Enhance Oil Recovery Institute to be centered in Casper

April 17, 2015 -- At the quarterly meeting of the Enhanced Oil Recovery Commission held April 15, 2015, the Commission decided that the Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute (EORI) would center its efforts in Casper. This move is focused on its new strategy to build closer relationships with companies working to improve oil recovery in Wyoming.

As the institute transitions to Casper certain activities will remain in Laramie which includes but is not limited to applied research and the GIS data platform.

Tom Fitzsimmons, Chairman on the Enhanced Oil Recovery Commission praises the decision to move the institute away from purely fundamental academic research and towards the wellhead. Fitzsimmons states, “Casper is the very best location in Wyoming for this Institute. Casper provides us with higher likelihood of filling key positions within the institute with professionals that have years of experience improving recovery along with a vast network of associates.”

The Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute is one of several Centers of Excellence of The University of Wyoming School of Energy Resources (SER). SER is an interdisciplinary entity tasked with developing the fundamental knowledge, technologies and human resources necessary to solve the critical energy challenges society faces today. Each School of Energy Resources Center of Excellence serves as a hub to unite academia, government and industry in cooperation for the advancement of its focus area.

During the 2015 Legislative session the state statutes were amended to expand and refine the scope and mission of the Commission and Institute – the new language reads as:

*The mission of EORI is to facilitate a meaningful and measurable increase in recoverable reserves and production of oil and natural gas in Wyoming that may otherwise not be realized. Key to this is the effective and efficient transfer of relevant technology, information and knowledge to Wyoming producers. EORI believes that its mission is being met when producers consider EORI as a vital source of relevant technology, information, expertise and knowledge for Wyoming fields.*

The commission believes by having a stronger presence at the center of the oil industry in Wyoming, will allow EORI to better meet the new mission and continue aiding operators in increasing the amount of recoverable reserves in Wyoming.

No exact timetable has been established but the Commission tasked the Director of the School of Energy Resources and the current EORI Staff with preparing specific cost estimates and identifying other issues to be addressed.

If you would like more information, or to schedule an interview, please contact Rob Hurless, Director at 307-766-6270 or email Rob Hurless at: rhurless@uwyo.edu

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