

Energy, Environment & Agriculture Task Force Workshop

Topic: The Impact of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) on Energy Development

Description: The ESA is a powerful federal statute designed to halt and reverse the trend toward species extinction. Unfortunately, the ESA often negatively impacts and stifles energy development of all kinds in the habitats of endangered species. Drilling in five states may be significantly adversely affected if the lesser prairie chicken is deemed to be a threatened species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in March. In a large “sue-and-settle” agreement with environmental groups largely behind closed doors, USFWS promised to review the endangered status of hundreds of species.

Objective: To educate state legislators about how the ESA can stifle energy development, what the listing of the lesser prairie chicken will mean for the oil industry, how environmental groups use sue-and-settle tactics to force federal agencies to effectively render environmental policy, and how a particular market-based plan would allow for further energy development while protecting the habitats of the lesser prairie chicken.

Time/Date: Friday, December 6th, 9:30 – 10:45 AM

Expected attendance: 75-125

Format: Panel Discussion consisting of three panelists. One panelist can speak about the ESA and the impact it has on energy development and how the lesser prairie chicken will specifically impact drilling, a second can speak about the precipitous rise of “sue-and-settle” agreements over the past five years, and a third can speak about a market-based solution that would allow for further energy development while also protecting the habitat of the lesser prairie chicken. Each panelist would speak for 15 minutes, allowing for 30 minutes of Q&A and discussion at the end.

ALEC will work closely with the sponsors to determine the exact format, the topics each panelist will discuss, and the makeup of the panel. The above is merely a suggestion.

Cost: \$25,000

About the American Legislative Exchange Council

Since its humble beginnings in 1973, the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) remains the largest nonpartisan and individual membership association for state legislators in the country. ALEC proudly boasts over 2,000 state legislative members of various political party affiliations from all 50 states. ALEC also has nearly 300 non-legislative members, making it one of the most dynamic public-private partnerships in America today. ALEC holds three conferences a year for public policy leaders and the private sector to discuss pressing public policy issues.

About ALEC's States & Nation Policy Summit

ALEC's annual States & Nation Policy Summit draws over 1,000 top legislators, policy analysts, and business leaders to our nation's capital for an intensive, three-day summit. In-depth educational sessions on emerging policy issues will prepare attendees for the start of the 2014 legislative session. For many attendees, this is the first opportunity for them to meet and hear from industry leaders and to learn about the threats and opportunities the energy industry faces throughout the country. The SNPS meeting is an ideal opportunity for the public and private sectors to develop free market policies to promote economic growth, limited government and federalism. The 2013 SNPS meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. from December 4-6.

About ALEC Workshops

ALEC workshops are one hour and fifteen minute long education session for ALEC meeting attendees. Workshops generally focus on a public policy or regulatory issue area of interest to state legislators. These sessions serve as an important and impactful tool to educate state legislators on a wide variety of topics being debated and discussed in the states.