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GROW-IL Coalition Statement on Gov. Quinn's Budget Remarks Regarding Hydraulic Fracturing

SPRINGFIELD, IL - The GROW-IL (Growing Resources and Opportunity for the Workforce in Illinois) coalition released the following statement regarding Governor Quinn's remarks on hydraulic fracturing legislation:

"Hydraulic fracturing has great potential to create thousands of good, high paying jobs across Illinois and generate significant revenue for the state while protecting our environment. We appreciate Governor Quinn's recognition that energy development in Illinois will lead to job growth, reduced reliance on foreign oil, and low-cost sources of energy for Illinois business and residents for many years to come. A broad coalition of business, labor, transportation, environmental and agricultural groups believe a common-sense approach can be achieved to grow our economy."

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
Illinois Railroad Association
Illinois Assoc. of Aggregate Producers
Illinois American Water
U.S. Steel Corporation
Illinois Business Roundtable
Mayor Bob Butler, Marion
Consumer Energy Alliance

Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce
Illinois Association of Convenience Stores
Illinois Petroleum Marketers Association
Illinois Oil & Gas Association
Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association
Illinois Trucking Association
Mid-West Truckers Association
Southwest Illinois Employers Association
Illinois State Council of Operating Engineers
American Chemistry Council
Mayor Tom Jordan, West Frankfort
Mayor Vic Ritter, Herrin
IBEW Local #134