

# Media Advisory



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## **Western Energy Alliance to Present to the Society of Environmental Journalists *Panel on Energy Subsidies***

(DENVER) — Tomorrow, Western Energy Alliance (formerly IPAMS) will present to the Society of Environmental Journalists at its annual conference in Miami, Florida.

Kathleen Sgamma, Director of Government & Public Affairs, will discuss how oil and natural gas tax treatment is often mischaracterized as subsidies. Oil and natural gas companies are allowed to deduct the cost of business, which is in line with every other industry in America. For decades, small, independent producers have used these legitimate deductions to continue energy development, create jobs and grow the economy.

“Policies that increase taxes on the domestic natural gas and oil industry are especially counterproductive at a time of high unemployment and slow economic growth,” said Sgamma. “Many of the proposed tax increases coming out of Washington would disproportionately impact the small, independent companies who provide 82% of America’s natural gas and 68% of its oil production. These proposals would result in less domestic energy, higher energy costs, domestic job losses, and increased dependence on foreign energy sources.”

**Who:** Kathleen Sgamma, Director of Government & Public Affairs, Western Energy Alliance

**What:** Society of Environmental Journalists panel discussion, “Energy Subsidies: Where’s the Money Going?”

**When:** Saturday, October 22, 2011 at 10:45 a.m.

**Where:** InterContinental Miami, 100 Chopin Plaza, Miami, FL (visit [sej.org](http://sej.org) for more information.)

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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](http://www.westernenergyalliance.org).*