National Energy Advisory Team and Interstate Oil & Gas Compact Commission

Issue:

- During the transition, Region 6 continues to host the National Energy Advisory Team (NEAT) biweekly meetings to provide opportunities for EPA Headquarters and Regional team members to share insights and discuss projects and related energy topics. Moving forward, it may be appropriate to consider at what level to coordinate energy issues between EPA Headquarters, Regions, federal partners and external entities, namely the Interstate Oil & Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC).

Background:

- The Region 6 RA previously served as National Energy Policy Advisor to the Administrator. In July of 2020, the regional energy advisors and the unconventional oil and gas workgroups merged to form the NEAT.
- The current stated purpose of the NEAT is to provide an opportunity for EPA NEAT contacts and colleagues to share information regarding energy related programmatic efforts, to update each other on oil and gas projects and provide a greater sense of national coordination.
- The IOGCC is a multi-state government agency that promotes the conservation and efficient recovery of domestic oil and natural gas resources while protecting health, safety and the environment.
- In October of 2019, the MOU between EPA and IOGCC was renewed. It reestablishes an EPA-IOGCC Task Force and has a biannual meeting requirement. Under the MOU, the EPA-IOGCC Task Force is co-chaired by an IOGCC Task Force member and an EPA Task Force member. The Task Force includes up to five additional members from EPA (designated by the Administrator) and five additional members from IOGCC.
- Part of the National Energy Policy Advisor's role, with support from the NEAT, is to work with the IOGCC to plan and coordinate the annual EPA Oil & Gas Roundtable, EPA-IOGCC Task Force meetings, liaise with stakeholders and generally support and inform policy through stakeholder engagement.

Key Points:

- The National Energy Policy Advisor is the main contact for the IOGCC and works closely with the Commission and the NEAT to coordinate efforts regarding environmental protection and oil and gas related policy.
- The Region 6 Energy Advisor issues a Weekly Energy Brief each Monday as a vehicle for updating leadership and team members on the status of the oil and gas sector, renewables, the electric grid, and other energy areas of interest.

Upcoming Milestones:

- None

Point of Contact:

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