RESOLUTION 20.073

Urging the United States Congress to Adopt Legislation To Stimulate the National Economy and Promote Energy Independence By Investing in Carbon Capture, Use, and Storage

WHEREAS, carbon capture, use, and storage (CCUS) is the process of capturing man-made carbon dioxide (CO2) at its source and storing it permanently underground in geologic strata; and

WHEREAS, CCUS has the potential to significantly reduce the amount of CO2 emitted to the atmosphere, thereby serving to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change, as well to provide substantial economic benefits through use of CO2 for enhanced hydrocarbon recovery; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the United States Secretary of Energy requested the National Petroleum Council (NPC) to conduct a study to define the potential pathways for integrating CCUS at scale into the energy and industrial marketplace; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the NPC released the “Meeting the Dual Challenge: A Roadmap to At Scale Deployment of Carbon Capture, Use, and Storage” report; the NPC report defined “at scale” deployment of CCUS to be ~500 million tonnes of CCUS capacity, versus current U.S. capacity of ~25 million tonnes per year; and the roadmap details recommendations in four pathways—financial incentives, regulatory frameworks, technology and capability, and stakeholder engagement—and across three phases—activation, expansion and at-scale—designed to achieve widespread deployment; and

WHEREAS, Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC) and the Ground Water Protection Council (GWPC) have partnered with the United States Department of Energy (USDOE) and United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) on the Underground Injection Control (UIC) regulatory program to ensure the safe and effective isolation of fluids injected underground and have reported on the needs of states relative to a UIC Class VI primacy program for “large-scale” geologic sequestration of CO2; and
WHEREAS, the 110th United States Congress passed the Energy Improvement and Extension Act, which authorized a tax credit for the capture and storage of 75 million tonnes of CO2 in Section 45Q, ending January 1, 2024; the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 amended the existing Section 45Q tax credits for CCUS projects; and the USDOE found the 45Q tax credits for CCUS could create 4.3 – 6.1 million additional good-paying jobs; and

WHEREAS, federal economic stimulus funds for research and development, along with funding to support both the USEPA’s and the states’ anticipated increase in workload in reviewing UIC permit applications, to provide necessary additional training and to support states developing Class VI primacy applications to the USEPA, and to support the USEPA’s review of Class VI primacy applications, can provide jobs to sustain the oil and gas workforce, which has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the maintenance of a trained and experienced oil and gas workforce is fundamental to maintaining energy independence and security for the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is IOGCC’s mission to promote the conservation and efficient recovery of domestic oil and natural gas resources while protecting health, safety, and the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the IOGCC supports the findings of the NPC’s report “Meeting the Dual Challenge: A Roadmap to At-Scale Deployment of Carbon Capture, Use, and Storage,” and encourages steps to advance the findings and recommendations in this report; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the IOGCC supports legislative actions by the Congress of the United States to provide increased federal funding to the USEPA and states for Class VI activities, including support to states seeking Class VI primacy to implement carbon capture, use, and storage projects; and to facilitate states gaining primacy for Class VI programs by enacting statutory changes to streamline the process, utilizing the model of the Class II UIC primacy programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT IOGCC encourages the USEPA and USDOE to consult with stakeholders, including the IOGCC, on the policy and public engagement opportunities to facilitate open discussion, simplify terminology, and build confidence that
CCUS is a safe, secure means of managing emissions and enhancing the recovery of hydrocarbons to the benefit of the national economy and energy security for the nation.

I certify that this is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Commission on July 21, 2020.


Abstaining and therefore considered not present: Alaska and New York.

Lori Wrotenbery
Executive Director
Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission