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November 8, 2013

The Honorable Doc Hastings  
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1203 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: H.R. 2728, "Protecting States' Rights to Promote American Energy Security Act"  
and H.R. 2850, the "EPA Hydraulic Fracturing Improvement Act".

Dear Chairman Hastings:

The Texas Oil and Gas Association (TXOGA) is the largest and oldest petroleum organization in Texas, representing more than 5,000 members. The membership of TXOGA produces in excess of 90 percent of Texas' crude oil and natural gas, operates nearly 100 percent of the state's refining capacity, and is responsible for the vast majority of the state's pipelines. According to the most recent data, the oil and gas industry employs over 400,000 Texans, providing payroll and benefits of over \$41 billion in Texas alone.

TXOGA member companies produce a quarter of the nation's oil, a third of its natural gas and account for one-fourth of the U.S. refining capacity. Our members support state regulation of the industry, which the State of Texas has done successfully for almost 125 years.

The oil and gas industry is effectively regulated at the state level and there is no scientific or historic justification for federal encroachment. Therefore, TXOGA supports H.R. 2728, the "Protecting States' Rights to Promote American Energy Security Act" as well as H.R. 2850, the "EPA Hydraulic Fracturing Improvement Act."

TXOGA asks for your support of these measures allowing for the continued growth and development of domestic oil and natural gas resources. Should you have a need, please contact me at [rlooney@txoga.org](mailto:rlooney@txoga.org) or our Executive Vice President Deb Hastings at [dastings@txoga.org](mailto:dastings@txoga.org) or (512)478-6631.

Sincerely,

Rob Looney  
President