



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
FEDERATION OF  
OKLAHOMA**

*“Working for Oklahoma’s Economic and Environmental Future”*

# EFO President

**Howard L. (Bud) Ground**

- **Common Ground Consulting, LLC, President**
  - **Lobbyist and environmental professional**
  - **All types of company representation**
- **Over 35 years of experience in electric utility industry**
  - **Governmental and Environmental Affairs Manager**
  - **Environmental and Occupational Health Manager**
  - **Power Plant Engineering Manager**



# Environmental Federation of Oklahoma

**The Environmental Federation of Oklahoma, Inc. (EFO) is a non-profit organization (501c(6)) providing Oklahoma companies a voice in the formulation and implementation of state and federal environmental laws, regulations and policies.**



# Environmental Federation of Oklahoma

**EFO will achieve their mission by:**

- **Actively promoting the development of sound environmental policies and legislation**
- **Educating and informing EFO members, government officials and the citizens of Oklahoma as to environmental issues affecting commerce**
- **Addressing the common environmental concerns of EFO members**



# EFO History

- Began in 1991 for companies who operate in Oklahoma and hold environmental permits
- Patterned after the Arkansas Environmental Federation
- First Annual Meeting held in 1992
- Formed due to lack of delegation of EPA programs. Helped form the ODEQ
- Jim Barnett was the first President. He was OWRB Executive Director in the late 70s and 80s.
- It's been growing in the numbers of members and legislative and regulatory influence since it began.



# Why Should My Company Join?

- Each year the number of environmental laws and regulations multiplies. It is virtually impossible for any one company to keep up with all the proposed and adopted changes, and even more difficult for that company to be heard by the decision makers.
- EFO assists companies in having their common concerns heard by the Legislature and provides comments and testimony to administrative agencies regarding rules and policies.
- EFO provides educational opportunities such as seminars, workshops, information exchanges, and regulatory updates to assist you in the day-to-day operations of your company.



# What are the Membership Benefits?

- Legislative lobbying for Oklahoma businesses
- Regulatory interface between business and the regulatory agencies
- Outreach to other business interest groups
- Members ONLY weekly *EFO News Update* to keep you current on regulatory news
- Access to Members ONLY part of EFO website
- Reduced rates to attend events
- Dues are typically 50% tax deductible
- Eligible for the *Frank Condon Environmental Excellence Award* for environmental projects



# What are the Activities of EFO?

Networking  
Opportunities

**EFO sponsors at least three activities for its membership each year:**

- **Legislative Reception** Held in April each year
- **EFO Regulatory Newsreel\*** Held in late June each year
- **EFO Annual Meeting & Trade Show\*** Held typically in October each year
- **Other regulatory updates as needed**

**\* Open to both members and non-member personnel to attend**

Call for  
Speakers



# EFO Committees



- Air Quality
- Water Quality
- Solid / Hazardous Waste
- Oklahoma Corporation Commission
- Wildlife
- Health & Safety
- Legislative
- Activities

# EFO Oklahoma Companies – All Sizes

- Chemical manufacturing companies
- Utility companies – electric and gas
- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production companies
- Oil and gas pipeline companies
- Petroleum refineries
- Tire manufacturers
- Cement companies
- Aeronautical companies
- Paper product manufacturing
- Wood product manufacturing
- Waste management companies – solid and hazardous waste
- Oklahoma Universities offering degrees in EHS, Engineering, or Law degrees
- Aggregate companies
- Associations of all types with environmental interests
- Others (e.g., Glass and brick manufacturing companies, other manufacturing, educational institutions, etc.)
- Consultants of all types
  - Environmental firms
  - Engineering firms
  - Biologist
  - Environmental
  - Laboratories
  - O&G Specialists
  - Others
- Attorney firms



# Contact Information

## Environmental Federation of Oklahoma

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# Lobbyist

**A Lobbyist is a person that you hire to protect you from the people that you elect.**

**(to attempt to influence or sway (as a public official) toward a desired action, Merriam-Webster)**



# LOBBYIST



**What my friends  
think I do.**



**What my parents  
think I do.**



**What the other side  
says I do.**



**What society thinks  
I do.**



**What I think I  
do.**



**What I actually do.**