

INTERIM REPORT
OF THE
NATIONAL PETROLEUM COUNCIL'S
COMMITTEE ON OIL AND GAS INDUSTRIES MANPOWER
October 20, 1955

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE: W. W. Vandever

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INTERIM REPORT OF THE NATIONAL PETROLEUM COUNCIL'S
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The Committee on Oil and Gas Industries Manpower was created by the National Petroleum Council upon the recommendation of the Agenda Committee in its report, which was adopted at the Council's meeting on May 4, 1955.

The Oil and Gas Division of the Department of Interior requested the Council to bring up to date its previous manpower studies including estimates of manpower engaged on July 1, 1955 in the petroleum and gas industries, classified by functional divisions of the industries, occupations, skills and geographical areas. It was also indicated that in view of the importance of manpower in defense planning for the essential oil and gas industries and for the Armed Forces, estimates of manpower requirements should be frequently brought up to date. (Copy of letter of request attached).

The Committee Chairman appointed a Technical Subcommittee to advise on survey technique and to draft a study report. The Technical Sub-Committee was called together on June 14 and September 13, 1955 in the Council's Washington Office. Representatives of the Oil and Gas Division attended part time; they were questioned and made statements as to the specific data desired under the broad language of their May 4, 1955 request. Representatives of the Bureau of Old-Age Survivors' Insurance and Bureau of Employment Security appeared and advised on Government sources of employment data. Also, guidance

was solicited from the Chairman of Materials and Manpower Coordination Panel, Military Petroleum Advisory Board.

The Technical Sub-Committee has considered the more specific type of studies now indicated and has explored ways and means to obtain meaningful data. The Committee agreed to the following course of action by the Technical Sub-Committee and it is hoped that the Council concurs:

A. The Oil and Gas Division's request is being studied under three main categories. It is planned to draft the Council's report in the same fashion. These categories are:

1. Number tables showing estimated employment on or about July 1, 1955, for the functional divisions of the Oil Industry exclusive of retail outlets and the Gas Industry up to the city gate.

Domestic U. S. totals will be estimated for all such functional divisions and for some significant components such as oil/gas field contract services, for-hire tank trucks, barges, etc. Employment statistics by states will be shown where meaningful.

By using a sampling technique certain qualitative data will be estimated such as age distribution, numbers of males and females and ratios of scientists and engineers employed in these industries.

2. Charts indicating numbers and skills normally employed in constructing new refinery capacity, laying additional pipe line mileage and drilling additional wells.

Manpower requirements will be estimated in relation to selected variables involved, for example, size of pipe, number of construction crews, barrels thru-put, depth, etc.

3. Lists of critical skills and occupations for the principal activities in the oil and gas industries, showing estimated training time and educational requirements.

It is felt that such lists will constitute an authoritative standby manpower guide for the use of the Departments of Defense and Interior and the Military Petroleum Advisory Board, in connection with their studies concerning wartime manpower requirements of the petroleum industry.

- B. Every established source of data is being investigated to be used in lieu of a direct questionnaire approach. Further, such established sources make it possible to bring employment statistics up to date from time to time with a minimum of burden on the industries and Government.

These sources generally are:

1. Bureau of Employment Security, Washington, D. C., who tabulates employment each quarter (with a lag of about six months after the quarter) for the main divisions of the oil industry. This data seems fairly accurate although in some states only employers with eight or more employees are required to report. As of January, 1956, this minimum requirement is lowered to four or more employees.

This is a regular data source and the agency staff are interested and cooperative. Also the accuracy of the data and its allocation to industry divisions by industrial codes are subject to improvement by better understanding between the reporting companies and the state unemployment insurance offices.

2. Special agencies such as Interstate Commerce Commission, U. S. Maritime Commission, Corps of Engineers, National Science Foundation, etc.
3. Trade and constructors associations, some of whom are represented on this Council. For example, the Independent Natural Gas Association who are advising on or arranging for various data and recommendations relating to intra and inter-state gas transmission companies - or various training committees of A.P.I., who are advising on training time for selected critical skills and occupations.
4. By direct questionnaire - which was found necessary to send out to about 80 gas companies in order to secure the employment data requested.

- C. By bringing all these component parts together at least by the year-end it is anticipated that a completed report can be submitted to the Council early next year.

- D. The Technical Sub-Committee feels that it would be in the oil and gas industries interest to have an established source accumulate and issue selected manpower statistics regularly. In many cases the information can be acquired from existing sources or from some which could be promoted because of mutual interest of the parties.

Since the Oil and Gas Division has indicated that it should be anticipated that manpower estimates should be frequently brought up to date - and since the regular issue of selected statistics seems appropriate, it is recommended that this be done via some established agency rather than by temporary committee appointments.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. Vandever, Chairman
Committee On Oil and Gas
Industries Manpower

5/20/55

NATIONAL PETROLEUM COUNCIL

COMMITTEE ON OIL AND GAS INDUSTRIES MANPOWER

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OIL AND GAS DIVISION
Washington 25, D. C.

C
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P
Y

May 4, 1955

Mr. Walter S. Hallanan, Chairman
National Petroleum Council
1625 K Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hallanan:

On January 26, 1950, the National Petroleum Council's Committee on Petroleum Industry Manpower submitted a report giving the results of a nationwide survey of petroleum industry manpower. This survey included an estimate of the manpower engaged at that time in the industry, classified by functional divisions of the industry, occupations and skills, and geographical areas. This report also included information on the number of males engaged in jobs requiring at least a year's replacement training, number of male employees who were members of the Armed Forces Reserve or National Guard units and the number of male employees over 35 years of age.

On May 9, 1951, the National Petroleum Council's Committee on Oil and Gas Industry Manpower made a second report on the manpower requirements of the petroleum and gas industries. This second study brought up to date the report of January 26, 1950.

At the request of the Departments of Defense and Interior, the Military Petroleum Advisory Board is currently undertaking a study of the wartime manpower requirements of the petroleum industry. The previous peacetime manpower reports of the National Petroleum Council are of great assistance in this study. Although the current Military Petroleum Advisory Board study will be completed in the near future, it is anticipated that periodically thereafter, the Government will require additional studies of the wartime manpower requirements of the petroleum and gas industries. The peacetime employment in the oil and gas industries, as reflected in the National Petroleum Council studies, is the basis of the Military Petroleum Advisory Board wartime studies.

In view of the importance of manpower in defense planning for the essential oil and gas industries and for the Armed Forces, the manpower requirements of these industries should be frequently brought up to date.

Because there has been significant expansion in the oil and gas industries since the last manpower survey was made by the National Petroleum Council, it is requested that the National Petroleum Council bring up to date the previous study and prepare a report thereon together with such recommendations as the Council may deem appropriate. It is requested that this new study include estimates of manpower engaged on July 1, 1955 in the petroleum and gas industries, classified by functional divisions of the industries, occupations, skills and geographical areas.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Carroll D. Fentress

Carroll D. Fentress
Acting Director

