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Former Congressional Fellow brings expertise on environmental and regulatory issues

(DENVER)- Western Energy Alliance announced today that Ursula K. Rick, PhD, has joined its staff as Regulatory Affairs Analyst. Dr. Rick comes to Western Energy Alliance from the office of Colorado Senator Mark Udall, where she served as a Congressional Fellow, drafting energy legislation and advising the senator on energy issues.

"Dr. Rick's extensive scientific background and expertise on energy development will be a tremendous asset as Western Energy Alliance continues to push for federal energy policy that is rooted in science," said Tim Wigley, President. "Her impressive scientific and policy background will serve as an invaluable resource to our association, our industry, and to policymakers who seek an energy policy that protects our environment while allowing western oil and natural gas producers to develop American energy and grow our economy."

Western Energy Alliance continues its commitment to providing policymakers with sound science upon which to base energy policies that balance environmental protection with increased domestic oil and natural gas production. Most notably, the Alliance continues to work with the Western Regional Air Partnership to compile extensive research on air emissions to fill critical data gaps and better inform state and federal regulators. The Alliance is also a key partner along with the State of Utah, Environmental Protection Agency, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Bureau of Land Management, and the Counties of Duchesne and Uintah on the Uinta Basin Ozone Study.

Dr. Rick holds an undergraduate degree in Material Science & Metallurgical Engineering, a Master's of Science in Engineering Sciences from Dartmouth College, and a doctorate in Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences from the University of Colorado; and is the founder of the Forum on Science, Ethics & Policy at CU. Her work at Western Energy Alliance will focus on air and water quality issues, and scientific research to guide energy development policy on federal lands in the West.

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About Western Energy Alliance

Western Energy Alliance, founded in 1974 as the Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States, is a non-profit trade association representing 400 companies engaged in all aspects of environmentally responsible exploration and production of oil and natural gas in the West. More information on Western Energy Alliance and its members is available at www.westernenergyalliance.org ^[2].

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