



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GROW-IL Coalition Statement on Hydraulic Fracturing Legislation Introduced in the House

SPRINGFIELD, IL – The GROW-IL (Growing Resources and Opportunity for the Workforce in Illinois) coalition released the following statement regarding HB 2615 sponsored by Rep. John Bradley (D) and Rep. David Reis (R):

"The legislation introduced by Rep. John Bradley and Rep. Reis is a step in the right direction in enacting common sense hydraulic fracturing legislation that creates jobs, stimulates the economy and provides regulations to protect our environment. Our coalition representing business and labor is encouraged the legislature is focused on policy that puts working families and local businesses to work. GROW-IL supports this kind of common-sense framework that maximizes our energy resources and capabilities, puts working men and women to work and enhances our environment."

GROW-IL is a diverse group of business, labor, construction, transportation and agricultural organizations focused on enacting common sense hydraulic fracturing legislation in Springfield and are led by the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, Illinois AFL-CIO and the Illinois Petroleum Council. Hydraulic fracturing is the process of releasing natural gas and oil from rock deposits deep underground by fracturing shale formations. This cutting-edge technology allows shale gas to be safely extracted from the New Albany Shale in southeast Illinois. The United States is poised to become the largest producer of both natural gas and oil in the next five years and Illinois can be a leader in that energy effort if Springfield can support policies to maximize our energy resources.

Coalition Members Include (in formation):

Illinois Manufacturers' Association
Illinois AFL-CIO
Illinois Petroleum Council
Illinois Retail Merchants Association
Illinois Chamber of Commerce
Chemical Industry Council of Illinois
Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce
Illinois Association of Convenience Stores
Illinois Petroleum Marketers Association
Illinois Oil & Gas Association
Illinois Railroad Association
Illinois Assoc. of Aggregate Producers
Illinois American Water

U.S. Steel Corporation
Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association
Illinois Trucking Association
Mid-West Truckers Association
Southwest Illinois Employers Association
Illinois State Council of Operating Engineers
American Chemistry Council
Illinois Business Roundtable
Consumer Energy Alliance
IBEW Local #134
Mayor Bob Butler, Marion
Mayor Tom Jordan, West Frankfort
Mayor Vic Ritter, Herrin