



Industrial Energy Consumers of America

The Voice of the Industrial Energy Consumers

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January 14, 2015

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
U.S. Senate
104 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: IECA Supports S. 15, the “Protecting States’ Rights to Promote American Energy Security Act”

Dear Senator Hatch:

On behalf of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA), we support passage of S. 15, the “Protecting States’ Rights to Promote American Energy Security Act.” States with regulatory authorities over hydraulic fracturing are doing a very good job and should not have new federal regulations imposed. If states do not have regulatory programs in place, then federal requirements should apply. It is important to remember that all regulatory costs are passed onto us, the consumer.

IECA represents energy-intensive trade-exposed (EITE) companies, which are significant consumers of natural gas. EITE industries consume 75 percent of the entire manufacturing sector’s use of natural gas (29% of U.S.).

This issue is not just about federal lands. The Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) proposed hydraulic fracturing rule sends the wrong message to stakeholders in non-federal land states, which implies that state designed regulatory programs are inadequate – all without justification. In proposing its rule, BLM failed to identify any specific shortcomings for existing state regulation. As a result, the BLM rule overlays a myriad of duplicative and costly requirements.

As EITE companies, our competitiveness is largely dependent upon the cost and availability of natural gas. We thank you for your leadership on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Cicio
President

cc: Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.0 trillion in annual sales, over 2,900 facilities nationwide, and with more than 1.4 million employees worldwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through advocacy and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: chemical, plastics, steel, iron ore, aluminum, paper, food processing, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, building products, brewing, independent oil refining, and cement.