

LWVCO Hydrofracturing Consensus Study

LEAGUE DAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2012

STUDY PURPOSE:

To investigate the impact of the practice of hydrofracturing for natural gas, oil, and methane on the State of Colorado and its citizens, and to discern what public policies are in place or need to be in place for this activity.

LWVCO FRACKING STUDY CONSENSUS QUESTIONS 2012

With Talking Points

Consensus Question #1: Public Participation

- 1) During the permitting process at the state level for oil and gas operations, public participation through notifications, hearings and similar events should
- A. Be encouraged and expedited
 - B. Remain at the current level or
 - C. Be reduced

Consensus Question #1: Public Participation during Permitting Process – talking points

- Permit filed with Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) for review and approval. Applications are subject to public notice—local governments, surface owners, and nearby surface owners
- Surface and Mineral Rights Owner/Owners agreements with Drilling Company

Consensus Question #2: Public Participation

- 2) After a well is permitted and there are issues or additional hearings, public participation in hearings and stakeholder meetings should
- A. be encouraged and expedited
 - B. remain at the current level or
 - C. be reduced

Consensus Question #2: Issues after Permit Approved – talking points

- Location of well
- Location of evaporation pond, roads on property, noise, smells, etc
- Lack of surface use agreement

Consensus Question #3: Role of Local Government vs. State Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC)

- 3) The role of local government in regulating oil and gas operations in the areas of land use and environmental impacts, including traffic and noise should
- A. be enhanced
 - B. remain as it is now, or
 - C. be restricted or limited by state legislation

Consensus Question #3: Local Government Control – talking points

- Roads, culverts, dust
- Location of well
- Air and water quality
- Safety and health

Consensus Question #4: Environmental and Safety Regulation – water quality

- 4) Environmental and safety regulation of water quality in oil & gas operations by state and local agencies should
- A. be strengthened
 - B. remain the same or
 - C. be reduced

Consensus Question #4: Environmental and Safety regulations—Water Quality – talking points

- Ground water: well casings and other leakage
- Surface water: spills, accidents, temp. storage, dumping
- Domestic water wells: pre/post testing
- Produced water disposal: conventional or green completion
- Exemptions from Federal environmental regs.
- Monitoring, reporting, mitigation requirements in your county?

Consensus Question #5: Environmental and Safety Regulation – air quality

- 5) Environmental & safety regulation of air quality during oil & gas operations by local and state agencies should
- A. be strengthened
 - B. remain the same or
 - C. be reduced

Consensus Question #5:
Environmental and Safety
Regulations—Air Quality –
talking points

- Escaping methane and volatile organic compounds (VOC)
- NOAA Study: Weld County

Consensus Question #6:
Environmental and Safety
Regulation – health impacts

- 6) Environmental & safety regulation of health impacts from oil & gas operations by state & local agencies should
- A. be strengthened
 - B. remain the same or
 - C. be reduced

Consensus Question #6: Environmental
and Safety regulations—Health Impacts –
talking points

- Dearth of research and money for research
- Contact state and local health agencies for information

Consensus Question #7:
Environmental and Safety Regulation
– quantity of water

- 7) The quantity of water (acre feet) used in oil and gas operations should be monitored and transparent.
- A. agree
 - B. disagree

Consensus Question #7:
Water Quantity monitoring –
talking points

- Amount of water used
- Sources of water
- Competition with other established uses (residential, agriculture, recreation, other industrial).

Study Materials

- Background paper
- Consensus Questions
- Glossary
- Web links
- List of chemicals used in fracking

Time Frame

10/12-1/13 Local League/Unit Presentations

- 2/13 Local Board approval
- 2/15/13 Consensus Reports to LWVCO
- 3/1/13 Study Committee proposed statement
- 3/6/13 Program Committee approval
- 3/13/13 LWVCO Board approval
- 5/11/13 LWVCO Convention acceptance

Committee Members

Contributors:

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