

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

November 16, 2010

For more information please contact the Illinois Petroleum Resources Board (IPRB) at: www.iprb.org Phone 618/242-2861 Fax 618/242-3418

IPRB Announces June, 2011 Science/Math Teacher's Conference

The Illinois Petroleum Resources Board (IPRB) is now planning the next annual conference about Oil & Natural Gas Education in Illinois which will be held June 21-23, 2011 at the Rend Lake Recreation Complex. (www.rendlake.org) This yearly conference is **free to Illinois science/math teachers** and is designed to introduce educators to all aspects of the industry from geology to leasing, drilling and production, transportation, and refining of products. Course material is structured for science/math teachers from 4th grade through high school. The 3 day conference includes tours of oilfield operations, methods, and practices. For 2010 highlights and opportunity to indicate your interest in the 2011 Conference visit www.iprb.org.

All teachers in attendance are eligible to receive CPDU credits and graduate degree hours from Illinois State University. A curriculum in development will be used in future workshops to provide teachers with complete lesson plans and hands-on experiments for the classroom.

During June 2010, nearly 40 educators assembled at Rend Lake in Southern Illinois for the most recent conference.

Attendees participated in various hands-on activities and learning stations related to geology and geophysics. "Geologists' Ideas for the Classroom" focused on the fun of teaching geology to students by employing various aids in a classroom environment. Other conference topics included "Land and Legal", "Historic Well Records", "Drilling and Production", "Illinois Basin & Reserves", "Regulation and Environmental", and "Career Opportunities".

An entire conference day was devoted to touring drilling, production, and storage facilities in southern Illinois. Teachers travelled to the Salem area to learn about the Tonti Field "Reef" project which was presented by Shakespeare Oil. A trip to Kinmundy included a tour of Deep Rock Co.'s facilities and a demonstration of seismic wave generation by Mr. Ben Webster. St. Elmo was the site for an explanation of water injection as a means of increasing oil recovery from the Loudon field, presented by J.D. Bergman of Petco Petroleum. Teachers also visited an active drilling rig being operated by Mitchell Drilling Company. The day concluded with a viewing of the Patoka storage and distribution center, a facility shared by Marathon Oil and Bi-Petro, Inc.

The IPRB was formed to provide public awareness and education programs and to clean up abandoned well sites throughout the state. Funding for IPRB programs comes from the voluntary contributions of oil and natural gas producers and royalty owners in Illinois. For more information, contact the IPRB at ilprb@yahoo.com or visit their website at www.iprb.org.