



Utah Department of Natural Resources

Oil, Gas & Mining

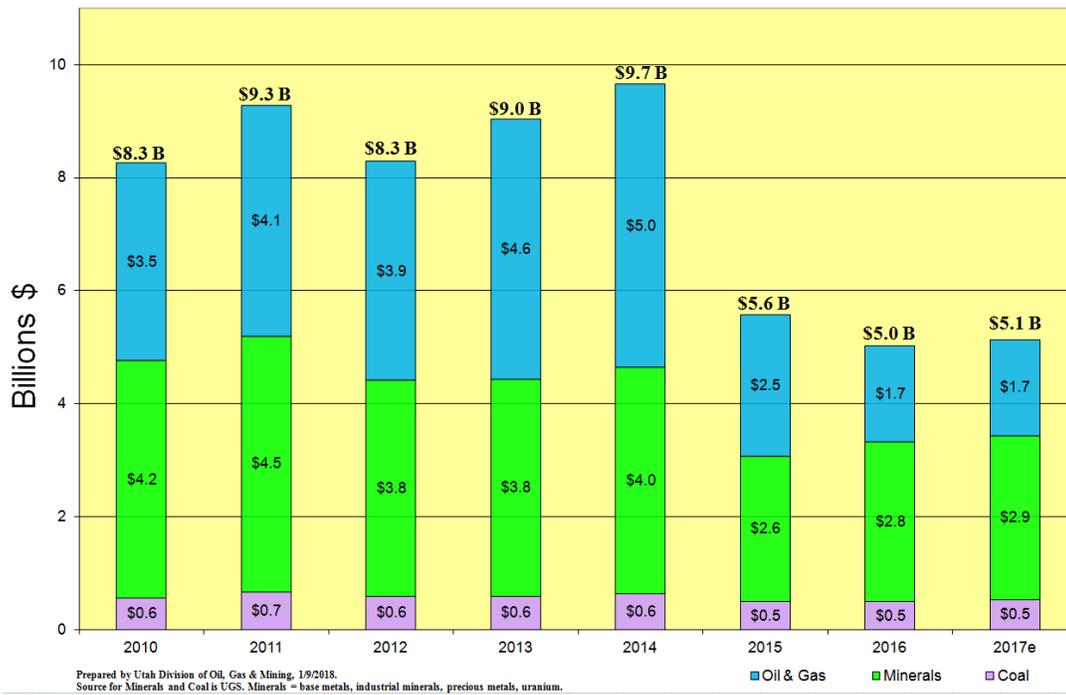
PURPOSE

- We manage Utah's energy and non-energy mineral resources including crude oil, natural gas, coal, metals and other valuable mineral commodities by ensuring responsible resource development.
- We preserve the environment by evaluating environmental impacts before permits are issued. We require successful reclamation of lands affected by mining activities.
- We protect public safety by decreasing hazards associated with abandoned mining operations, and by ensuring that present-day activities are conducted responsibly.

OBJECTIVES

- Foster and encourage petroleum and mineral development that generates taxes, royalties, and economic revenue
- Ensure minimal environmental impact during development
- Require effective land reclamation subsequent to operations
- Secure abandoned mine hazards
- Provide credible technical information to industry, government and general public
- Strive to maximize the quality of life and minimize the costs of development for future generations

Utah's Extractive Industries
Production Sales Values



2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Oil and Gas Program permitted 375 oil and gas wells. Staff completed 10,498 site inspections to ensure wells and disposal ponds are meeting state rules and not posing threats to the public, wildlife, or environment.



The Division's Abandoned Mine Reclamation (AMR) Program received an award for work completed in the San Rafael Swell in central Utah. The National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAML) publicly recognized Utah for the exemplary physical safety hazard mitigation in the reclamation of abandoned hard rock mines and presented them the nation's highest achievement.



Coal Program staff worked diligently to approve expansion permits for the Flat Canyon Lease at Skyline Mine in Carbon and San Pete counties; areas two and three at Coal Hollow Mine in Kane County; additional phase II at the Emery Deep Mine in Emery County. These permits increase the life of the mines, while providing jobs to rural communities.



CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE

- Develop a funding structure allowing the Division more flexibility and self-reliance, especially during times of unpredictable oil and gas prices. Currently, the Division's budget relies heavily on monies generated from a conservation tax, which is .002 percent of the value of oil and gas produced in the state. When prices and production are low, budget-sustaining revenues are minimal requiring the Division to supplement with general funds.

