

Advocates aim to rejuvenate energy industry



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Body

May 08-- May 8-- "The age of hydrocarbons, some people say it's over. It hasn't even begun in some respects."

The State of Texas has a bevy of publicly available data oil-and-gas companies -- anyone -- can use to pursue new production, William A. Ambrose told guests at the East Texas Energy Symposium Tuesday at Kilgore College.

"Texas still has a tremendous oil-and-gas resource," said Ambrose, part of the state's **Bureau of Economic Geology**. "There's still a huge resource that's still waiting to be produced for the oil-and-gas industry, well into the future.

Meanwhile, "The demand worldwide will continue to grow," and production will grow to help meet that demand. "Hydrocarbon-based resources are going to continue to maintain the standard of living around the world and improve people's lives."

Ambrose found a warm reception among the oil-and-gas professionals gathered in Kilgore College's Devall Student Center Ballroom for the 10th annual symposium. Other key speakers during the event included John Howie, president of Tellurian Production, and Dr. Mukul Sharma, W.A. "Tex" Moncrief, Jr. Centennial Chair in Petroleum, Geosystems and Chemical Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin.

"There's a whole lot of research being done at the university that can be translated to the oil-and-gas industry," Sharma said, underscoring the importance of technological development and transitioning it to business. "It's very, very important to do that."

Proceeds from the symposium benefit East Texas Oil Museum, which welcomed the event's guests for tours before and after the gathering, spearheaded by Mark Goloby, president of TC Technology, who offered the keynote address during the annual luncheon.

Goloby focused his remarks on tackling the misinformation, misperceptions and weaknesses he perceives in the proposed Green New Deal.

"One of the things I keep stressing is, hey, it is our industry and we should feel comfortable and confident in being able to defend it and to protect the image it truly deserves," he said. "We are the guys providing energy, and we need to be reminded to be proud of it.

"There's all kinds of alternatives hut an alternative is not necessarily or actually an advantage."

At the same time, Goloby says, he's glad for President Donald Trump's paring of unnecessary regulations that hamstring the oil-and-gas industry.

"Everyone wants to know what the rules are on the highway. Everyone in this room knows you have to have rules and a set of parameters to go through," he said. "Let's have the rules be science-based. Let's have them based on meeting a result."

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