



Oil and Gas Division

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Department of Mineral Resources

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North Dakota Industrial Commission

www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/

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State Best Positioned to Regulate Hydraulic Fracturing Federal Guidelines Still Under Review

Bismarck - The Department of Mineral Resources, Oil and Gas Division says there is no reasonable basis to make a prediction on the outcome of a federal review of hydraulic fracturing regulations. Division Director Lynn Helms says, "A recent news article implied an outcome prediction on my part, but I made no such prediction and have no reasonable basis to make one at this time."

Helms went on to say, "We continue to affirm our position that the state is in the best position to regulate hydraulic fracturing. While some reports try to frame this issue as EPA regulation versus no regulation, the state of North Dakota has been regulating hydraulic fracturing and is in the process of promulgating new rules to continue to strengthen the sound regulatory oversight."

North Dakota has already demonstrated that the Oil and Gas Division of the Department of Mineral Resources is best situated to closely monitor oil and gas drilling and fracturing operations to ensure they are conducted in an environmentally sound manner. The state is fully prepared to assert and defend its regulatory rights to do so.

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