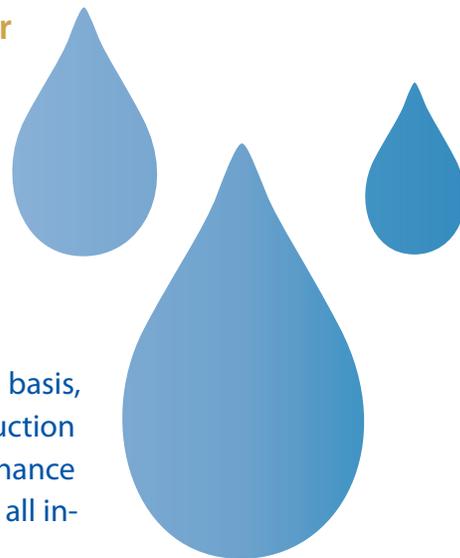


FACT SHEET

Water Conservation & Industry



Water is a key resource for the oil and gas industry. While water resources are abundant in Louisiana, the industry has taken several proactive steps to minimize industry's "water footprint". Industry's initiatives help ensure the public and the agriculture/aquaculture communities will have adequate water resources for years to come.



Why does the industry need water?

All facets of the industry use water in their operations. On a day-to-day basis, the refining industry uses the most water. However, the oil and gas production industry uses large volumes of water to hydraulically fracture wells to enhance oil and gas production in the state. Water is also used to ensure safety of all industry operations.

DRILLING & PRODUCTION

The primary use of water in the drilling/production sector is in the well completion process so it can start production. Hydraulic Fracturing has revitalized the industry in the state by allowing the industry to produce oil and natural gas that was previously inaccessible. This gas production has helped lower utility costs for the public and spurred a resurgence of the chemical industry in Louisiana.

Industry supported the **Office of Conservation (OC)** regulations to allow the recycling of water used to frack a well so it can be used on another well. Industry, working with the Office of Conservation, has also identified underground water reservoirs that are not drinking water quality that can be used for fracking. Companies are also investigating other fluids (primarily propane) as a substitute to water.

PIPELINES

There are almost 90,000 miles of pipelines in Louisiana. As new pipelines are laid or existing pipelines are repaired, water is used to pressurize the lines before they are put into operation to ensure they are structurally safe. This is done to ensure the public and the environments are protected from the potential for leaks from these lines.

Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, founded in 1923, is a trade association exclusively representing all sectors of the oil and gas industry operating in Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico. LMOGA serves exploration and production, refining, transportation, marketing and mid stream companies as well as other firms in the fields of law, engineering, environment, financing and government relations.

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FACT SHEET

Water Conservation & Industry



REFINING

On a day-to-day basis, the refining industry uses the most water and also has the most varied uses of water. Water is used directly in several refining processes to facilitate their operations. Water is also used to generate steam. Steam is a vital resource as it is both used in the various processes, but also used as an emergency power source if the plant loses electricity. Steam allows for the continued safe operation of the facility during these unexpected outages.

Water is also used to reduce air emissions and to protect employees. The steam plume seen rising at refineries are part of an air emissions control device used to reduce pollutants that would otherwise be released to the public. Steam is also used in flares to ensure proper mixing of gases to ensure efficient destruction of these gases. Water is also needed for fire fighting and other safety activities.

To conserve water, many refineries have installed “cooling towers” in their various processes. For the processes to work optimally, the oils need to be cooled before it can be used. Cooling towers recycle water to provide continuous cooling and to minimize the need for additional water.

Summary

While water is an abundant resource in Louisiana, the oil and gas industry has taken numerous steps to minimize water usage as part of its commitment to the communities in which we live and work. Louisiana’s oil and gas industry takes its role in the state very seriously. Industry continues to investigate new technologies and share knowledge learned to continue to reduce water usage to ensure the public will have adequate water resources for years to come.

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