The Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program ("OOGEEP") is a non-profit industry funded education program with the following mandates:

1. The promotion of a positive public awareness of the local oil and gas industry, and its vital energy and economic benefits to Ohio.
2. The development and implementation of educational materials and workshops in schools and public outreach programs pertaining to the science and technology of exploration, development and production of oil and gas;
3. The production of materials and training workshops for the industry and emergency responders;
4. To provide a factual and timely response to the public on questions, situations or concerns affecting the Ohio oil and gas industry.

OOGEEP shall utilize research, marketing, media and support staff as necessary to implement the mandates.
Ohio’s Geological Gift

What industry has kept Ohio’s running for more than 200 years? You might be surprised. In 1814, Silas Thomas and Robert McKee made the first discovery of crude oil in the U.S. while drilling for salt in Macksburg, Ohio. In 1860, the first commercial well was drilled in Ohio. Our state’s natural gas and crude oil geological formations have provided environmental, economic, lifestyle and energy benefits to all Ohio citizens.

To date, Ohio has drilled more than 275,000 natural gas and crude oil wells in 76 of Ohio’s 88 counties. Ohio ranks fourth in the nation in the number of wells drilled following Texas, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania. Today, most of the natural gas and crude oil is produced primarily in the eastern half of the state where there are over 65,000 active wells located in 49 Ohio counties.

This rich Ohio geology has helped foster many prosperous industries across the state. These natural energy resources will continue to provide many opportunities to help the state grow and prosper today and in the future. We are OHIO ENERGY PROUD!
Throughout this progress report, the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program (OOGEEP) will provide some highlighted information on many of the programs funded by the industry. This investment by Ohio’s natural gas and crude oil producers underscores their continuing commitment to promote safe and environmentally sound operation practices, to improve the efficiency of finding and producing reserves, and to help the general public better understand the importance of Ohio’s vital oil and gas industry. The industry remains strongly committed to energy education and related public outreach programs in Ohio.

OOGEEP is a statewide oil and gas energy education and public outreach program, created by statute in 1997 (Ohio Revised Code 1510), and approved through a referendum by Ohio’s oil and gas producers in 1998. OOGEEP is funded by 100% by Ohio’s natural gas and crude oil producers and royalty owners through an assessment on the production of all Ohio produced natural gas and crude oil. That assessment is equal to $0.01 (one cent) per gross Mcf of natural gas, and $0.05 (five cents) per gross barrel of crude oil (including condensate). OOGEEP is not a state agency and does not utilize any taxpayer dollars.

OOGEEP provides a variety of programs throughout the state. These projects primarily focus on teacher/student education, scholarships, science fair, firefighter training, industry training, workforce development, research, landowner education and guest speaker programs.

OOGEEP has gained respect from a variety of target markets by earning a reputation as a credible state and nationally recognized program that provides factual information about how natural gas and crude oil is explored, drilled and produced in Ohio. Many programs have related curriculum and materials that meet both state and national science and fire safety standards.

Since 1998, OOGEEP has provided workshops and materials to more than 2,700 K-12 Ohio teachers, 2,000 industry employees and over 1,000 Ohio firefighters through specialized training programs. In 2012 and 2013 alone, OOGEEP provided more than 300 public presentations and distributed more than 1,000,000 industry fact sheets to the general public.

OOGEEP’s Scholarship Foundation has provided more than 150 scholarships to Ohio students, or students attending an Ohio college, university or trade school. OOGEEP has also actively participated as a judge of the Ohio Academy of Science’s State Science Day for more than two decades, and has awarded hundreds of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) awards to Ohio’s students.

Workforce Development and Career Training has become a top priority for the industry. OOGEEP is now working with more than 70 different Ohio colleges, universities, career centers and trade schools on their workforce training programs, and recently created a special Oil and Gas “Careers In Ohio” series. OOGEEP is actively engaged and participates on numerous workforce development boards and advisory committees.

In 2013, OOGEEP entered into a special STEM educational partnership with a variety of educational entities to create and implement teacher created activities, games and parent packets. OOGEEP has also launched a special oil and gas Boy Scout engineering badge project with Camp Manatee, and will be working with other Boy Scout camps throughout the state.

Thank you for your support!
OOGEEP was conceived in 1998 out of a concern about the public’s perception of the local industry. Flaring while drilling in to the Rose Run sand had created several incidents of sensational news coverage. Students in local grade schools were being taught about the environmental dangers via pictures and stories of the “Oily Duck”. The Ohio Oil and Gas industry decided that there was a need to form an organization that could develop factual energy education materials, promote safety in the workplace, and demonstrate to the general public the importance of the industry.

Over the past sixteen years, the OOGEEP Board of Directors, staff and countless volunteers have worked diligently to develop, implement and create numerous programs to fulfill and enhance our initial mission. These programs have created a greater awareness of this industry by educating the public-at-large, teachers, emergency responders, community leaders and even our own workforce by providing a constant line of open and factual dialogue within our communities.

In this spirit, OOGEEP maintains a concerted effort in public outreach across the state in the form of educational programs, public presentations, emergency response training, industry safety training, workforce development, scholarships, industry fact sheets and inclusion in various forms of media.

OOGEEP has been awarded numerous state and national awards and special recognitions for these efforts, and today is considered a leader in the U.S. in oil and gas energy education. Throughout this summary, you will see how this program has evolved and grown over the years. The OOGEEP Board remains committed to supporting and implementing programs and responding to public initiatives concerning the Ohio and gas industry.

OOGEEP has been and continues to be funded by Ohio’s crude oil and natural gas producers through an assessment on all natural gas and crude oil produced in the state. We strongly encourage those in the allied, professional and contractor segments of the industry to add their financial support to this program. This investment, and these efforts, are paramount to ensuring Ohioans are well positioned for the positive energy, economic, environmental and lifestyle benefits this industry continues to offer Ohioans, and the country. Ohio’s oil and gas industry shares a bright future, and we thank you for your support and partnership in all of our endeavors both past and future.

Eric Smith
Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program (OOGEEP)
Chairman of the Board
“The workshop for teachers was a delight! I have been sorting through the treasure trove of ideas and resources provided. I expect to use many of them in my classroom. Many thanks to OOGEEP for presenting a well-organized and richly resourced workshop. I am so glad I was able to attend.”

“The workshop was very successful because participants were introduced to a wealth of energy related information and hands-on activities that can be incorporated into their lesson plans.”

“Thank you for the resources materials. ... They are very much appreciated! The curriculum is extremely relevant in today’s classroom.”

“It is really refreshing to attend a workshop that has 100% application to my school curriculum. Thank you for providing the materials that will allow me to better teach my students.”

“This was the best two days I have spent learning in my twenty years of teaching.”

“Very interesting and eye opening experience. Great ideas to incorporate into the classroom.”

In 1998, in order to better foster energy education, OOGEEP began working with the education community around the state to develop an oil and gas energy education teacher curriculum that meets both state and national science standards. In 2010, OOGEEP added a special interactive feature that allows teachers to download oil and gas activities, labs, experiments and short video clips.

In 2013, OOGEEP hit a milestone by having more than 2,750 teachers from all 88 Ohio counties participate in the educational workshops. Teachers attending the workshop receive both CEU (Continuing Education Credits) as well as an optional graduate credit through Ashland University. On day two, partnership with numerous oil and gas related companies have helped facilitate field trips around the oil patch.

“Teachers are particularly impressed with the educational content, excellent presentations, classroom supplies and materials provided free of charge by OOGEEP and the industry. We are constantly complimented on the fact that workshop content is based on science and that our perspective on energy issues is well balanced and factual,” adds Sarah Tipka, OOGEEP Education Committee Chair.

The seven part STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) curriculum unit includes background information, classroom labs/ experiments, graphic organizers, career connections, standards and a variety of other materials. The science labs include: “It’s a Gas: Natural Gas Formation”; “Biotic Materials: The Making of Crude Oil” “Shaking It Up” “Absorbing Rocks”; “Getting Physical with Oil”; “Simulating Oil Field Behavior”; “The Mock Oil and Gas Well”; “The Chemistry of Distillation”; “The Refining Process” and “Polymer Plastics”. OOGEEP is currently field testing additional curriculum and labs.
In 1999, OOGEEP and Ohio took the lead in oilfield safety for firefighters by creating one of the nation's first Oilfield Emergency Response Training Program specifically targeted for local fire departments. Since that time, more than 1,000 Ohio firefighters, and firefighters from seven other states, have participated in the industry-funded training program.

The curriculum was a collaborative effort by OOGEEP, Ohio’s oil and gas industry, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, Ohio Firefighters and other emergency response experts, and meets state and national fire safety standards. Firefighters also receive required CEU credits and can obtain an optional graduate credit through the Hocking College.

OOGEEP also built and maintains a permanent training facility located within the Wayne County Regional Fire and Rescue Training Facility in Applecreek, Ohio. OOGEEP’s emergency response training program is also endorsed by Ohio Fire Chief’s Association, the Ohio Fire and Emergency Services Foundation and the Ohio Society of Fire Service Instructors. In July 2013, OOGEEP was honored for their service to Ohio firefighters by the Ohio Fire Chief’s Association.

The two-day training workshops focus on common practices, references and standards utilized when responding to a rare oilfield emergency. Specific focus has been placed on identifying the difference between real oilfield emergencies versus common production or drilling practices in Ohio.

“With the many unfunded mandates thrust upon the fire and emergency services in Ohio, we are blessed to have this training program available. The workshops are well planned with quality instructors and professional personnel who are the unsung heroes anywhere else.”

“Excellent well taught program. Good information that isn’t taught anywhere else in the Fire Service.”

“Great trainers. Plenty of discussion and personal experiences.”

“Very good information on drilling and oilfield practices. I feel this was important with so many wells in the area.”

“It was an experience I think every responder should have because the program is the best way to learn about oil and gas.”

“Lack of training creates problems. This program will safely keep firefighters from going overboard.”

In a collaborative effort between OOGEEP and the Southeastern Ohio Oil and Gas Association (SOOGA), a special H2S Safety Trailer was developed as a proactive safety measure for oilfield personnel working in areas with potential H2S exposure. The trailer is managed, maintained and operated by the professional safety staff of O'Brien Safety Services, Marietta, Ohio. The trailer is available for use, upon request, and is equipped with H2S monitors, gas monitors, fans, self-rescue masks and other safety equipment. These ongoing safety measures are provided to safely mitigate and prevent potential rescue situations.

“The time, effort and nominal cost are a small price to pay to provide our workers with the tools to respond to an unforeseen event. Knowing what to do when something happens before it happens can bring some peace of mind.”

Bruce Leveen – Sound Energy

SAFETY TRAILER AVAILABLE TO OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS

INFORMATION TRAINING AND SAFETY PROGRAMS

MEDIA RELATIONS AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

SCHOLARSHIPS, SCIENCE FAIRS, CAREER AND WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAMS

HISTORY AND CLOSING
OOGEEP remains committed to the industry by providing and offering workshops that promote a greater awareness of safety, health, and environmental challenges faced everyday by our industry workers. These workshops are designed to meet the overall needs of the industry and their employees. These safety workshops also engage employees to be vigilant about safety at work not only for themselves, but their co-workers, and the communities where their operations exist.

To date, OOGEEP has provided training for more than 2,000 industry participants. Our goal is to have industry employees embrace their respective company safety culture and to add from the learning experiences at our safety workshops. This information will allow them to “Work Safely Today and Be Here Tomorrow.”

OOGEEP Authorized IADC HSE RigPass® / SafeLand USA Training Provider

OOGEEP is accredited through the International Association of Drilling Contractors (IADC) to provide their HSE RigPass® / SafeLand USA Training Certification Course. While the course is designed primarily for new workers and for those unfamiliar with oilfield operations, OOGEEP has had many experienced workers who have completed the training and commented on the value of the training and its positive impact on their safety culture. Additionally, OOGEEP recently provided the training for Marietta College students to prepare them for field internship opportunities. IADC HSE RigPass® / SafeLand USA Training is core value added training for anyone working in the oil and gas industry today. This training course covers many of the basic overall safety concepts needed for new and experienced workers in today’s industry. Chapters in the program include: Safety Principles, Rig and Platform Environment, Work Site Safety, Personal Protection and Health, Environmental Protection and Fire Safety, and Onshore Operations. Upon successful completion of the course, industry participants are provided with a card that includes their picture and personal identification number, and they are enrolled into the IADC database and the SafeLand database.

Industry Workshops for Awareness Level and OSHA Compliance Training

OOGEEP further collaborates with a wide variety of industry experts to offer other safety training programs that are consistent in meeting individual company, state, and federal safety requirements. While many of these topics may be required annually for employees, OOGEEP works to provide expert instructors who can educate and engage all workers whether this is their first year or twentieth year in the industry. OOGEEP keeps the classes interactive for all in attendance and maximizes hands-on training when possible.

Some of our recent one-day classes have included topics areas: Accident Investigation, Cold Weather Safety, OSHA Air Training, Explosives Handling, Fire Protection, Job Safety Analysis Review, Material Handling and Storage, Oil and Gas Confined Spaces Identification, Awareness, Planning and Procedures Implementation, OSHA Hot Work Review, Personal Protective Equipment, Recordkeeping – OSHA 300 Requirements, Safety and Health Program Management, Spill Response, Welding / Cutting Safety, Written Programs.

“Ohio’s oil and gas industry is concerned about public safety” continues to be the safety campaign theme targeted at young adults throughout the oil and gas producing counties of Ohio. Beginning in 1999, the safety campaign has developed community outreach to communicate the message that hanging around oil and gas facilities can be dangerous. Each year and during many educational events, OOGEEP distributes safety posters and a DVD with this safety message. OOGEEP will continue to emphasize the importance of both domestic energy production, and safety.

OILFIELD SAFETY MESSAGE TAUGHT TO STUDENTS
OOGEEP is actively engaged in media relations, and receives a variety of media calls and inquiries on a daily basis. Last year alone, OOGEEP had more than 150 articles placements featuring a wide variety of positive industry related stories. OOGEEP has also participated in a number of special statewide media educational forums and field trips. OOGEEP maintains an active presence on the social media including Facebook, Twitter, YOUTUBE and several other platforms.

In 2012 and 2013 alone, OOGEEP’s demand for public presentations and special events continues to increase. This year, OOGEEP plans to provide more than 350 public presentations, and distribute more than 1,000,000 industry fact sheets around the state. These public presentations are available at no charge to civic, professional, community leaders, schools, teachers, emergency responders and other organized groups. OOGEEP also participates at numerous industry, professional and general public trade shows, exhibits and special events throughout the year.

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OOGEEP continues to facilitate a diverse array of programs and events on behalf of the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Foundation (OOGEEP) which is a 501C(3) tax exempt organization. Through these initiatives, OOGEEP continues to fulfill its mission of supporting education programs and scholarships to prepare students for careers in the oil and gas industry.

At the request of the Ohio oil and gas industry, OOGEEP has now completed several phases in its “Oil and Gas Careers in Ohio Series.” This includes a Career Guide that outlines the 75+ different career opportunities in the oil and gas industry. The Career Guide has already been distributed to thousands of students, teachers and guidance counselors throughout the state of Ohio. In addition, OOGEEP is now collectively working with more than 70 different Ohio colleges, universities, career centers and technical schools on training programs specific to the oil and gas industry.

OOGEEP has also been participating in numerous career fairs, workforce development events and other special programs around Ohio to promote the workforce needs of our growing industry. OOGEEP has also been working closely with advisory boards at these various schools and will continue to work on new training programs. OOGEEP has also been participating in numerous career fairs, workforce development events and other special programs around Ohio to promote the workforce needs of our growing industry.

The Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Foundation (OOGEEP) is a 501C(3) tax exempt organization that is dedicated to preparing students for careers in the oil and gas industry. OOGEEP is supported through donations from the Ohio Oil and Gas industry, and donations from individuals, companies, and other organizations that have an interest in supporting education programs and scholarships to prepare students for careers in the oil and gas industry.

OOGEEP Launches “Oil and Gas Careers in Ohio Series” to Encourage Greater Workforce Needs

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Ohio Begins Crude Oil Drilling

In 1860, the Macksburg/Dexter well, Macksburg, Ohio became the first commercial crude oil well drilled in the state. Commercial natural gas drilling and production began in Ohio around 1884. By the end of the 19th century, Ohio became one of the country's leading states in crude oil and natural gas production.

That Was Then...

Salt Drilling Unveils A Surprise Discovery

In 1814, Silas Thomas and Robert McKee made the first discovery of crude oil in the U.S. while drilling for salt near Macksburg, Ohio. At the time, salt was a valuable commodity to settlers because of its effectiveness in preserving food. Initially, the crude oil proved to be a nuisance to salt production and was considered a waste product.

Boomtowns!

The latter half of the 19th century was a time of tremendous prosperity as natural gas and crude oil flowed plentifully from wells throughout Ohio. 76 of Ohio's 88 counties were now drilling for this valuable commodity. This was the period of "boomtown", during which once tiny hamlets were suddenly infused with people, jobs and money. The population of many Ohio towns increased five-fold in as little as two years. The photo is of the main street in Breman, Ohio — a typical boomtown of that era.

A Natural Remedy - Feeling Good, Looking Good

Shortly after the discovery of crude oil as an energy source, entrepreneurs recognized that crude oil could also be sold for medicinal purposes (including medicines, ointments, and lotions). Miss Mabel Williams invented a new cosmetic "Lash-Brow-Line" by heating petroleum jelly over an open flame to create a black residue. The product was later renamed mascara, and her new company Maybelline went on to redefine the cosmetics industry.

Crude oil and natural gas producers are truly Ohio's most dependable energy farmers. Innovation, perseverance, and hard work are key to thriving in an industry built on variable conditions - geological, economical, and operational.

Ohio's crude oil and natural gas industry continues to develop our state's geological gifts, safely and effectively. Thanks to the continued commitment to our communities, our workforce and our environment, the domestic industry remains strong, and will continue to grow and prosper in the years to come.