

**SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY SUBMITTED TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT
AND THE ECONOMY OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
HEARING ON “THE ROLE OF THE STATES IN PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT
UNDER CURRENT LAW”**

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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
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I am testifying on behalf of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC). The mission of the IOGCC is to promote the conservation and efficient recovery of domestic oil and natural gas resources while protecting health, safety, and the environment.

My testimony addresses the regulatory structure and processes in Michigan as well as other states, and the role of the IOGCC in assisting the states and in coordinating state actions.

Michigan regulations are typical of other oil- and gas-producing states. We oversee virtually all aspects of well drilling, production, plugging, and restoration. Our goals are protection of the environment and conservation of oil and gas.

The states' oil and gas statutes, regulations, and administrative procedures are tailored to the legal structure and doctrines, environmental conditions, geology, topography, climate, and community sensitivities specific to each state. A one-size-fits-all federal approach would not be as effective or efficient in accommodating these unique issues.

An example of adaptable state regulatory oversight is the response to hydraulic fracturing. Michigan has a long and safe history of the practice, and we have made several recent innovations to respond to public concern.

The IOGCC and GWPC play important roles in assisting the states and coordinating our actions. The IOGCC provides training, model statutes, and coordination among its member states, and has developed an Inspector Certification program. FracFocus—a nationwide web-based registry for reporting hydraulic fracturing chemicals—was developed by the GWPC in cooperation with the IOGCC.

Other cooperative projects include the Underground Injection Control Peer Review program and the Risk-Based Data Management System (RBDMS) developed by developed by the GWPC.