

IOGCC NEWS RELEASE

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CBS Commentary Lacks Credibility, State Organization Asserts

A CBS story that aired last week misled viewers regarding state controls on oil field waste, the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC) said today. The IOGCC referenced an unattributed remark by CBS commentator Ed Bradley, who claimed state officials were "...oblivious to toxic oil waste..." -- a statement clearly proven false by IOGCC and federal records documenting state controls.

"If CBS had bothered to look, it would have found that each oil producing state has comprehensive programs for regulating waste associated with oil and gas exploration and production and states have had such programs for many decades," said Christine Hansen, IOGCC executive director.

Nearly ten years ago, the IOGCC, in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, began developing national guidelines for state waste programs, she said. Since the adoption of the guidelines in 1990, states have been subjected to a rigorous process of peer review to make recommendations for fine tuning their existing standards and practices.

"States have many success stories regarding regulation of the oil and gas industry," Hansen said. "Using an isolated case to draw broad conclusions calls into question the credibility of the story and the objectivity of the report."

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