## INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION APPROVAL ORDER

Commissioners Voting:

Public Meeting Held May 1, 2014

John F. Mizner, Esq., Chairman George D. Bedwick, Vice Chairman W. Russell Faber Lawrence J. Tabas, Esq. Dennis A. Watson, Esq.

Regulation No. 7-483 (#3022) Environmental Quality Board Oil and Gas Well Fee Amendments

On September 4, 2013, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (Commission) received this proposed regulation from the Environmental Quality Board (EQB). This rulemaking amends 25 Pa. Code §§ 78.1 and 78.19. The proposed regulation was published in the September 14, 2013 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* with a 30-day public comment period. The final-form regulation was submitted to the Commission on March 21, 2014.

This regulation changes the current fee schedule for oil and gas well permits to a fixed fee of \$5,000 for nonvertical unconventional wells and \$4,200 for vertical unconventional wells. The current sliding scale fee for vertical wells will continue to apply, but under a different category defined as "conventional."

We have determined this regulation is consistent with the statutory authority of EQB (58 Pa. C.S. § 3211(d)) and the intention of the General Assembly. Having considered all of the other criteria of the Regulatory Review Act, we find promulgation of this regulation is in the public interest.

## BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

This regulation is approved.

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Kn H. Mizner, Esq., Chairman