil market is fraught with uncertainty that creates volatility in crude oil prices. Volatile crude oil prices have a significant impact on the small businesses that make up the Kansas oil and natural gas industry.

KIOGA has compiled a report that shows the oil and natural gas industry is a key contributor to the Kansas economy. KIOGA has prepared several white papers and reports that provide a summary of the current state of the oil and natural gas industry.

"These informational pieces highlight how oil and natural gas uniquely impact many aspects of our life," said Edward Cross, KIOGA President. "Whether it is providing well-paying jobs, saving consumers thousands of dollars each year on their energy bills, producing the building blocks for products we use every day, or developing innovations that have reduced air emissions to historic lows, the oil and natural gas industry is a vital part of the Kansas and U.S. economy."

Independent Oil and Gas Industry Leads the Way

Independent oil and natural gas producers continue to lead the way in the Kansas oil and natural gas industry. Independent producers account for over 92% of the oil and natural gas produced in Kansas.

Kansas independent oil and natural gas producers have significant advantages. The independent oil and natural gas producers in Kansas have developed strong skill sets based on their size and scale. Independents historically use their resources to the fullest and, therefore, accelerate the process of creating value from their assets. Independents are typically able to run quicker and leaner than larger companies. Finally, Kansas independents know Kansas geology and how to develop wells

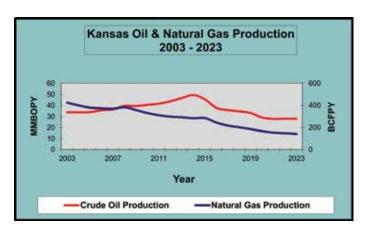


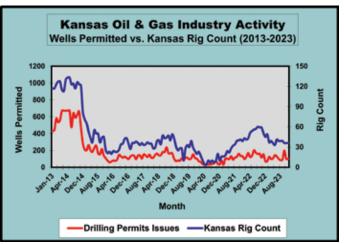
MORE WORK. MORE JOBS. MORE MONEY FOR EVERYONE, MORE TAXES PAID. THAT'S WHAT KEEPS THE WHEELS TURNING ON THE **ECONOMY IN KANSAS."**

in Kansas. Kansas independent producers have a subsurface intelligence that you cannot buy, which gives them a unique competitive advantage. Kansas independent producers have a significant advantage by running lean but being smart. All of this gives independents significant advantages.

Kansas Industry Activity

The Kansas oil and gas industry used 2023 as a recovery year. Many Kansas producers refocused capex high-grading and drilling only the best prospects. Companies have optimized operating cost structures to achieve efficiency gains and are becoming more specialized regarding their core producing assets, focusing on the most resilient short-cycle projects.





Labor market and service/supply costs challenges continue to plague producers. Like many industries, labor is a critical issue for the Kansas oil and gas industry. In addition, input costs, inflation, and other factors have significantly increased supply and service costs.

As market conditions improved in 2022 and 2023, oil and gas exploration/production activity in Kansas was robust. As a result, Kansas crude oil production stayed flat in 2023, and natural gas production declined by 9.2%.

The Kansas oil and gas industry produced nearly 28 million barrels of oil and 143 billion cubic feet of natural gas in 2023. Nearly 84% of the value of the Kansas oil and natural gas industry comes from oil production, and 16% comes from natural gas production. The industry saw 33-49 drilling rigs running each month during 2023. The KCC reports that over 1,300 drilling permits were issued in 2023. While the average oil well in Kansas produces 2 BOPD and the average natural gas well produces 23 Mcf per day, the industry supports more than 100,000 jobs, \$3 billion in family income, and pays \$1.4 billion and state and local taxes.

Kansas Oil & Gas Industry Strategic Analysis

KIOGA has prepared several reports and white papers on the oil and natural gas industry's impact on the economic vitality of Kansas and the level of state taxes imposed on the industry. The report shows that the oil and natural gas industry is a key contributor to the Kansas economy.

In the future, Kansas producers will focus on the most resilient short-cycle projects and concentrate on their core competencies and smaller producer advantages. Kansas producers are working to optimize supply chain relationships, improve operational efficiencies, reduce and refocus capex, and exam-





ine acquisition and divestiture opportunities. Operators are high-grading and drilling only the best projects. In many cases, improved productivity is less about improved technology and more about better application of existing technology.

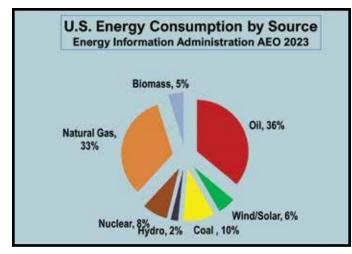
KIOGA put together our annual Kansas Oil & Gas Industry Strategic Analysis study to highlight the importance of the oil and gas

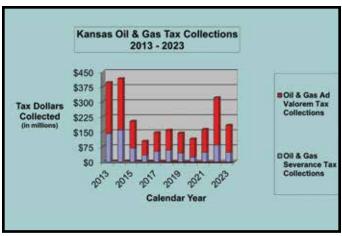
industry in Kansas. You can find this report on KIOGA's website at www.kioga.org. Some of the key findings include:

- Over 1,300 drilling permits were issued in Kansas in 2023.
- Kansas oil and gas industry contributed over \$190 million in taxes during 2023.

- Over 16% of the value of oil and natural gas produced is paid in taxes. And that doesn't include sales taxes, income taxes, or the taxes imposed on final products. This makes the oil and gas industry one of the most heavily taxed industries in Kansas.
- The Kansas oil and gas industry pays taxes not just once but multiple times before the oil and natural gas reaches its final destination. Taxes are imposed on oil and natural gas while still in the ground, then again when they are produced, when transported, when refined, and again when sold as final products. Plus, the Kansas oil and gas industry is subject to all other general business and income taxes that other businesses pay.

More work. More jobs. More money for everyone. More taxes paid. That's what keeps the wheels turning on the economy in Kansas. κ









CVR Energy is a growth-oriented, independent downstream energy company with crude oil refining, gathering and refined petroleum product marketing operations located in the Mid-Continent.

Our crude gathering system is comprised of approximately 947 miles of owned, leased and joint venture pipelines and associated tankage and truck transportation facilities.
Our gathering system purchases crude from independent crude oil producers in Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Missouri and Texas.



For more information, contact one of our Lease Purchasing Crude Oil Representatives:

Eric Schlecht (316) 841-7763

Chad Arnold (918) 332-2523

Bill Copeland (620) 242-6873

OIL & GAS DAY

AT THE STATE HOUSE

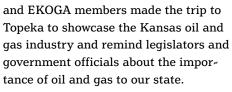


EXCEPTIONAL COMMUNICATION VENUE FOR THE KANSAS OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY



he Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association (KIOGA), along with the Eastern Kansas Oil & Gas Association (EKOGA), hosted an "Oil & Gas Day" legislative reception in the **Kansas State**

Capitol in Topeka on January 18, 2024. Several KIOGA



A Kansas country breakfast was offered to all Kansas legislators, government officials, and other decision-makers. Over 20 KIOGA members joined KIOGA Chair Dana Wreath in welcoming legislators and governmental decision-makers to the Kansas Oil & Gas Day at the State Capitol.







Kansas State Capitol

"The difference this day makes for the Kansas oil and gas industry is tremendous," said Edward Cross, KIOGA President. "By having oil and gas producers from across the state taking part, our legislative leaders and governmental decision-makers will have no doubt about the challenges and opportunities facing the Kansas oil and gas industry."

Several KIOGA members took the opportunity to meet with key legislators to discuss issues important to the Kansas oil and gas industry. In addition, KIOGA President Edward Cross made presentations before the Kansas House Energy Committee, Kansas House Appropriations Committee, Kansas Senate Ways & Means Committee, and the Kansas Senate Utilities Committee on the state of the oil and gas industry and the challenges/opportunities facing the Kansas oil and gas industry.

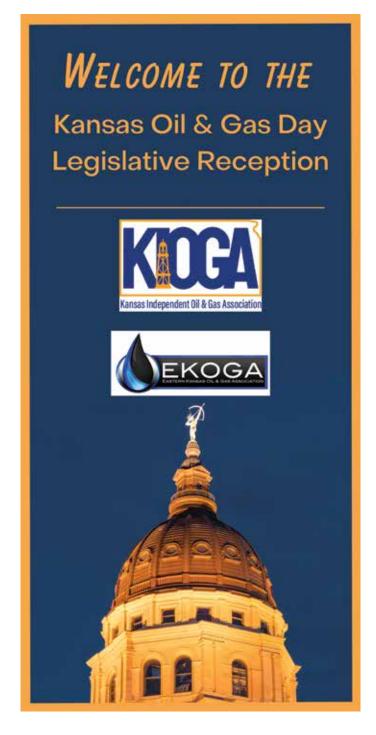


Several legislators and government officials joined the reception, including:

- House Speaker Dan Hawkins (R-Wichita)
- House Assistant Majority Leader Les Mason (R-Lindsborg)
- House Majority Whip Susan Estes (R-Wichita)
- House Majority Caucus Chair Kristey Williams (R-Augusta)
- House Democrat Caucus Chair Barbara Ballard (D-Lawrence)
- House Energy Committee Chair Leo Delperdang (R-Wichita)
- House Agriculture & Natural Resources
 Committee Chair Ken Rahjes (R-Agra)
- House Agriculture & Natural Resources
 Budget Committee Chair Ken Corbet (R-Topeka)
- House Appropriations Committee Chair Troy Waymaster (R-Bunker Hill)
- Senate President Ty Masterson (R-Andover)
- Senate Vice President Rick Wilborn (R-McPherson)
- Senate Majority Leader Larry Alley (R-Winfield)
- Senate Majority Whip Rick Kloos (R-Berryton)
- Senate Minority Agenda Chair Marci Francisco (D-Lawrence)
- Senate Assistant Minority Leader Oletha Faust-Goudeau (D-Wichita)
- Senate Utility Committee Chair Michael Fagg (R-Eldorado)
- Senate Ways & Means Committee Chair Rick Billinger (R-Goodland)
- 53 State Representatives
- 16 State Senators

In addition, several agency decision-makers and legislative staffers stopped by to visit. The turnout for the reception was exceptional. Over **200** people attended the reception.

Many legislators, government officials, and other decisionmakers expressed their gratitude for the breakfast, camaraderie, and discussions, saying they look forward to our event every year because "it is the best breakfast reception of the



entire session." The goodwill and positive relationships we nurture at this annual event provide phenomenal value for our industry. The 2024 reception marks the $18^{\rm th}$ consecutive year we have organized the event, and we are delighted that our friends at EKOGA joined us to host the event. The event has proven to be an exceptional venue and opportunity for our industry to communicate with state legislators and government decision-makers on issues important to our industry. $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{K}}$

KIOGA IS HERE TO HELP!

FOR THE OIL AND
GAS INDUSTRY,
THE CHALLENGES
NEVER END. KIOGA
TAKES OUR CHARGE
SERIOUSLY AND
PURSUES EXCELLENCE
ON YOUR BEHALF
EACH DAY."



For over 160 years, the oil and gas industry has been a vital part of Kansas's way of life, and at KIOGA, our goal is to help ensure our industry thrives well into the future.

KIOGA's vision is simple: to promote the development of Kansas's oil and natural gas resources for the betterment of society. We recognize that our members truly are the fabric of many communities throughout Kansas. KIOGA members not only employ and support over 100,000 Kansans and their families with good-paying jobs boosting our state economy but also pay significant taxes and often make significant charitable gifts that support communities and the overall well-being of our state.

With nearly 3,000 members, KIOGA is the lead state/national advocate for the Kansas oil and gas industry. KIOGA identifies and interprets public policies and regulations that are fundamental to our members' success. Our quick analyses and evaluations of issues and concerns result in significant arbitrage value for KIOGA members who benefit from our substantial first-mover advocacy advantages. We engage on state and federal regulatory issues and meet with key state and federal policymakers on policy issues. We continue to build relationships and work with allies at the state and federal levels. Finally, we litigate when necessary.

Through rigorous engagement at the state and federal levels, KIOGA works to create a more stable and predictable political and regulatory environment for our members. We are committed to being a positive, credible, and proactive voice for the industry, promoting respectful dialogue and education to advance oil and gas interests at the state and federal levels.

In 2023, our mission manifested itself in many positive ways, including:

Legislative Success: KIOGA engaged in 13 state legislative issues impacting the Kansas oil and gas industry in 2023. We engaged in many tough policy debates on issues critical for the Kansas oil and gas industry, explaining what's important to KIOGA members and where we stand on energy, tax, and regulatory issues. Our core focus was on protecting the Kansas oil and gas industry from increased costs while also defending industry gains in recent years. At the federal level, KIOGA engaged key federal policymakers to provide fact-based information to pull back the curtain on the ideological-driven processes the Biden administration is using to justify an avalanche of costly policies and rules.

Regulatory Success: KIOGA engaged the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) on issues concerning federal grants to plug abandoned wells, temporary abandonment of wells, potential regulatory amendments, and more. At the federal level, KIOGA continues to push for more flexible and cost-effective EPA oil and gas methane regulations that recognize the emission profile of marginal wells. KIOGA is also engaged



Crude Oil and Gas Liquids Purchasing, Transportation and Exchange

Oil Treating • DOT-Code Vacuum Trucks • 500 BBL Mobile/Frac Tanks Blowdown, Gas Buster, & Working Pits • Wildcatter Portable Tank Battery 600 HP Pump Trucks with Computerized Pump Recorders • Ball Injector Guns Acidizing • Chemical • Brine • KCL • Fresh & Produced Water Hauling • Hot Oilers 25-Yd Rolloffs, Pick Up & Delivery • Up to 32M Winch Trucks • Backhoe & Dump Trucks

Maclaskey Oilfield Services, Inc.

Mid-Continent 316-321-9011 Permian Basin 575-393-1016

Ft Worth Basin 817-594-8073

"Kickin up Dust since '77"





in the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) lesser prairie chicken concerns.

Public Outreach: In 2023, KIOGA spoke at 17 public forums, engaged in over 50 media inquiries, and provided 11 editorials that were picked up by 21 media outlets and national publications across Kansas and the nation.

It is only with your support that we were able to accomplish these goals. KIOGA wants to build on this momentum in 2024, and your support allows us to continue to proactively engage state and federal policymakers and regulatory officials to aggressively defend our industry and promote the development of Kansas's oil and natural gas resources.

Though we face many familiar legislative and regulatory challenges in 2024, KIOGA stands stronger and more united than ever to face these obstacles and seek meaningful opportunities to evolve and succeed. To be a member of KIOGA is to be among the premier oil and gas companies in Kansas and across the nation.

As a professional advocate for the Kansas oil and natural gas industry, KIOGA has used our significant advocacy experience and talent to form strong and productive nonpartisan relationships with state and federal policymakers as well as state and federal regulatory agencies.

The bottom line is that unsound policies, regulations, and public perceptions threaten the profit and growth opportunities of every company in the oil and natural gas industry. Companies need the best and latest advocacy and public outreach efforts. That is what you get with KIOGA.

For the oil and gas industry, the challenges never end. KIOGA takes our charge seriously and pursues excellence on your behalf each day. Let KIOGA be your partner in success. We provide unmatched public policy advocacy and a powerful voice for you in state and federal government. KIOGA is an investment in our energy future! κ

CHALLENGING ISSUES FACE2024 KANSAS LEGISLATURE

Kansas Lawmakers Begin 2024 Session



he 2024 Kansas Legislative Session began on January 8. The session began with the state enjoying a projected \$3.5 billion ending balance in fiscal year 2025 (FY 2025). The FY 2025 ending balance represents a starting point for the government during the budget process. Governor Kelly and Republican legislative leaders agree that there's room to produce tax cuts. However, deciding what taxes to cut and how much to cut will be the difficult part of the process.

KIOGA prepared for the 2024 Kansas Legislative Session. As a professional advocate for the Kansas oil and gas industry, KIOGA uses our significant advocacy experience and talent to form strong and productive nonpartisan relationships with state and federal policymakers as well as state and federal regulatory agencies. Many KIOGA members have been participating in legislative and regulatory meetings focusing on issues important to the independent oil and gas industry. KIO-GA also engaged in interim committee hearings to cover the interests of the independent oil and gas industry.

KIOGA State Advocacy Strategy

The core focus of KIOGA's work at the Statehouse during the 2024 legislative session will be on protecting the Kansas oil and gas industry from increased costs while also defending industry gains made in recent years.

The KIOGA legislative agenda for the 2024 legislative session will be one in which we will work to minimize legislative assaults on the independent oil and gas industry and optimize legislative targets of opportunity. In preparation, KIOGA prepared our annual state and federal legislative/regulatory/communication agenda. KIOGA President Edward Cross presented this agenda to Governor Kelly and key Kansas legislators in January. The agenda lays out what's important to KIOGA members and where we stand on energy, tax, and regulatory issues.

Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association (KIOGA)
2024 State & Federal
Legislative/Regulatory/Communication Agenda

Legislative/Regulatory/Communication Agenda

We've Got Your Back!

Foundation of 2017, the figure interpretation of the Communication Agenda of the Communication Agend

KIOGA supports a rational, data-driven, common-sense approach to energy policy that recognizes that our best energy future can only be achieved through a true all-of-the-above energy strategy. We will:

- Oppose any legislation designed to stop oil and gas production or measures that have very little environmental benefit but high associated costs. This includes measures to establish a politically influenced State Energy Plan, restrictions on hydraulic fracturing, emissions, injection wells, or other measures designed to stop oil and gas production.
- Support legislative study/action on the competitiveness of Kansas energy rates.
- Oppose mandates and policies that increase costs when sourcing energy.
- Oppose policies picking winners and losers among energy sources and technologies.
- Support efforts to limit or block federal regulations that overreach and impose undue expense and regulatory burden on the Kansas oil and gas industry.
- Encourage the least restrictive method of regulation that supports the goal of protecting the public without limiting business activity.
- Oppose measures calling for the statewide election of Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) commissioners.

 Support policies that take measures to ensure America's long-term energy affordability, security, leadership, and progress, including actions to reevaluate federal energy policies that have curtailed domestic production of oil and natural gas.

KIOGA will urge the legislature to reduce the cost of doing business and will:

- Oppose any measures that target oil & gas industry for an increased local or state tax base.
- Support measures that reduce government spending instead of increasing the cost of doing business through tax increases.
- Support tax policies that treat all energy sources equally, allowing market demand to drive efficiencies.



Meeting with Governor Kelly and Key House and Senate Leadership –

KIOGA President Edward Cross met with Governor Kelly in early 2024 to provide an update on the state of the Kansas oil and gas industry and to share KIOGA's legislative agenda, which lays out what's important to KIOGA members and where we stand on energy, tax, and regulatory issues. Cross also met with the House Speaker, Senate president, and chairs of the key energy and tax committees in separate meetings in early 2024 to discuss energy issues and begin laying the groundwork for the 2024 Kansas Legislative Session.

KIOGA Reference Material—KIOGA is proactive and prepared in advance of the 2024 Kansas Legislative Session by developing and updating several white papers, fact sheets, brochures, and other informational pieces in advance of the session. These include:

- Kansas Oil & Gas Industry Strategic
 Analysis (January 2024)—an annual
 comprehensive report that provides
 the latest information on the economic impact of the Kansas oil and
 gas industry, including statistics on
 Kansas oil and gas industry activity,
 taxes, production, issues, challenges,
 and opportunities;
- State of the Oil & Gas Industry— Dynamic Challenges Facing Kansas Oil & Gas Industry (January 2024)—a white paper that summarizes America's energy picture today, challenges faced by the small businesses that make up the Kansas oil and gas industry, and what the industry is doing to address those challenges;
- Hydraulic Fracturing—Regulatory & Policy Considerations (January 2024)
- Hydraulic Fracturing & Drinking Water Contamination (January 2024)
- Climate Issues (January 2024)
- Facts About Induced Seismicity (January 2024)
- Pro-Freedom Policy for CO2 Emissions (January 2024)
- And More



KIOGA shares these white papers, fact sheets, reports, brochures, and other informational pieces with key state legislators. The reference material is also shared with the Kansas Congressional delegation and other key federal policymakers. Many state and federal policymakers have expressed their gratitude for factual, scientific-based information. All of the reference material can be found on the KIOGA website at www.kioga.org.



What to Expect in the Upcoming Session

The 2024 Kansas Legislative Session is the second year of the 2023/2024 biennial session. Bills that did not pass in 2023 but reside in exempt committees are still alive for action in 2024. In addition, several new measures that impact the Kansas oil and gas industry could be introduced in 2024. KIOGA will be vigilant in defending the industry.

The projected FY 2025 \$3.5 billion ending balance for the state represents a starting point for the government during the budget process. Governor Kelly and Republican legislative leaders agree that there's room to produce tax cuts. However, deciding what taxes to cut and how much to cut will be the difficult part of the process.

In the 2023 Legislative Session, Governor Kelly proposed cutting property and retirement taxes and tried to give each Kansan a \$450 rebate. The proposal didn't go over well with Republican leadership, with Senate President Ty Masterson (R-Andover) referring to it

as a "replica of the failed policies of the Biden administration." Governor Kelly will likely push for the proposal again in 2024. Republicans are not likely to support it.

Senate President Ty Masterson (R-Andover) and House Speaker Dan Hawkins (R-Wichita) said they plan to push a 5.15% flat income tax rate for individuals during the 2024 session. The bill didn't overcome a Kelly veto last session.

Governor Kelly will also push for expanded Medicaid coverage. She proposed Medicaid expansion in 2023, but the measure was defeated by the Legislature. The governor's new 2024 measure includes work requirements as a condition of eligibility. House Speaker Dan Hawkins said the Biden administration has not approved any Medicaid work requirement and proactively revoked every single work requirement approved previously.

The Medicaid expansion is a long shot in the 2024 Kansas Legislature.

Economic Forecast—

While the U.S. and
Kansas economies
continue to grow, significant concerns exist,
including high inflation,
U.S. monetary policy, volatil-

ity in energy markets, U.S. trade and foreign policies, and more. The Kansas economy is expected to experience modest real growth. Persistent elevated levels of inflation will likely offset the relatively strong nominal growth of the Kansas economy. Kansas's Gross State Product (GSP) is projected to grow by 2% in 2024. U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is projected to grow by 1.45% in 2024.

According to the November 2023 Energy Information Administration (EIA) Short-Term Energy Outlook (STEO),

ongoing OPEC+ production cuts will offset production growth from non-OPEC countries and help maintain a relatively balanced global oil market in 2024. Although the conflict between Israel and Hamas has not affected the physical oil supply at this point, uncertainties surrounding the conflict and other global oil supply conditions could put upward pressure on crude oil prices in the coming months. EIA projects that Kansas crude oil prices will average \$78 in 2024.

Several issues affecting the Kansas oil and gas industry could emerge during the 2024 Kansas Legislative Session. KIOGA will stay vigilant, identifying and preparing for emerging issues. KIOGA will also continue to work to improve and maintain relationships with key lawmakers and decision-makers on active initiatives and engage in policy developments affecting the Kansas oil and gas industry.

Potential Oil & Gas Issues in the 2024 Kansas Legislative Session

Several potential issues affecting the Kansas oil and gas industry could emerge during the 2024 Kansas Legislative Session. KIOGA is prepared and will stay vigilant in defending the Kansas oil and gas industry.

Energy Policy—KIOGA is often asked to express our position on energy policy in general. KIOGA supports a rational, data-driven, common-sense approach to energy policy that recognizes that our best energy future can only be achieved through a true all-of-the-above energy strategy. We oppose policies picking winners and losers among energy sources and technologies. We oppose policies that impose mandates that increase costs when sourcing energy. We encourage the least restrictive method of regulation that supports the goal of protecting the public without limiting

business activity. KIOGA will deliver our annual *State of the Kansas Oil & Gas* Industry report to key legislative committees in early 2024.

State Energy Plan—Developing a State Energy Plan and/or reorganizing the KCC Energy Office to expand its scope to include energy planning, policy development, and stakeholder outreach is not a good idea and something KIOGA will be monitoring very closely.

Proposals for reorganizing the Energy Office seem to be about promoting energy policies driven by a zero-sum game philosophy for energy that says we must have less fossil fuels so that we can have more of something else. Many state energy plans around the nation fail because they start with a preferred resource and work backward. All too often, state proposals to establish some kind of green standard have much more to do with raising revenue than helping our environment. The result is that average households would have to pay significantly more for goods and services. Families that spend a bigger portion of their household income on transportation, utilities, and household goods are hurt, not helped, by such schemes.

Creating a politically influenced State Energy Plan and/or establishing a politically influenced energy office is not the answer.

Electric Rates—We need to find solutions to high Kansas electric rates. Kansas has one of the lowest electric generation prices in the U.S. but by far the highest retail electric rates in the Midwest. Electric costs are the highest operating cost for most wells (30%–50% of oil well expenses).

KIOGA will be encouraging the Kansas Legislature to consider several win/win proposals presented by KIOGA during the 2023 Kansas Interim Session, including the reclassification of oil/gas electric load and more.

Carbon Capture Utilization & Storage (CCUS)—Several groups have tried to advance carbon capture utilization and storage (CCUS) measures over the last few years. KIOGA had serious concerns about past proposals for many reasons. The proposals lent themselves to legal challenges involving mineral rights and pore space ownership. In addition, any operator wanting to participate in a CCUS project would have to be willing to accept significant capex and opex risks.



Renew Kansas, a Kansas ethanol association, introduced a bill in 2023 that amended the Carbon Dioxide *Reduction Act* to allow for carbon capture and sequestration in Class VI injection wells. The measure would direct the KDHE to pursue state primacy over UIC Class VI injection wells, grant KDHE authority to permit and inspect Class VI injection wells and assess penalties for violations of the act, grant KDHE authority to promulgate regulations for permitting, inspecting, and assessing civil penalties on Class VI wells, establish a long-term liability trust fund, and allow injection project sites to receive a certificate of closure from the state, with the state assuming ownership of, and liability for, the stored CO_a.

KIOGA met with a group from *Renew Kansas* and explained several issues with the bill. The Pacific Northwest National Laboratory has estimated that up to 23,000 miles of new pipeline will be needed to carry captured CO₂ to underground sequestration sites.

Taxpayers will likely end up shouldering most of the cost. Some of the captured CO₂ could be used for EOR projects, but it has been estimated that less than 10% of captured CO2 would actually be injected into American oilfields. Policymakers are wanting to get rid of about 3 billion tons per year. That works out to about 8.2 million tons of CO2 per day, which would have to be collected and compressed to about 1,000 psi. In other words, we would need to find an underground location (locations) able to swallow a volume equal to the contents of 41 oil supertankers each day, 365 days a year. Because of the possibility of deadly leaks, few people will want to live near an underground storage cavern. Which members of the Kansas House or Kansas Senate will want to offer Kansas as a dumping ground for all the CO₂?

CCUS is a very complicated issue with the potential for lots of unintended consequences that could affect large segments of the industry.

Election of KCC Commissioners—

KIOGA opposed measures calling for the statewide election of commissioners

of the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) in 2023. KIOGA President Edward Cross testified in opposition to the measures before the Kansas House Energy Committee and before the Kansas Senate Utilities Committee. KIOGA emphasized that establishing KCC Commissioners as elected positions would allow wealthy special interests to flood elections with vast amounts of spending and make it more difficult for everyday Kansans to have their voices heard as elected KCC Commissioners would favor policies that prioritize their donors. Other states that have elected commissioners have seen a commission that is unable to effectively act on major issues and failed to hold both Democratic and Republican special interests accountable. KCC Commissioners often deal with highly technical issues. KCC Commissioners' responsibilities require qualified professionals with high-level analytical skills and an objective apolitical approach to complex issues. Making those elected positions could turn commission decisions into "who has the most leverage and power to win elections" rather than "who can do the



KIOGA SUPPORTS
A RATIONAL, DATADRIVEN, COMMONSENSE APPROACH TO
ENERGY POLICY THAT
RECOGNIZES THAT
OUR BEST ENERGY
FUTURE CAN ONLY BE
ACHIEVED THROUGH
A TRUE ALL-OF-THEABOVE ENERGY
STRATEGY."

best job as a commissioner." KIOGA will be vigilant on this issue.

Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act—The Uniform Law Commission

Act—The Uniform Law Commission has indicated they may introduce the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act (UPHPA). The Uniform Law Commission introduced the UPHPA in 2019, but KIOGA opposed it, and the measure did not advance. The UPHPA makes it practically impossible to partition many parcels of real estate in Kansas. The problem is that partitioning is often the best option to fix title problems that would otherwise render the land unable to be developed for oil and gas production.

Environmental Assaults—Several issues affecting KIOGA members could emerge during the 2024 Kansas Legislative Session. For a decade, the Sierra Club and other activists have had bills introduced that include a list of onerous rules and regulations designed to stop oil and gas production. This laundry list of oil and gas regulations has no environmental benefit but high associated costs and includes carefully thought-out restrictions on hydraulic fracturing, waste management, emissions, moratoriums on injection wells, establishing an earthquake risk pool fund, and other measures with the goal of stopping oil

and gas production. The foundations for these proposals are based on unfounded information and activist propaganda. The 2024 Kansas Legislative Session could see the same.

KIOGA stays keenly poised to address any attempts by those who oppose American oil and gas development to promote legislation and/or regulations designed to stop oil and gas production. KIOGA President Edward Cross regularly meets with key legislative leaders and committee chairs to provide fact-based scientific information about injection wells, seismic activity, hydraulic fracturing, climate issues, and more. KIOGA is prepared and ready to defend the oil and gas industry at every opportunity.

Other issues—Several more issues may emerge during the 2024 Kansas Legislative Session. In the past, some have tried to advance proposals to change oil and gas tax structures with schemes that expose oil and gas operations to higher tax rates. KIOGA will stay vigilant, defending the industry against any taxation schemes that attempt to unfairly target the oil and gas industry for higher taxes. KIOGA will stay vigilant in identifying and preparing for additional emerging issues. **





Kansas Senate

PRESIDENT TY MASTERSON

Becomes New National Chair of ALEC



Kansas Senate President Ty
Masterson (R-Andover) is
now the new national chair
of the American Legislative
Exchange Council (ALEC). Masterson
took the gavel in late 2023 from
Republican Florida state Representative
Daniel Perez, who is designated to
become Florida's next House speaker.

Masterson had been set to move up to chair after serving the last year as ALEC's vice chair. He assumed the chair of the organization at its state and national policy summit in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Perez told the audience that Masterson would be the "best national chairman ALEC has ever seen."

"For those of you who don't know Ty, I promise you that you're going to absolutely love him," Perez said.

"He's a little older, and if you've ever seen him move, you know he doesn't have rhythm like me," he said. "In Miami, we call that the Kansas rhythm. But when it comes to understanding leadership, legislative maneuvers, and how our work affects the people that we serve day in and day out, there isn't a leader out there with better moves than Ty," he said.

In addressing the ALEC group, Masterson praised Perez, saying he had a big void to fill.

"It is an honor to take this position. It's also a great responsibility," Masterson said. "I just hope that I approach the challenges that we have this next year with the same kind of tact and effectiveness that Danny did," he said.

As chair, Masterson will have an elevated national presence in which he will preside over meetings with members

MASTERSON HAD BEEN SET
TO MOVE UP TO CHAIR AFTER
SERVING THE LAST YEAR AS
ALEC'S VICE CHAIR."

and the Legislative Board of Directors. He also will appoint committees, state chairs, and other leadership positions throughout the organization.

Additionally, he will oversee board activities, focus the agenda, and stand as ALEC's representative to constituents, stakeholders, and other interested parties.

"ALEC is at the forefront of promoting conservative ideas and embracing our founders' concept of federalism with 50 state laboratories via legislators across the country sharing what they learn and working to craft the best possible policies to benefit Americans," Masterson said in a statement. "It is an honor to lead such an important organization." κ

KS INDEPENDENT OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION 2024 SUSTAINER SPONSORS

GUSHER LEVEL \$30,000





BLACKGOLD LEVEL \$15,000







ROUGHNECK LEVEL \$10,000















APRIL 17-19

AUG 18-20

Midyear Meeting & Expo Ellis County Fairgrounds Hays, Kansas

87th Annual Convention & Expo The Hyatt Regency Wichita, Kansas

MORE INFORMATION

785-232-7772 holly@kioga.org



Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2024 MIDYEAR MEETING | APRIL 17-19

Ellis County Fairgrounds | 1344 Fairground Road, Hays, KS 67601

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

12:00 pm-5:00 pm Vendor Set-up

6:00 pm-9:00 pm Hog Roast & Game night

Open bar, Good Food, Music by The Wes Cassman Band, Cornhole Tournament

as well as other table games

Shuttles will run between event and hotels from 5:30-10:00 pm

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

7:00 am-8:00 am Registration

8:00 am-3:00 pm Trade Show

9:00 am-10:00 am Morning Seminar | TBD

9:00 am-11:00 am Tour | Hess Services & Triple Eight Equine Center

2 tours each: 9:00 am-10:00 am and 10:00 am-11:00 am Buses will pick up and drop off at the Ellis County Fairgrounds

11:30 pm-1:00 pm Lunch | BBQ by Smokin Co. BBQ

Bloody Marys and Screwdrivers at the bar | Beer Tubs in Trade Show

1:00 pm-2:00 pm Afternoon Seminar | TBD

1:00 pm-3:00 pm Tour | Hess Services & Triple Eight Equine Center

2 tours each: 1:00 pm-2:00 pm and 2:00 pm-3:00 pm

Buses will pick up and drop off at the Ellis County Fairgrounds

3:00 pm-5:00 pm Board & General Membership Meeting

5:30 pm-6:30 pm Cocktail Hour

6:30 pm-7:45 pm Dinner | Steak dinner provided by Smokin Co. BBQ

7:45 pm-9:00 pm Murder Mystery | Hays Community Theater Group

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

8:00 am Golf Registration | Smoky Hill Country Club - 9:00 am Shotgun Start

Lunch and awards will follow

8:30 am-12:00 pm Pickleball Tournament | Hays Recreation Center

Coffee/fruit/pastries in the morning with box lunch afterward

8:30 am-12:00 pm Sporting Clays Tournament | Hays City Sportsman's Club

Lunch & awards will follow

REGISTRATION FORM



2024 MIDYEAR MEETING | APRIL 17-19

Ellis County Fairgrounds | 1344 Fairground Road, Hays, KS 67601

All inclusive Member Registration—\$200	GOLF TOURNAMENT	
All inclusive Non-member Registration—\$250	Golf Tournament-Member Price—\$175	
Includes the following:	Golf Tournament-Non member—\$200	
 Wednesday night Hog Roast & Game Night. Corn hole Tournament along with other table games. 	Individual Player Handicap Handicap Handicap/Ave Score	
Thursday lunch-BBQ Trade show		
 Thursday Cocktail Hour, dinner, and Murder Mystery 		
All tours and seminars		
Board/General Membership meeting	PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT This is a team sport, so please list who you want to play with and if you're paying for them or they're registering themselves	
CLAY SHOOT	Member—\$50/person Teammate	
Clay Shoot-Member Price—\$80	Non-member—\$60/person Teammate	
Clay Shoot-Non member—\$100	(Price includes light breakfast and lunch for both events)	
PRE-REGISTRATION CLOSE	S APRIL 12. NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 15.	
Individual Name (as you want it to appear on nam	ne tag):	
Company Name (as you want it to appear on nam	ne tag):	
Address (City and State will be on name tag):		
Member All-inclusive \$200 Non-member A	All-inclusive \$250	
Golf Member \$175 Golf Non-member \$200	Hole Sponsor \$100	
Pickleball Member \$50 Pickleball Non-mei	mber \$60	
Clay Shoot Member \$80 Clay Shoot Non-n	member \$100 🗌	
Credit Card #	Exp: CVV: Billing Zip Code:	
Name on Card:	Amount to be billed \$	

Hotel Accommodations

Hilton Garden Inn 785-727-7721 | Fairfield Inn & Suites 785-625-3344 | Avid Hotel 785-625-1101 Call before March 29 to receive KIOGA rate (Must call hotels directly and mention KIOGA to reserve)



SPONSORSHIP FORM

2024 MIDYEAR MEETING | APRIL 17-19

Ellis County Fairgrounds | 1344 Fairground Road, Hays, KS 67601

Contact Person:			
Address:	State: Zip:	Email Address:	
Business Phone:	Cell Phone:		
LEVELS OF SPONSORSHIP		MUST RECEIVE FORM BY FEBRUARY 15	
Platinum Sponsor \$5,000 + \$		TO BE LISTED IN THE BROCHURE—	
Gold Sponsor \$2,500 + \$		NO EXCEPTIONS	
Silver Sponsor \$1,000 + \$		PLATINUM SPONSOR BENEFITS:	
Bronze Sponsor \$600 + \$		Company logo in midyear meeting brochure	
General Sponsor \$300 + \$		 Company logo on signage at midyear meeting 	
		• Premium seating for two (2) at midyear meeting	
Card #		 Two midyear meeting registrations (excluding golf & clays) 	
CVV: Ex	p. Date:		
Name on Card:		GOLD SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS: • Company name in midyear meeting brochure	
Billing Zip Code:		Company name on signage at midyear meeting	
		• Premium seating for two (2) at midyear meeting	
TO PLEDGE YOUR SPONSORSHIP ONLINE, GO TO: www.kioga.org/events		 One midyear meeting registration (excluding golf & clays) 	
FOR MAIL-IN SPONSORSHIPS KIOGA	, REMIT PAYMENT TO:	SILVER SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS: • Company name in midyear meeting brochure	
800 SW Jackson Street, Suite #1400		• Company name on signage at midyear meeting	
Topeka, KS 66612 785-232-7772 or email holly@kioga.org		 One midyear meeting registration (excluding golf & clays) 	

BRONZE SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS:

- Company name in midyear meeting brochure
- Company name on signage at midyear meeting

GENERAL SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS

• Company name in midyear meeting brochure

EXHIBITORS FORM



2024 MIDYEAR MEETING | APRIL 17-19

Ellis County Fairgrounds | 1344 Fairground Road, Hays, KS 67601

- The undersigned (Lessee) hereby applies for commercial rate exhibit space at the 2024 Midyear meeting of KIOGA, to be held at the Ellis County fairgrounds in Hays, KS on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. The meeting is conducted by KIOGA. All payments, correspondence, notifications and other communications to KIOGA concerning the subject matter of this application and contracts shall be sent to Holly McGinnis (holly@kioga.org).
- 2. Please enclose full payment with registration form. If you need to be invoiced in advance, please email Holly at holly@kioga.org.
- 3. This contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Kansas, USA.

Your exhibitor fees and sponsorship monies are tax deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses. They are not tax deductible as a contribution or gift for federal income tax purposes.

Name of Lessee:	
Contact Name:	
Booth Worker(s) (if different):	
Booth #—1st Choice 2nd	d Choice
Address:	
City/State:Z	ip Code:
Phone:(Cell:
Email:	
Booth name for signs and brod	chure:

(Must complete Booth Name or booth sign will be the name of the Lessee)

Installation and Dismantling of Exhibits: Move-in may begin at 12:00 pm on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. Dismantling of exhibits must be completed by 4:00 pm on Thursday, April 18, 2024.

Exhibits will officially open to registrants from 8:00 am–3:00 pm on Thursday, April 18.

Booth Design and Furnishings: All booths are 10 feet
wide by 8 feet deep. KIOGA will furnish each exhibitor
with back and side drapes, identification sign, 6-foot-
table, 2 chairs and waste basket. If your booth requires
electricity, check here.

BOOTH RENTAL: (INCLUDES LUNCH FOR 2)
MEMBER PRICING: \$400.00
NON-MEMBER PRICING: \$600.00

MUST RECEIVE REGISTRATION BY FEBRUARY 15 TO BE LISTED IN THE BROCHURE.

NO EXCEPTIONS

Date of Registration:
ull payment enclosed:
Name on Card:
Card #
exp: CVV: Billing Zip Code:

COMPLETE AND RETURN TO:

Holly McGinnis | KIOGA 800 SW Jackson Street, Suite #1400 Topeka, KS 66612 785-232-7772

TO REGISTER ONLINE, GO TO:

www.kioga.org/events

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE PROPERTY VALUATION DIVISION APPRAISAL COURSES



INTRODUCTORY LEVEL COURSES

February 19–21, 2024, Hays, Kansas

- Enrollment Fee received at least 30 days prior to the class:
 \$170 for State of Kansas employees and Kansas county personnel
- \$190 for all others
- For registration submitted within 30 days of class, add \$15

ADVANCED LEVEL COURSES

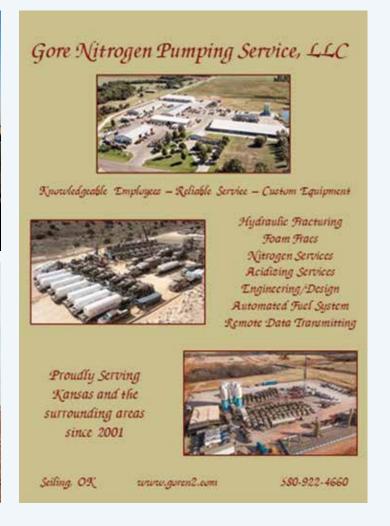
February 21–23, 2024, Hays, Kansas

- Enrollment Fee received at least 30 days prior to the class: \$155 for State of Kansas employees and Kansas county personnel
- \$175 for all others
- For registration submitted within 30 days of class, add \$15

For more information and registration, go online to the Kansas Customer Service Center at www.ksrevenue.org to the Kansas Customer Service Center (KCSC) and click on the Customer Service Center "Register Now" link in the upper right-hand corner. κ









MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO KIOGA.

Please indicate your desired membership level and return this form, along with payment, to: 800 SW Jackson Street, Suite #1400, Topeka, KS 66612-1216.

You may also join online at www.kioga.org.

Company:		
Name:	Category:	Operator #:
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip: County:
Office Phone:	Cell Phone:	
Email:	Website:	
How do you prefer to receive commun	ication from KIOGA? Email	Mail
Enroll me as a Producer Memb (If you are an operator in Kansas,		ucer member. Contact KIOGA for more details.
Enroll me as a Regular Membe	er at \$300.00 Voluntary	/ Public Relations Fund at \$25
For my annual KIOGA dues investment	of \$,	
Please charge my: Mastercard	VISA Discover A	AMEX
Account Number:	E	Exp. Date:
Find my check enclosed		

KIOGA CALENDAR

Event Name	Date	Location
NAPE Summit 2024	February 7–9, 2024	Houston, TX
KIOGA Midyear Meeting	April 17–19, 2024	Hays, KS
SPE Improved Oil Recovery Conference	April 22–25, 2024	Tulsa, OK
NSWA 2024 Annual Energy Gala	April 26, 2024	Oklahoma City, OK
IOGCC Annual Business Meeting	May 20–22, 2024	Oklahoma City, OK
KIOGA 87 th Annual Convention & Expo	August 18—20, 2024	Wichita, KS
KIOGA 87 th Annual Convention & Expo	August 18–20, 2024	Wichita, KS

OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dana Wreath, Chair Andrea Krauss, Immediate Past Chair John Farmer, IV, Northwest Vice Chair Charles Wilson, Southwest Vice Chair Edward Cross, Ex-Officio Member Tim Hellman, South Central Vice Chair

Randy Trimble, East Vice Chair

Jeff Bloomer, Treasurer

Dan Schippers, Secretary

Jay Prudhomme, At-Large Member

STAFF

Edward Cross, President

Holly McGinnis, Administrative Assistant

2024 KANSAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDAR

January 8	Session opens.
January 29	Last day for individual members to request sponsored bill drafts.
February 5	Last day for non-exempt committees to request bill drafts.
February 7	Last day for individual bill introductions.
February 9	Last day for non-exempt committee bill introduction.
February 23	Turnaround Day, last day for non-exempt bills in house of origin.
February 24–27	No session.
March 28	Last day for non-exempt bills to be considered in either chamber.
March 29–31	No session.
April 5	First adjournment.
April 6–28	Spring Break.
April 29	Veto session opens.

KIOGA New Members

We welcome the following members to the KIOGA family. Thank you for your continued support!

Jody Dumler Tool Tech, LLC

David Withrow Edison Operating Co., LLC **Ken Haak**

Haack Operating Company

Ryan Hickel

Mark Shreve Shreve Energy, LLC

Bob Demos Crimson Resource Management

Hickel Chemical Services

FOLLOW US ON



@KIOGAKansas

The Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association (KIOGA) believes in seeking common ground, through common sense solutions, to the challenges facing the Kansas oil and gas 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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