XTO Energy to Challenge Charges by Pennsylvania Attorney General

- Evidence proves XTO did not cause the release of produced water.
- Criminal charges are unprecedented, baseless and an abuse of prosecutorial discretion.
- Criminalizing a small recycling spill sends the wrong environmental and legal message.

Tuesday, September 10, 2013
4:45 p.m. EDT

FORT WORTH, TX – XTO Energy Inc., a subsidiary of ExxonMobil Corporation, said today it will challenge criminal charges filed by Pennsylvania’s Attorney General, Kathleen Kane, regarding a November 2010 spill of produced water from a temporary storage tank being used during a water recycling operation in Lycoming County.

Criminal charges are unwarranted and legally baseless because neither XTO nor any of its employees intentionally, recklessly or negligently discharged produced water on the site.

XTO acted quickly and cooperatively with state and federal authorities to clean up the produced water. There was no lasting environmental impact and the site has been fully remediated in accordance with guidance of Pennsylvania’s Department of Environmental Protection.

In 2012, XTO and ExxonMobil paid more than $9 million in taxes to the state of Pennsylvania, and invested more than $3.3 million in higher education, medical care, environmental research and arts and civic organizations in Pennsylvania.

Contact:
Media Relations, 724-720-4100

Photos of the XTO Marquardt Well Site in Lycoming County, PA

Click on each image to download a high resolution image file suitable for printing.

The gravel surface of the well site is in the foreground. A healthy corn crop grows near the site where the produced water was released and next to a lined impoundment designed to store fresh water.

Another view of the impoundment and the immediate area of the 2010 water release. Note again the new growth and absence of long-term environmental impact.

Current view of the hillside affected by the leaking container in 2010. Note the new growth and absence of long-term environmental impact. XTO received guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection on appropriate vegetal restoration.

View of re-growth and gravel drainage from below the well site and the location of the water container in 2010. The surrounding watershed remains lush with no environmental impact.

About XTO Energy

XTO Energy Inc., a subsidiary of ExxonMobil Corporation, is a leading natural gas and oil producer in the U.S. with expertise in developing tight gas, shale gas, coal bed methane and unconventional oil resources. XTO has operations in all major U.S. producing regions, and holds more than 417,000 acres in Pennsylvania.