

Research Planning Workshops

~Background Information~

Purpose of the Energy Research Program

The purpose of HEI's Energy Research Program is to identify and conduct highest priority research on the potential population exposures and health effects from the onshore development of oil and natural gas from shale and other unconventional resources (UOGD) across the United States. With resource development projected to continue, alongside growing efforts to switch to renewables and conserve energy, a source of high-quality, impartial science is needed to support decisions about how best to ensure protection of public health in the oversight and implementation of this development.

HEI's Energy Research Committee

The Energy Research Committee (the "Research Committee") is a body of subject-matter experts that independently defines and oversees the Energy Research Program.

- George Hornberger, Vanderbilt University, Director, Vanderbilt Institute for Energy & Environment, Nashville, Tennessee (Chair)
- Shari Dunn-Norman, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, Missouri
- Elaine M. Faustman, University of Washington–Seattle
- Howard Hu, University of Washington and University of Michigan
- Judy S. LaKind, LaKind Associates, LLC, Catonsville, Maryland, and Adjunct Faculty, University of Maryland–Baltimore
- Armistead (Ted) G. Russell, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta
- Stefanie Ebelt Sarnat, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

The Workshops

GENERAL APPROACH

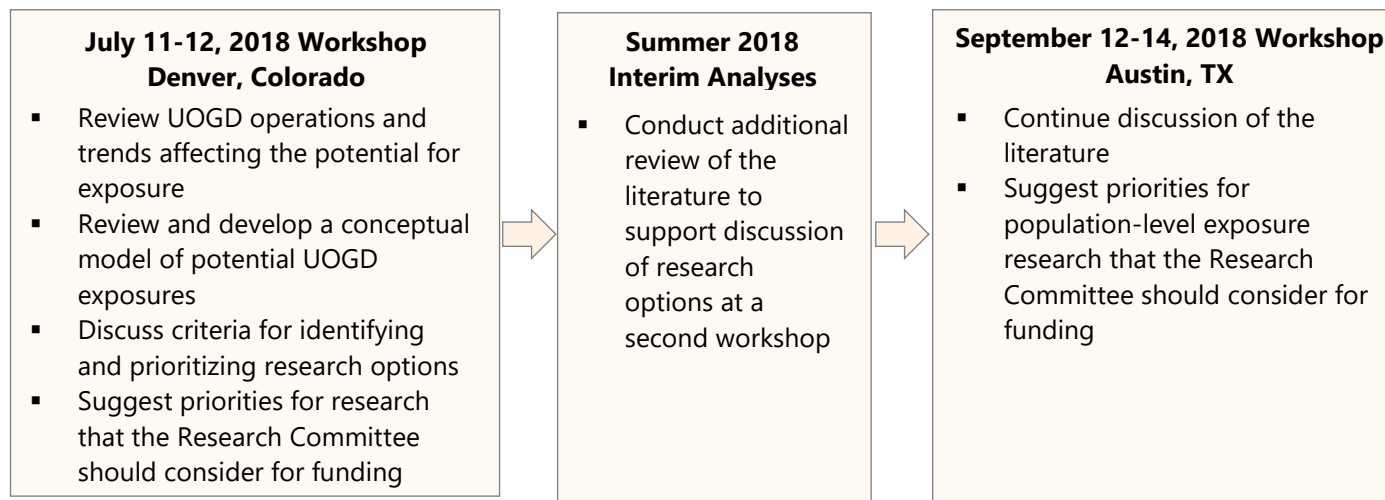
Two *Exposure and Risk Screening Workshops* will draw on existing knowledge, relevant data and literature regarding potential UOGD exposures to:

- Review what is known about potential UOGD exposures, their likelihood, and significance for health;
- Develop a conceptual model of potential exposures to UOGD;
- Discuss criteria for identifying and prioritizing research; and
- Provide advice to the Research Committee on exposure topics that warrant research.

The first workshop allows for reviewing the literature and identifying preliminary research priorities. Between the two workshops, the Research Committee will continue its review of the literature along with information and public comment received during the first workshop and subsequent public comment period. The second workshop allows for continued discussion of the literature and more refined research priorities for consideration by the Research Committee. Discussions and recommendations from both workshops will help to guide the Research Committee as it selects exposure topics that warrant study and prepares RFQs.



WORKSHOP ORGANIZATION



PARTICIPANTS

HEI seeks workshop participants that bring the necessary breadth of expertise and experience, along with an ability to impartially interpret and use scientific information. Participants will come from federal, state, regional, and local government, academia, industry, and non-governmental environmental, public health, and community organizations.

PRODUCTS

HEI will summarize workshop proceedings in brief reports and oversee preparation of a peer-reviewed article that summarizes the literature review and recommendations for research priorities. Finally, but perhaps most important, based on the workshop discussions, the Research Committee will prepare a draft RFQ for exposure studies for review by sponsors before final issuance and solicitation of study proposals.

For More Information:

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