

IOGCC
INTERNATIONAL

ACHIEVING THROUGH COOPERATION



*An Affiliate Organization of
the Interstate Oil and Gas
Compact Commission*

*M*aximizing
the benefit
of member
countries' energy resources,
while protecting health,
safety and the environment.

The Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC) is a seven-decades-old state government organization representing the governors of 30 member and eight associate member states of the United States of America, as well as nine International Affiliate members. In administering the IOGCC, the governor of each of the 30 member states has one vote.

The mission of the IOGCC is to promote the conservation and efficient recovery of oil and natural gas while protecting health, safety and the environment. It maintains a staff at its USA headquarters in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Since its inception, the IOGCC has assisted North American states in the orderly development of oil and natural gas resources in fulfillment of the organization's charter. This mission is accomplished in part through encouraging states to share regulatory expertise and by serving as a unique forum where governors, regulators, industry, environmentalists, international affiliates and citizens can share experiences and exchange viewpoints and concerns. The IOGCC has assisted in drafting model statutes, regulations and guidelines for member states. The commission conducts training to assist states in continuous upgrading of employee knowledge and ability, holds regular meetings to facilitate the exchange of views and information and offers opportunities to hear presentations from various experts. Participants at IOGCC meetings have included governors and other elected state officials, state and federal regulators, as well as representatives of industry and environmental organizations. *The IOGCC serves an important role as a neutral forum for these stakeholders to meet and discuss ideas and concerns in a mutual problem-solving environment.*

Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC) International was envisioned as a global organization of government officials and representatives who are responsible for maximizing the benefit of their countries' energy resources through effective oversight of hydrocarbon industry exploration and production operators, while protecting health, safety and the environment. IOGCC's international program was created in 1995 and the first affiliate was accepted in 1996. The organization serves as a living repository of expertise and a catalyst for improving, developing and sharing more effective health, safety and environmental policies.

All hydrocarbon producing nations benefit from the exchange of state-of-the-art health, safety and environmental procedures and technology. Protecting human life and the earth's environment is a primary goal of all hydrocarbon producing countries.

The IOGCC is again encouraging participation by foreign government affiliates. We encourage your participation in an IOGCC formal meeting, so that you may experience the IOGCC's mission and make an informed decision on joining with the North American state members and the other international affiliates.

At various times over the history of the IOGCC, representatives from non-U.S. governments have attended and participated in commission meetings and other activities.

From the 1950s through the 1980s, various governments attended and participated in IOGCC meetings. Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and the Canadian province Alberta attended. Alberta, Canada was the most active, consistently attending IOGCC meetings through the 1980s and 1990s.

In the early 1990s, requests for guidelines and publications from other countries and from consultants working outside of the United States increased. The membership of IOGCC recognized that encouraging participation and increasing the diversity of the organization would be mutually beneficial. As the domestic oil and natural gas industry was becoming global, the IOGCC needed to embrace a global view. This shared interest in effective resource management and environmental protection led to the establishment of IOGCC International.

In June 1995, the IOGCC decided unanimously to revise the bylaws to create a level of participation designated the International Affiliate Representation.

Article IX

International Affiliate Representation

Section I. There is hereby established Affiliate participation in the Commission. Any governmental division or subdivision not otherwise eligible for regular or associate membership may apply for Affiliate status by submitting a letter of request to the Commission, signed by its ranking energy official. Such governmental entity may be admitted as an Affiliate by approval of the compacting states at a Midyear, Annual or other meeting of the Commission. An Affiliate shall not have the right to vote or hold office, but may designate one or more representatives to attend and participate in the meetings of the Commission, participate in the deliberations and studies of the Commission, and participate in all Commission meetings, committee meetings, and other activities of the Commission. It may withdraw as an Affiliate at any time by filing written notice thereof, signed by its appropriate executive authority. Affiliate participation shall not constitute an agreement in violation of the United States Constitution and in no way shall be construed to create an agreement between individual states and foreign powers.

IOGCC International is made up of the member states of the IOGCC and governments who have formally joined as affiliates. Presently, there are nine international affiliates:

Alberta, Canada	1996
Nova Scotia, Canada	1997
Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada	1997
Venezuela	1997
Egypt	1999
Republic of Georgia	2001
British Columbia, Canada	2002
Saskatchewan, Canada	2008
Yukon, Canada	2008

The government of Canada, through the Canadian consular office in Dallas, has been supportive of IOGCC International. The Canadian government has sponsored three exchanges between IOGCC members and affiliates from the provinces.

The first exchange was in September 1996 and included a four-person IOGCC delegation that visited Alberta. The itinerary included visiting environmentally sensitive production locations in western Alberta and the oil-sand mining operations in northern Alberta. In addition to the field tours, IOGCC representatives participated in discussions with both provincial and federal energy officials.

Because of the significance of the reserves in eastern Canada, the Canadian government sponsored an exchange to the provinces of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador in July 1998.

In 1999 the Canadian government sponsored an exchange in Alberta to hold discussions and information-sharing meetings with IOGCC representatives. This trip was also an opportunity to introduce new energy officials in Alberta to the IOGCC.

“The Alberta participation in the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission during the last decade has created an extraordinary cross-border sharing of information and expertise. Both Alberta and the U.S. producing states have gained from our international affiliate status with the IOGCC.”

— Jim Dilay, Canada, Alberta Energy Resources Board

IOGCC International has been involved in several projects and information exchanges since its creation in 1995. The following is a brief description of these initiatives.

Central Asia Delegation Training – 1997

In December 1997 a delegation of representatives from Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan participated in a two-week training program organized by the IOGCC. As a part of the training, the central Asian delegation participated in a roundtable discussion at the IOGCC Annual Meeting with representatives from IOGCC member states. The training also included field trips and meetings with the New Mexico Division of Oil and Gas and the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

United States Energy Association (USEA) Caspian Environmental Partnership Program – 1998-2000

The IOGCC participated in the USEA Caspian Environmental Partnership Program as a member of the steering committee. Individual states have participated in the program as regulatory partners and as resources to the project. This participation has included training and workshops in the countries of Georgia, Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan.

IOGCC states that have participated in workshops or training in one of these central Asian countries include Oklahoma, Colorado, Alabama, Louisiana, Pennsylvania and Indiana. Several other states have participated in workshops or training in the United States as part of this program.

Central Asian Delegation Training - 1999

In December 1999 a delegation of representatives from Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan participated in the IOGCC Annual Meeting. The participation also included presentations and a field trip on oil and natural gas waste management, which was facilitated by the Louisiana Department of Conservation.

IOGCC International has all of the resources of the IOGCC available for use in projects or use as individual assistance. The IOGCC is a leading publisher of guidelines and documents covering a broad range of oil and natural gas public policy and technical issues.

Some of the topics addressed in IOGCC publications include environmental regulation, economic development, resource conservation, energy policy and a variety of technical subjects. A list of publications is available from the IOGCC Web site or can be obtained by contacting the IOGCC.

Two key environmental publications, “Waste Minimization Guidelines” and the “Oil and Gas Environmental Regulatory Guidelines,” have been translated into Spanish and Russian. The IOGCC will be translating other publications in the future based on the needs of international affiliates.

The IOGCC responds to the dynamic changes of the oil and natural gas industry and works on projects that address emerging issues. The member states and international affiliates of the IOGCC are always ready to assist one another. Experiences and information from these joint projects build a knowledge base that benefits the entire IOGCC community.

The IOGCC anticipates that the international program will grow both in number of affiliates and in the activities and events that bring participants together. The IOGCC is committed to providing value to all of its members and affiliates. An expanding global energy economy creates many challenges, and the IOGCC is positioned to provide a forum for exchanging technology and information. The IOGCC member states recognize that there is much to be learned from the many national oil producers around the globe, and much to be shared among member states and international affiliates.

More examples of projects and studies undertaken by the IOGCC are:

1. Practical management of produced water;
2. Evaluate the impact of new technologies on environmental protection;
3. Assess technology issues associated with wells nearing the end of productive life;
4. Demonstrate the ability to convert flared or stranded gas of various heat content values and quality, which is a by-product of oil production, into distributed generation electricity;
5. Well control procedures in the oil field environment;
6. Natural gas storage in salt caverns;
7. Marginal wells as a model of conservation and economic development;
8. Carbon capture and storage – a regulatory framework; and
9. State incentives for oil and gas development.

Becoming an International Affiliate of the IOGCC is mutually beneficial for the country and the IOGCC. A government interested in becoming a member of IOGCC International should take the following steps.

1. The government must first respond to a written request from the IOGCC. This response should come from the government's senior energy ministry or agency official. In the case of the government national oil company, the request may come from the head of such entity.
2. Once an international affiliate request has been received, the request to participate is presented to the commission.
3. Once the request is accepted, the government is an international affiliate. The government should then appoint an individual to be its representative to the commission. This individual functions as the key point of contact for any IOGCC official business. In addition, the government may then appoint individuals to serve on IOGCC committees. The representative or the government's senior energy official can make the committee appointments.
4. The government representative(s) and committee appointees are encouraged to participate in the meetings and projects of the IOGCC.

The member states and international affiliates of the IOGCC welcome the opportunities and benefits that expanding participation offers. The IOGCC is committed to being an organization that serves a valuable role in encouraging the effective development of the world's oil and natural gas reserves while protecting health, safety and the environment. Please consider joining the IOGCC as an international affiliate.

If you have any questions or need additional information about IOGCC International, please contact the IOGCC at (405) 525-3556 or visit our Web site: www.iogcc.state.ok.us.

MEMBER STATES

Alabama (1945)
Alaska (1957)
Arizona (1955)
Arkansas (1941)
California (1974)
Colorado (1935)
Florida (1945)
Illinois (1935)
Indiana (1947)
Kansas (1935)
Kentucky (1942)
Louisiana (1941)
Maryland (1959)
Michigan (1939)
Mississippi (1948)
Montana (1945)
Nebraska (1953)
Nevada (1955)
New Mexico (1935)
New York (1941)
North Dakota (1953)
Ohio (1943)
Oklahoma (1935)
Pennsylvania (1941)
South Dakota (1955)
Texas (1935)
Utah (1957)
Virginia (1982)
West Virginia (1945)
Wyoming (1955)

ASSOCIATE STATES

Georgia (1946)
Idaho (1960)
Missouri (1995)
North Carolina (1971)
Oregon (1954)
South Carolina (1972)
Tennessee (2007)
Washington (1967)

INTERNATIONAL
AFFILIATES

Alberta (1996)
British Columbia (2002)
Egypt (1999)
Republic of Georgia (2001)
Newfoundland and Labrador (1997)
Nova Scotia (1997)
Saskatchewan (2008)
Venezuela (1997)
Yukon (2008)



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