Ohio Sunset Review Committee
Agency Questionnaire

Agency Name Oil and Gas Marketing Program -- ORC 1510

Point of Contact Ben Bruns, ODNR Legislative Director

Agency's primary purpose and its various goals and objectives

The Oil & Gas Marketing Program, or otherwise referred to as the Ohio Natural Energy Institute was established by law in 1998. The primary purpose of the Ohio Natural Energy Institute is to demonstrate to the general public the importance and economic significance of the oil and natural gas industry in the state, encourage the wise and efficient use of energy, promote environmentally sound production methods and technologies in the industry, and support research and educational activities concerning the industry. With that charge in mind, the Ohio Natural Energy Institute provides a variety of programs throughout the state, which primarily focuses on teacher/student education, scholarships, firefighter training, industry training, workforce development, research, landowner education, and guest speaker programs.

Agency's past and anticipated workload, number of staff required to complete workload, and total number of staff

The Ohio Natural Energy Institute has five full-time employees. Additional volunteers and specialized third party contractors assist in implementing the various unique programs and projects offered through OOGEEP. These programs and projects include teacher/student education, scholarships, firefighter training, industry training, workforce development, research, landowner education, and guest speaker programs.

Agency’s past and anticipated budgets and its sources of funding

The Ohio Natural Energy Institute is funded through an assessment on the production of all domestic natural gas and crude oil produced in Ohio. That assessment cannot exceed one cent per gross Mcf of natural gas and five cents per gross barrel of crude oil. It's important to note that each year any producer or royalty owner has the ability to request a full refund for the assessment.

Number of members of its governing board or other governing entity and their compensation, if any

The Ohio Natural Energy Institute has an Operating Committee consisting of thirteen members. Six of the members are independent producers and six of the members are primarily horizontal well operators. These members are recommended by qualified producer associations, as identified under ORC 1510.

The thirteenth member of the Operating Committee is a member of an organization that represents farmers. This member is recommended by an organization that represents farmers.

These recommendations must be approved by the Technical Advisory Council (TAC), which is established within ODNR's Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management (DOGRM).

The Operating Committee members do not receive compensation and cannot serve more than three consecutive three-year terms.

Additional notes

ODNR recommends that the Oil & Gas Marketing Program be retained by the Sunset Review Committee.