Oil and natural gas are driving the U.S. economy through a major energy boom and that boom is rippling through the economy of Delaware, supporting business activity across the state. This finding grows out of a new American Petroleum Institute survey of domestic oil and natural gas vendors, which offers a glimpse into the job and business creation engine that is the current oil and natural gas industry. The survey shows that at least 22 businesses, located across Delaware’s at-large congressional district, are part of the larger oil and natural gas supply chain.

The survey’s snapshot of state-by-state activity reinforces the impressive level of industry success throughout the country that is documented in a recent PriceWaterhouseCoopers study conducted for the American Petroleum Institute. That study found that the oil and natural gas industry in Delaware supports some 16,100 jobs, which is 3 percent of the state’s total employment. The amount of Delaware labor income supported by the oil and natural gas industry comes to $957 million annually. That’s 3.2 percent of the state’s total labor income.

Although Delaware is not a top energy producer, these job and labor income figures demonstrate that the people of Delaware enjoy significant benefits from energy development. The benefits show up in the state’s salary statistics as well. Thus, while the average annual salary in Delaware across all industries and sectors is $52,026, the average oil and gas industry salary (excluding gas stations) is substantially higher—$77,876 annually. Overall the industry supports $2 billion of the Delaware economy. That’s approximately 4 percent of the state’s total economic activity.

Delaware also benefits from the production of oil and natural gas from shales and so-called “tight formations,” energy development that uses the proven engineering technologies of hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking,” and horizontal drilling. Total jobs supported by these

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1. American Petroleum Institute, “API Onshore Oil and Gas Vendor Identification Survey,” Washington, D.C., 2014. The survey was distributed to API members in January 2014 to collect information for the period October 2012 to September 2013. Included are companies that provide goods and services for onshore oil and natural gas development, whether as operators, contractors, service companies, suppliers, or vendors.


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activities in Delaware reached 2,195 in 2012. The job total is expected to rise to 3,841 in 2020 and to 4,907 in 2035.4

And Americans, including the people of Delaware, get it. A telephone poll of 1,012 registered voters across the country, conducted on behalf of the American Petroleum Institute, found that 77 percent of Americans, regardless of party affiliation, support increased production of oil and natural gas resources located in the United States.5

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Congressional District (at Large)
Aglent Technologies, Inc
Ametek Process Instruments
Ashland Specialty Ingredients
G.P.
Bank of America
Brennan Michael Mckone
Conexiam Solutions, Inc
Dell Direct Sales
Directory Wizards, Inc
DL Peterson Trust
EL Duport De Nemours & Company
Harbor House Seafood of Ok
Hoopes Fire Prevention, Inc
Labware
Lefevre Mark
Morris Nichols Arsht & Tunnell
Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP
Rosenthal Monhait & Goddess PA
Strategic Solutions International, Inc
Teksov, Inc
The Delaware Counsel Group LLP
UGI Penn Natural Gas, Inc
Wilmington Trust Company