

2013 — 10 Oil and Natural Gas Drilling

The Minnesota Division Izaak Walton League of America at convention April 28, 2013 supports amending the current Izaak Walton League of America policy on Oil and Gas Drilling to include:

Amend the title and reference to include “and extraction” when referring to oil and natural gas drilling.

Part 1 be amended to include:

1. Congress should repeal sections 402(l)(2) and 502(24) of the Clean Water Act which exempt oil and natural gas drilling from National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements”, and SEC. 322. Hydraulic Fracturing of the Safe Water Drinking Act”.

Current Izaak Walton League Policy on Oil and Natural Gas Drilling as passed during the 2012 National conference.

Oil and Natural Gas Drilling

Therefore be it resolved that the Minnesota Division Izaak Walton League of America in convention, April 28, 2013 supports enactment of the following requirements for all oil and natural gas drilling sites:

2. Congress should repeal sections 402(l)(2) and 502(24) of the Clean Water Act which exempt oil and natural gas drilling from National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements.
3. Following repeal of the exemption in sections 402(l)(2) and 502(24) of the Clean Water Act, and section 322 of the Safe Water Drinking Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall:
 - a. Develop and adopt regulations applying the NPDES permit process to discharges of storm water runoff from oil and natural gas operations. Regulations must require monitoring and reporting of storm water discharges and can utilize general permits, provided such permits require individual site registration and address factors specific to each geographic area and geologic production zone.
 - b. Develop and adopt regulations to insure compliance with the Act as amended.
4. As part of any permit system regulating oil and natural gas drilling sites, the appropriate regulatory agency shall require compliance with relevant Best Management Practices (BMPs) for site development, operation, closure, and reclamation, and impose penalties for non-compliance.
5. Any permit system regulating oil and natural gas drilling sites should protect wetlands and riparian zones by requiring compliance with all relevant local, state and federal ordinances and regulations concerning such resources.

6. Prior to drilling permit issuance, a notice of intent to drill shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the area to be drilled. This notice shall include a right to a public hearing by residents and landowners in the affected communities.
7. Groundwater monitoring shall be required for all oil and natural gas drilling, production, disposal and drilling fluids storage.
8. All drilling permits must require adequate bonding to provide sealing, reclamation, and environmental remediation.

*Submitted by the Will Dilg Chapter
Mike Komp, President*