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## **NMED's Occupational Health and Safety Bureau Consultation Program Recognizes Oil and Gas Well Servicing Contractor for Excellence in Efforts to Protect Workers**

(Santa Fe, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department's Occupational Health and Safety Bureau recognized Basic Energy Services in Bloomfield as the first company in the state to earn memberships in two bureau employee safety recognition programs.

The bureau recently presented program banners and certificates to Basic Energy Services employees and managers at a company-wide recognition breakfast for the company's membership in the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) and the Oil and Gas Safe Site Program.

"We recognize Basic Energy Service's commitment to excellence in protecting its employees from injury," said New Mexico Environment Department Secretary Ron Curry. "The voluntary participation of industry leaders like those in this company contributes enormously to our long term goal of significantly reducing occupation-related fatalities, injuries and illnesses of New Mexico workers."

The SHARP program recognizes employers who operate an exemplary safety and health management system at their fixed locations. Acceptance into SHARP by OHSB is an achievement that singles companies out among their business peers as a model for worksite safety and health. SHARP recognizes companies that commit to proactive management of health and safety issues, implement safety procedures and processes that exceed minimum requirements for OSHA compliance, and embody the principles of continuous quality improvement, worker empowerment, and accident prevention.

In response to an increasing number of injuries and fatalities in the oil and gas industry, the New Mexico Occupational Health and Safety Bureau introduced a new recognition program, the Oil and Gas Safe Site Program, to identify and acknowledge companies that go above and beyond the regulatory requirements. To become a participant in the program, oil and gas companies agree to reduce the exposure to causes of injuries, illnesses and fatalities through hazard identification and correction. The most important requirement is the involvement of employees at all levels in the daily implementation of worksite safety and health measures.

Basic Energy Services, by applying for and achieving the standards for participation in both programs, is a notable success story in an industry that has long been known to involve numerous, and often deadly, health

and safety hazards. To enter the programs, Basic Energy Services' Bloomfield facility and numerous field locations have demonstrated excellence in developing and maintaining an exemplary safety and health culture through comprehensive programs, management commitment and employee involvement, and continuing training. In addition, the company's efforts have resulted in the achieving and maintaining an occupational injury and illness rate significantly below the national average for the industry.

Founded in 1992, Basic Energy Services has grown to be one of the nation's largest well servicing contractors with locations throughout oil and gas producing regions. With headquarters in Midland, Texas, the Bloomfield, New Mexico facility provides well servicing and rental/fishing tools to the San Juan Basin.

Other companies participating in the Oil and Gas Safe Site Program include A-Plus Well Service, Inc., Farmington; Aztec Well Servicing Company, Aztec; McVay Drilling, Hobbs; and Sierra Oilfield Services, Farmington.

For more information on SHARP or the Oil and Gas Safe Site Program, contact Carol Walker of NMED's Occupational Health and Safety Bureau at (505) 476-8720 or [carol.walker@state.nm.us](mailto:carol.walker@state.nm.us).

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