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**Natural Gas Groups Announce Support for
State-based Registry of Hydraulic Fracturing Fluids**
Announcement Underscores Broad, Growing Industry Support

(Washington, D.C.) Leaders of the Natural Gas Supply Association and the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America today announced their organizations' support for a new state-based registry for companies to voluntarily disclose the contents of fluids used during the hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") process common in the completion of shale gas wells. Shale gas accounted for 14 percent of U.S. production in 2009 and is forecasted to reach 45 percent by 2035, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

The registry is a joint effort by two state regulatory groups tasked with environmental protection and conservation: the Ground Water Protection Council (GWPC) and the Interstate Oil & Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC).

NGSA and INGAA are adding their voices to a growing chorus of industry support for the GWPC-IOGCC state registry.

NGSA President and CEO R. Skip Horvath said, "We applaud this state-led effort to provide greater transparency about hydraulic fracturing and the opportunity to increase public confidence in its safety. Hydraulic fracturing facilitated an enormous increase in the size of the natural gas resource base in the last four years and generated tens of thousands of new jobs in shale-producing states." NGSA said it anticipates that refinements will be made to reporting elements of the registry and stressed the importance of the states retaining the regulatory framework for the hydraulic fracturing process.

Shale gas is vital to achieving our national goals, according to INGAA President and CEO Donald Santa. Santa said, "New domestic natural gas supplies will be critical to meeting the nation's energy needs for decades to come. For example, natural gas is playing an increasingly important role in generating efficient, low-emissions electricity. We are in agreement with President Obama that natural gas is a solution that Republicans and Democrats can come together on."

The GWPC/IOGCC state registry will be launched with a public web site where companies voluntarily publish data on their hydraulic fracturing fluid contents. A second phase featuring customizable solutions for state regulators will take place over a few years.

Hydraulic fracturing is a process used to free natural gas that is trapped in shale rock formations by injecting a high pressure mix of water and sand thousands of feet underground into the shale, fracturing it and providing channels for natural gas to travel up the wellbore. Fracturing takes place thousands of feet below water reservoirs, minimizing any possibility of contact. The fluid mixture is 99 percent water and sand with about 1 percent additives that serve important functions such as inhibiting corrosion and discouraging bacteria growth.

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INGAA is the association representing the interstate and interprovincial natural gas pipeline industry in North America. Its members transport 90 percent of the nation's natural gas, through a network of 220,000 miles of pipeline. For more information, please visit www.ingaa.org.

NGSA represents integrated and independent companies that supply natural gas. Established in 1965, NGSA encourages the use of natural gas within a balanced national energy policy, and promotes the benefits of competitive markets to ensure reliable and efficient transportation and delivery of natural gas and to increase the supply of natural gas to U.S. customers. For more information, please visit www.ngsa.org.

For more information:

Ground Water Protection Council & Interstate Oil & Gas Compact Commission:
[GWPC-IOGCC Registry](#)
American Petroleum Institute: [Industry best practices on hydraulic fracturing](#)
Naturalgas.org: [Significance of shale gas](#)