



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Governor

CODY B. STEWART
Energy Advisor

DR. LAURA NELSON, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Office of Energy Development

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Contact:

Meghan Stettler, Director of Communications
Governor's Office of Energy Development
(385) 549-0822
meghanstettler@utah.gov

**Seventh Annual Waxy Crude Workshop to Explore Market and Transport Solutions
for Utah's Distinct Oil Products**

Research experts, government officials and industry stakeholders to discuss how to better connect Utah's unique commodity to refiners in Salt Lake and beyond on April 14, 2016

SALT LAKE CITY, UT – April 8, 2016 – Utah's oil is lighter, cleaner and more affordable than most - but its waxy composition makes it difficult to ship long distances. In an effort to advance market and transport solutions, the Governor's Office of Energy Development (OED) is pleased to partner with the Utah Science Technology and Research Initiative (USTAR) for the Seventh Annual Waxy Crude Workshop April 14, 2016.

Located at the Duchesne County Event Center and Arena, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the Workshop will begin with an update from the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOG M) on the economic impacts of the recent decline in commodity prices, and how the Uinta Basin is poised to expand market value through new infrastructure developments. DOGM's presentation will be followed by a special report from the Rural Planning Group, detailing the importance of waxy crude to the rural economy of eastern Utah.

In addition to agency-led discussions, several local entrepreneurs will discuss their latest waxy crude transportation innovations, while industry representatives including 670 LLC, Azure and Global One will review their plans to deliver Uinta Basin crudes to the market more efficiently.

"Utah's black and yellow waxy crudes are premier commodities due to their low sulfur content and high API gravities," said Andrew Sweeney, Ph.D., USTAR East regional director. "But these crudes have limited transportation opportunities due to technical hurdles



caused by their unique properties. If we can figure out the science, the economic impact could be tremendous.”

The event will conclude with remarks by OED’s executive director Dr. Laura Nelson and Senator Ralph Okerlund, executive director of the Six County Infrastructure Coalition.

“At a time when sustained low commodity prices have taken a toll on communities across the state, focusing on infrastructure is more important than ever,” said Jeffrey Barrett, OED deputy director. “Stakeholder planning efforts and targeted public and private investment will ensure that Utah is better prepared in the future to manage through challenging market cycles.”

The Seventh Annual Waxy Crude Workshop is produced in partnership with OED, USTAR, DOGM and the Rural Planning Group.

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About Governor’s Office of Energy Development (OED)

Web: energy.utah.gov

Governor Gary R. Herbert recognizes energy as one of the four cornerstones of Utah’s strength, along with education, job creation, and self-determination. In recognition of this priority, the Governor’s Office of Energy Development (OED) was created in 2011 to advance Utah’s diverse energy and minerals economy through policy, planning and direct engagement.

About USTAR

Web: ustar.org

The Utah Science Technology and Research initiative (USTAR) is part of the Governor’s commitment to help Utah lead the nation as the best performing economy and be recognized as a premier global destination. USTAR facilitates research, development and commercialization activities in order to expand Utah’s science and technology ecosystem and provide an environment that allows ideas to seed, grow and thrive. USTAR has enabled the hiring of commercially minded researchers, the building of state-of-the-art core facilities and the development of entrepreneur outreach centers throughout the state to support technology development in Utah.