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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mr. Brandon Frey, Executive Secretary  
Louisiana Public Service Commission

**FROM:** Tyler Patrick Gray, Secretary

**DATE:** April 4, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Department of Energy and Natural Resources Re-Organization

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Today marks an important milestone as we transition to the newly structured Department of Conservation and Energy (DCE). I'm pleased to update you on the Department of Energy & Natural Resources (DENR) Reorganization Bill, introduced by Senator Bob Hensgens. This legislation specifically addresses necessary updates to Titles 45 and 30, adapting our regulatory framework to meet evolving industry conditions that existing laws may not have anticipated. Senator Thomas Pressly will separately introduce legislation to establish a centralized authority in North Louisiana, aligned with the DRIVE Initiative but operating independently from the DENR's reorganization. Together, these efforts are crucial for modernizing Louisiana's management of vital natural resources.

#### Key Legislative Updates:

- **Title 30 Adjustments:** Updates to the Natural Gas Act, including clarified definitions relating to pipelines, for responsible development of intrastate lines.
- **Title 45 Adjustments:** Designed to allow DCE to offer clarity and assistance upon request of the Commission as infrastructure ownership evolves from whole-system ownership to segmented ownership structures, addressing potential gaps and ambiguities in existing law.

#### Collaboration and Modernization:

As our industry evolves, collaboration between the DCE and the Public Service Commission (PSC) is increasingly essential. We are committed to working closely with the PSC to modernize regulatory frameworks, effectively address emerging challenges, and harness the economic potential presented by Louisiana's extensive power and water resources. Our collaborative approach ensures that new regulatory tools effectively address current industry realities, fostering sustainable growth and innovation without unintended consequences.

#### Our Commitment – Three Pillars:

Our guiding principles for the reorganization have been,

- **Transparency:** Ensuring open governance, strong budget oversight, and clear communication to build trust among stakeholders.
- **Balance:** Integrating conservation and energy management to promote environmental stewardship alongside economic development, creating a stable and attractive climate for investment.
- **Solutions:** Streamlining permitting processes and modernizing data management systems to reduce bureaucracy and deliver practical, measurable results for industries and communities.

Next Steps:

- We will soon begin to provide detailed guidance, including updated organizational charts and revised procedural frameworks.
- A comprehensive web portal will be launched ahead of the next legislative session, offering real-time updates, FAQs, and an interactive feedback platform.
- Stakeholder engagement sessions will be conducted to gather input on rulemaking and policy enhancements.

We invite you and the Commissioners to review the forthcoming legislative instruments and encourage your feedback on how these reforms can best support your operations. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or Dustin on any questions.

Thank you for your continued partnership as we embark on this significant transition toward a more aligned and modernized regulatory environment.

Sincerely,



Tyler Gray, Secretary  
Louisiana Department of  
Energy and Natural Resources

- C: The Honorable Jeffrey M. Landry, Governor, State of Louisiana *(by e-mail)*  
Kyle Ruckert, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor, State of Louisiana *(by e-mail)*  
Lance Maxwell, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor, State of Louisiana *(by e-mail)*  
The Honorable Cameron Henry, President, Louisiana Senate, *(by e-mail)*  
The Honorable Phillip Devillier, Speaker, Louisiana House of Representatives *(by e-mail)*