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**Energy Analyst—Energy Directions, Inc.-Michael Smolinski,
Keynote Speaker for the Spring Membership Meeting**

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Michael Smolinski analyzes the economy, energy markets, forecasts energy prices and recommends energy stocks. The title of the presentation Mr. Smolinski gave to the membership was "Oil & Natural Gas Prices—How Did We Get Here and Where Are We Headed?". A few of the price predictions he made are an \$80/barrel oil price by August 2015 and a doubling of the natural gas price by 2018.

His outlook bullet points were:

- We see gainful-bartering- activity growing, producing prosperity, upward-mobility-of-the-masses and increasing value (stock prices) at a consensus-beating price.
- We are bullish on oil refining-much more is needed.
- We see extenuating factors exaggerating the seasonal, oil-cost drop but setting 2015 to be an outstanding energy-investing year with now an exceptional buy-oil-extra-low opportunity.
- We predict that being invested in North America natural gas production is a big, bullish surprise in the coming weeks/months.
- We watch to see if those willing to use terrorizing-aggression will be thwarted? Or will fairly-free-oil flow-over-there be restricted?

Mr Smolinski founded Energy Directions, Inc. in 1999, an independent, sell-side analysis company. He covers the energy sector from the resources in the ground through to its consumption by the end user. Energy Directions greatest emphasis is analyzing the economy physically, particularly through the oil and natural gas markets. Professional investors are the primary market for the company's research.

For a copy of Mr. Smolinski full presentation go to the SOOGA website.

SOOGA Awards Members for Years of Service



Jim Rose and Carl Heinrich present the SOOGA Hall of Fame Award to Dean Harris. Dean Harris has worked in the Oil and Gas industry for over 40 years and had been on the SOOGA Board of Trustees and President of the Association for four years.

(Continued on page 17)

For additional information visit www.sooga.org

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THE CROW'S NEST



Fantastic! That is exactly how our 2015 SOOGA Spring Membership Meeting has been described to me. I would like to thank all of our sponsors, the Events Committee, Billie Leister & Whitney Huck, the SOOGA Board, all of the speakers, Events by Design, the Marietta Shrine Club, and Theo's catering for putting together our best Spring Membership Meeting yet! The final gratification was having so many SOOGA members in attendance.

I am especially thankful for the meeting turn out given the multitude and magnitude of items your SOOGA Administration has been working on the past several months. The most pressing issue, one we are unfortunately all too familiar hearing about, is of course our ongoing opposition to the Governor's proposed severance tax. The proposed tax hike is not only unacceptable based on principle, but the timing of the proposal could not be worse. It comes at a time when oil and gas prices have been falling off a cliff (and have yet to recover) and thousands of Ohio jobs are still in the balance.

Given the grave situation our industry is in and the implications the tax would have on Ohio's economy, the SOOGA Board for the first time in its history had to hire a lobbyist to fight the proposed tax. Our lobbyists are Steve Dimon and Shawn Nelson with 21 Consulting, LLC. They have been doing a superb job for us. In addition to our lobbyists, Christy Chavez, Brian Chavez, myself, and several SOOGA members have provided factual information and made numerous trips to Columbus meeting with members of the Ohio Legislature. Thus far we have testified before the House Ways & Means Committee and met with 37 House Representatives and 14 Senate members. SOOGA has also been coordinating and collaborating with OOGA and API to strengthen and unify the industry's opposition efforts.

There have been several positive results to date, but there is much work to be done. We were pleased with the House's decision to strip out the proposed severance tax increase from the budget bill. Many House members understand what our industry has meant for Ohio's economy, the uncertain times our industry is facing, and that the pancake of taxes we currently pay is already 17 times higher than the Commercial Activities Tax (C.A.T.) paid by other Ohio industries. The proposed increase would result in an effective tax rate for our industry that is 32 times higher than the C.A.T. paid by other industries in Ohio.

While the House has acted effectively, we unfortunately have not received the same level of understanding in the Senate. There are certainly a few Senate members who understand the situation our industry faces and we sincerely appreciate their support. Despite thousands of Ohio job losses thus far (100,000 oilfield jobs worldwide) and the fact that nearly the entire Utica play is struggling at current prices (resulting in a 50% drop in drilling activity in just three months), some Senate members still appear open to raising taxes on our industry. SOOGA will continue to meet with Senators and work with OOGA and API to shed as much light as possible on this critical issue.

SOOGA continues to address other key issues. These include EPCRA filing, Federal Leasing, Condensate Safety, and issues related to Mississippian Exempt wells. We will push forward on these important items. Another development is the passage of the WV Tank Act bill. While certain parts of the bill remain onerous, the bill is better than that originally proposed. If you see WV Rep. Woody Ireland, IOGA WV Executive Director Charlie Byrd, or Bob Matthey of Lippizan Petroleum, please take time to shake their hand and thank them for the tremendous effort they made to improve the Tank Act bill.

As always, your SOOGA Executive Committee and Board of Trustees will do our best to keep you informed and push back against attacks on our industry. I hope you enjoyed the Spring Membership Meeting and encourage you to attend our upcoming events, which can be found on our web page.

Again, thank you for all you do to provide energy for our community, state, and country. Keep your head up during these tough times and remember... this too shall pass!

President
Matt Lupardus

2015 NEW MEMBERS
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**Southeastern Ohio Oil and Gas Association
Gas Committee Report
April, 2015**

PRICING

Prices April 8, 2015

One Year NYMEX strip (May, 2015 – April, 2016)	\$2.94
Summer NYMEX strip for 2015 (May-October)	\$2.74
Winter NYMEX strip (Nov, 2015—March, 2016)	\$3.10
TCO Index Posting - April, 2015	\$2.48
DTI Index Posting - April, 2015	\$1.45

It appears that high storage levels combined with enhanced production capabilities and slow usage growth could keep gas prices from rising dramatically over the next couple of years.

GAS STORAGE AS OF THE April 2, 2015 Report

Working Gas in storage was 2,428 bcf as of Friday, March 27, 2015. At 1,461, total working gas is **below** the 5 year historical range.

Region	Stocks billion cubic feet (Bcf)			Year ago (3/27/14)		5-Year average (2010-2014)	
	1/30/15	1/23/15	change	(Bcf)	% change	(Bcf)	% change
East	522	559	-37	317	64.7	695	-24.9
West	348	344	4	161	116.1	269	29.4
Producing	591	576	15	355	66.5	686	-13.8
Salt	132	121	11	61	116.4	142	-7.0
Nonsalt	459	455	4	296	55.1	545	-15.8
Total	1,461	4,479	-18	833	75.4	1,651	-11.5

Storage is 33.7% full compared to normal as of this report, with normal total capacity of 4,336 at the start of the withdrawal season. Storage is 492 BCF below last year, and 143 BCF below the five year average.

Source: Form EIA-912, "Weekly Underground Natural Gas Storage Report." The dashed vertical lines indicate current and year-ago weekly periods.

(Continued to page 6)



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2015 SOOGA Tentative Calendar of Events

May 8th, 2015
Spring Golf Outing
Lakeside Golf Course
Beverly, OH

June 5th, 2015
Spring Clay Shoot
Hilltop Sports
Whipple, OH

August 14th, 2015
Fall Golf Outing
Oxbow Golf Course
Belpre, OH

September 17th, 2015
Annual Trade Show
Washington County Fairgrounds
Marietta, OH

October 16th, 2015
Fall Clay Shoot
Hilltop Sports
Whipple, OH

November 2015
Annual Gun Raffle



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February 10, 2015 EIA Forecast for Natural Gas Prices:

According to the EIA, natural gas consumption will average of 74.3 Bcf per day in 2015, and 75.2 Bcf/d in 2016. The projected Henry Hub natural gas price averages \$3.05/MMBtu in 2015 and \$3.57/MMBtu in 2016.

GATHERCO

Retainage for January, 2015 is as follows for the Gatherco systems. Treat was 2.0%, Miley was 2.0%, Meigs was 2.0%, York was 2.0%, Grimes was 2.0%, and Elk was 2.0%.

February, 2015 retainage was not available as of the date of this report.

WEST VIRGINIA NEWS:

West Virginia appears to be close to landing a coveted ethane cracker plant to serve the Utica and Marcellus shale plays -- the sort of billion-dollar project coveted by Ohio economic development officials for some time.

West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin and officials from Brazilian company Odebrecht stood shoulder to shoulder at a press conference recently, saying the company is looking at developing a cracker near Parkersburg across the Ohio River from Marietta.

The plant, which would separate ethane from natural gas, would be part of a petrochemical complex that would include three polyethylene plants and facilities for water treatment and energy cogeneration.

New Tank Regulations:

West Virginia has adopted some new tank regulations recently. The results and requirements of this new regulation was set out and explained in the latest SOOGA Newsletter, so please read it to familiarize yourself with these regulations if you have production in WV.

Tank Inspections are scheduled to be started this month.

UTICA NEWS:

NEW PIPELINES PROPOSED TO SPUR UTICA SHALE DRILLING IN OHIO

SUNOCO LOGISTICS PARTNERS, L.P.

Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. announced on 11/6/2014 that it will build a huge pipeline project that will quadruple the Marcellus Shale gas liquids moving through the Philadelphia area called the Mariner East 2 project. It will be at least 16 inches in diameter, and begin in Scio, Ohio and cross West Virginia and Western Pennsylvania to the Philadelphia area. The pipeline will be 350 miles long, and is expected to deliver 275,000 barrels per day of natural gas liquids (NGL) to the Marcus Hook complex, and will begin operations by the end of 2016, subject to regulatory and permit approvals.

COLUMBIA PIPELINE GROUP:

Columbia Pipeline Group (CPG), a unit of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI), today announced a total of \$1.75 billion in new investment in infrastructure that will enable it to transport up to 1.5 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/D) of natural gas from Marcellus and Utica production areas to markets served by its Columbia Gas Transmission (Columbia Transmission) and Columbia Gulf Transmission (Columbia Gulf) pipeline systems. The proposed Ohio and West Virginia pipeline, known as Columbia Transmission's Leach XPress project, is supported by long-term firm service agreements with Range Resources - Appalachia, LLC, Noble Energy, Inc., Kaiser Marketing Appalachian, LLC and American Energy Utica - LLC. The project, which involves construction of approximately 160 miles of pipeline, compression and related facilities on Columbia Transmission's system, will provide access to multiple Marcellus and Utica receipt points and establish a substantial new header system serving the heart of the Appalachian supply basin.

DUKE ENERGY:

Duke Energy and Piedmont Natural Gas today announced the selection of Dominion to build and operate a 550-mile interstate natural gas pipeline from West Virginia, through Virginia and into eastern North Carolina to meet the region's rapidly growing demand for natural gas. The pipeline has an estimated cost of between \$4.5 billion and \$5 billion, an initial capacity of 1.5 billion cubic feet

(Continued to page 10)

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 Chair and Professor
 Marietta College
 Department of Petroleum Engineering and Geology
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 Marietta, OH 45750
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Continued from page 6

of natural gas per day, and a target in-service date of late 2018. Gas will be carried through a 42-inch-diameter pipe in West Virginia and Virginia, and a 36-inch-diameter pipe in North Carolina. The pipeline's main customers are six utilities and related companies that collectively will purchase a substantial majority of the pipeline's capacity to transport natural gas – Duke Energy Carolinas, Duke Energy Progress, Virginia Power Services Energy, Piedmont Natural Gas, Virginia Natural Gas, and PSNC Energy.

SPECTRA ENERGY:

Spectra Energy, along with two other companies, are proposing a new 250 mile 36" pipeline, Nexus Gas Transmission, for transporting gas from shale drilling in eastern Ohio to Detroit and southern Ontario, subject to FERC approval. The anticipated cost of this new pipeline is \$1.5 billion, and could be in service as early as November, 2016. The proposed pipeline will run from Carroll County, Ohio, to Detroit and southern Ontario.

AMERICAN ENERGY/REGENCY ENERGY PARTNERS

American Energy and Regency Energy Partners are planning a \$500 million pipeline to move American Energy's Utica shale gas to major pipelines like Rockies Express and Texas Eastern that service Texas, Colorado, and states along the nation's southeastern rim. The 52 mile system will deliver more than 2 BCF per day of gas supply. It is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2015.

ENERGY TRANSFER

A second interstate pipeline is being planned to ship natural gas from the Utica and Marcellus Shale regions across Stark County. The planned Rover Pipeline would carry up to 3.25 BCF of natural gas per day from West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. In total, the Rover mainline will include 380 miles of 36 inch and 43 inch diameter pipe and five compressor stations, plus 197 miles of supply laterals ranging in diameter from 24 to 47 inches.

DOMINION EAST OHIO:

Blue Racer Midstream has finalized a new agreement for liquids uplift for producers on the DEO Guernsey/Cambridge gathering system for conventional production. The new agreement will be an amendment to the original HCA agreement. More details will be available later.

MIDSTREAM/PROCESSING NEWS:

Pinto Energy is looking to build a 2,800 bbl/day gas to liquids plant east of Ashtabula, Ohio. It will produce high quality synthetic liquids as well as lubricants, waxes and solvents from gas being produced by the Utica and Marcellus formations.

Utica East Ohio (UEO), a joint venture by Access Midstream, M3, and EV Energy Partners, became the first fully integrated gathering, processing, and fractionation complex to be put into operation on July 28th in Eastern Ohio. This initial phase of the UEO project is capable of processing 220-million cubic feet per day at their cryogenic processing facility near Kensington, and is processing 45,000 barrels per day of natural gas liquids at their fractionation, storage and rail facility new Scio.

The second phase is under construction and scheduled to be completed in December, 2014 with a third phase to follow. When complete, the UEO project will have 800 million cubic feet per day of cryogenic processing, 135,000 barrels per day of natural gas liquids fractionation, 870,000 barrels per day of natural gas liquids fractionation, 870,000 barrels of gas liquids storage and a rail facility capable of loading 90 cars per day.

Hickory Bend Project, the NiSource and Hilcorp natural gas processing project, has announced the construction of a \$60 million pipeline to move natural gas liquids from their cryogenic natural gas processing plant in Springfield Township to attractive market destinations. Pennant Midstream will construct the 12 inch 38 mile pipeline. It will have the capacity to deliver up to 90,000 bbls. of NGS per day to a Utica East Ohio pipeline in Columbiana County, and from there be transported to the fractionator in Harrison County. It is expected to be complete by July, 2014

Appalachian Resins announced that it will build a \$1 billion facility in Monroe County that will be able to process approximately 18,000 barrels per day of ethane into ethylene and polyethylene, the feedstock for plastic and many other items we use in our daily lives. The facility is expected to begin operating in early 2019 and will produce 600 million pounds of ethylene/polyethylene per a year. This new feedstock has the potential to reinvigorate the manufacturing sector in the region, which will, in turn, increase investment and jobs in the Ohio Valley.

For more information, click on this link; <http://energyindepth.org/ohio/new-natural-gas-plant-up-and-running-in-eastern-ohio/>

Speakers urge rethinking OU natural gas pipeline

Say Switch to Natural Gas at heating plant not a Progressive alternative

By Sam Schooler

Ohio University's plans to put a medium-pressure natural-gas pipeline under the Hocking River have been followed closely by Ohio University Climate Action Now (OUCAN), an environmental activist group.

The group held an event Friday night to continue to push OU to switch out the gas pipeline plans for a greener solution.

The university is replacing coal with natural gas at its Lausche Heating Plant as a more environmentally benign alternative, though critics such as OUCAN are urging OU to go with affordable and alternative energy sources. One of the speakers at an event Friday in Athens cited one alternative energy source he felt could work at OU.

More than 50 students, faculty and community members gathered Friday night in Baker Center to hear from Joe Stagner, Stanford University's executive director of sustainability and energy management, and from local business owner Geoff Greenfield, president of Third Sun Solar.

Attendees coming in were asked to sign an attendance roster and OUCAN's petition, which asks OU to divest from fossil fuels now, as opposed to sticking to its sustainability plan with its 36 benchmark goals. Two of those are to be off coal by the end of this year, and to be carbon-neutral by 2075.

OU officials say the pipeline, which will run under the river from the south side of Athens to the Lausche Heating Plant, will allow the university to meet that 2015 benchmark.

But OUCAN is concerned that plan is too gradual, or may not get results at all.

An OUCAN representative spoke briefly at the beginning of the event, charging that OU has made a non-transparent decision to use \$5.5 million of students' money to install the pipeline, and that the line would make OU the largest natural gas consumer in the county.

"Extraction and use of natural gas is equivalent to, if not worse than, coal," he said. "Not sure how a bright future for our students is possible, given our current decisions."

He added that the permanence of the pipeline is one of its biggest issues.

Officials who advocate for natural gas as a replacement for coal in power or heat generation argue that it's much better for reducing greenhouse gas emissions than coal, and can be used as a "bridge" to renewables, but that it's not practical or cost-effective to go 100 percent renewable at this time.

OUCAN isn't the only organization concerned with how OU is handling its sustainability plan. Part of the presentation's introduction included demands from the OU Divestment Group, which urges the university to totally divest from fossil fuels immediately, and the Athens County Bill of Rights Committee, which is calling for Athens County to prohibit the injection of fracking wastes into deep wells.

Joe Stagner, who wasn't at the actual event Friday evening, spoke "virtually" via Google Hangouts and laid out an alternative plan - one Stanford University has implemented over the past few years to make its consumption of energy greener. Stagner said that five years ago, Stanford was "in a similar boat" to OU and was under the control of investors.

So he and the rest of the sustainability and energy management department at Stanford set out to develop a long-term energy plan, with a horizon goal of 2050. They explored energy alternatives by looking at current and developing technologies, including the possibility of installing a hydroelectric pump under the Golden Gate Bridge.

But most of these alternatives weren't going to make much of a difference, Stagner said. The department took a closer look at Stanford's energy use and found that many of the university's buildings were being heated and cooled at the same time.

(Continued on Page 26)

EXPLOSIONS AND FIRES

Workers in the oil and gas industries face the risk of fire and explosion due to ignition of flammable vapors or gases. Flammable gases, such as well gases, vapors, and hydrogen sulfide, can be released from wells, trucks, production equipment or surface equipment such as tanks and shale shakers. Ignition sources can include static, electrical energy sources, open flames, lightning, cigarettes, cutting and welding tools, hot surfaces, and frictional heat. The following OSHA and NIOSH documents provide guidance on recognizing and controlling these hazards.

Ignition Hazards

- Internal-combustion engine sparks
- Open flames from any source
- Smoking
- Welding operations
- Electric power tools
- Two-way radios
- Vehicles with catalytic converters
- Portable generators



Workers performing hot work such as welding, cutting, brazing, soldering, and grinding are exposed to the risk of fires from ignition of flammable or combustible materials in the space, and from leaks of flammable gas into the space, from hot work equipment



Hot work is any work that involves burning, welding, using fire- or spark-producing tools, or that produces a source of ignition. Welding and cutting operations are common to drilling and servicing operations.

Test for flammable gases in the work area before starting any hot work. Potentially hazardous areas include, but are not limited to, well heads, fuel tanks, mud tanks, tank batteries, gas separators, oil treaters, or confined spaces where gases can accumulate.

Possible Solutions

- Provide spark arrestors for internal-combustion engines.
- Post "NO SMOKING" signs wherever a flammable gas or vapor hazard exists.
- Locate "spark producing" equipment or facilities well away from potential hazard areas.
- Prohibit vehicles with catalytic converters from the immediate vicinity of the rig.
- Prohibit open flames from the vicinity of the rig.

Do not perform hot work where flammable vapors or combustible materials exist. Work and equipment should be relocated outside of the hazardous areas, when possible.

Make suitable fire-extinguishing equipment immediately available in a state of readiness. Such equipment may consist of pails of water, buckets of sand, hose, or portable extinguishers dependent upon the nature and quantity of the combustible material exposed.



These explosion and fire tips are **crucial** to ensuring a safe work place!
This information and more can be found at www.osha.gov.

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MARCH 2015

NYMEX Settlement: \$2.8940
 Inside FERC/DTI: \$2.0400(Basis: -\$0.854)
 Inside FERC/TCO: \$2.8200 (Basis: -\$0.074)
 NYMEX 3-day Average: \$2.8917

APRIL 2015

NYMEX Settlement: \$2.5900
 Inside FERC/DTI: \$1.4500 (Basis: -\$1.140)
 Inside FERC/TCO: \$2.4800 (Basis: -\$0.110)
 NYMEX 3-day Average: \$2.6617

OIL PRICING 2015

ERGON OIL PURCHASING WEST VIRGINIA MONTHLY AVERAGE

February Ohio Tier 1: \$49.8632
 February Ohio Tier 2: \$46.8632
 February Ohio Tier 3: \$43.8632
 February West Virginia Tier 1: \$49.8632
 February West Virginia Tier 2: \$46.8632
 February West Virginia Tier 3: \$43.8632
 February Marcellus/Utica Condensate: \$25.8632
 February Marcellus/Utica Medium: \$49.8632
 February Marcellus/Utica Light: \$43.8632

March Ohio Tier 1: \$46.7623
 March Ohio Tier 2: \$43.7623
 March Ohio Tier 3: \$40.7623
 March West Virginia Tier 1: \$46.7623
 March West Virginia Tier 2: \$43.7623
 March West Virginia Tier 3: \$40.7623
 March Marcellus/Utica Condensate: \$22.7623
 March Marcellus/Utica Medium: \$46.7623
 March Marcellus/Utica Light: \$40.7623

Tier 1 - 150 + net barrels of crude oil

No more than 2% BS&W (if the BS&W is over 2% it will then qualify for Tier 2 pricing)

Tier 2 - 60-149.99 net barrels of crude oil

Two Stops within 5 miles

Tier 3 - 30-59.99 net barrels of crude oil

The prices as posted are based upon computation of volume by using tank tables, or as measured by a deduction for all BS&W and correction for temperature deductions or allowances shall be made on the oil purchased shall be free of contamination and/or alteration by foreign substances or chemicals not associated with virgin crude oil. These include but are not restricted to, oxygenated and/or chlorinated compounds.

The Marcellus/Utica Shale produced crude oil will be purchased based on the monthly average for the following postings:
 38.0-49.9 API Gravity—**Marcellus/Utica Medium** crude oil
 50.0-59.9 API Gravity—**Marcellus/Utica Light** crude oil
 60.0+ API Gravity—**Marcellus/Utica Condensate** (formerly posted as Appalachian Sweet Light-ALS).
 Other parameters will be evaluated on a farm by farm basis.

You can now find EOP WVA Crude oil Price Bulletin on the internet at:
www.ergon.com

OIL PRICING 2015

AMERICAN REFINING GROUP AVERAGE

2/11 to 2/20 Group 1 OH: \$50.83
 Group 2 OH: \$47.83
 Group 3 OH: \$44.83
 2/21 to 2/28 Group 1 OH: \$48.76
 Group 2 OH: \$45.76
 Group 3 OH: \$42.76
 3/1 to 3/10 Group 1 OH: \$48.93
 Group 2 OH: \$45.93
 Group 3 OH: \$42.93
 3/11 to 3/20 Group 1 OH: \$44.14
 Group 2 OH: \$41.14
 Group 3 OH: \$38.14
 3/21 to 3/31 Group 1 OH: \$47.18
 Group 2 OH: \$44.18
 Group 3 OH: \$41.18
 4/1 to 4/10 Group 1 OH: \$49.56
 Group 2 OH: \$46.56
 Group 3 OH: \$ 43.56

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Group 2 (OH/PA/NY) - 60.0-149.99 net barrels from a single location

Group 3 (OH/PA/NY) - 30-59.9 net barrels from a single location

For questions relating to ARG Group Pricing or Utica / Marcellus Shale pricing, please contact:

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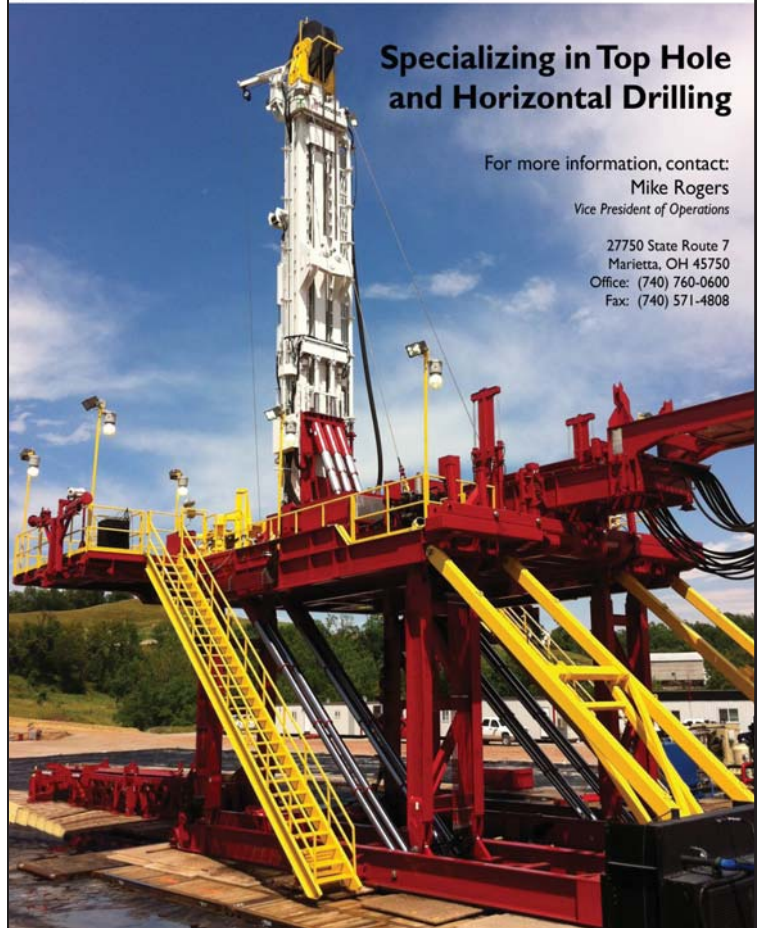


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(Continued from page 10)

Utica Facts and Numbers:

The Utica gas production has been added to the Energy Information Agency's Monthly Drilling Report as of August, 2014. Since January 2012, production has increased from 155 million cubic feet per day (MMcf/d) to approximately 1.667 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d). Utica's production per rig has also steadily improved.

Horizontal wells in the Utica shale in the eastern part of the state produced more natural gas the second quarter than all of the Ohio wells combined in 2012, reports the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Fourth Quarter Production Results:

Production from horizontal oil and gas wells across the state was 49% higher during the third quarter compared to the second quarter, according to a newly released report from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Horizontal shale wells in Ohio produced 3,558,836 barrels of oil and 164.8 billion cubic feet of natural gas during the fourth quarter ending 12/31/2014, ODNR said.

Utica wells each produced an average of 4,471 barrels of oil and 195 million cubic feet of natural gas, ODNR said. Production periods ranged from one to 92 days, with an average well production period of 75 days.

The highest-producing oil well in the state was Pittsburgh-based CNX Gas Co.'s Reserve Coal Properties Co. well in Noble County, ODNR reported, with 50,159 barrels of oil over 86 days of production.

Denver-based Antero Resources' Gary 3H well in Monroe County produced the most natural gas, 1.7 billion cubic feet during 90 days, and is thus by far the biggest producing natural gas well on record in Ohio, according to ODNR data.

As of April 4, 2015, there have been 1,911 Utica Shale permits issued in 23 counties in Ohio to 29 companies, and 1,420 of them have been developed. The counties are listed below.

Ashland, Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Geauga, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes Jefferson, Knox, Mahoning, Medina, Monroe, Muskingum, Noble, Portage, Stark, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, Washington, and Wayne.

There are currently 729 Utica Shale wells in production, with 37 rigs running.

MARCELLUS SUPPLY UPDATE:

It has been reported by the EIA that the Marcellus Shale gas has hit 15 BCF per day in July, 2014.

Use of Data:

The information contained in this document is compiled and furnished without responsibility for accuracy and is provided to the recipients on the condition that errors or omissions shall not be made the basis for a claim, demand or cause of action. The information contained in this document is obtained from recognized statistical services and other sources believed to be reliable, however we have not verified such information and we do not make any representations as to its accuracy or completeness.

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2015 SOOGA SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Gene Huck received the 2015 Lifetime Achievement or “Wildcatter” Award for his lifetime of dedication to SOOGA and the oil and gas industry. Christy Chavez and Matt Lupardus also presented Gene Huck with the first SOOGA “Curmudgen” Award and made a list of characteristics that recipients must possess in order to receive this award.



Jim Rose presents Matt Lupardus with the 2015 Workhorse Award for all his time, hard work and dedication to the Association.

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WEST VIRGINIA TANK UPDATE

By: Roger Heldman

The WV Legislature passed Senate Bill 423 on March 14 and it was signed by Governor Tomblin on March 27, 2015. The effective date of this legislation is June 12, 2015. This bill was designed to mitigate some of the unintended consequences the Above Ground Storage Tank Act (SB 373) to the oil and gas and other industries. A brief Summary:

1. The vast majority of all tanks will continue to be subject to the registration requirements and some of the other provisions imposed by the Act. Tanks previously registered by October 1, 2014 are deemed to have met this registration requirement.

2. ASTs are still defined as those with a capacity greater than 1,320 gallons of fluids with more than 90% of the capacity above the surface of the ground. This includes all pipes up to the first point of isolation.

3. Certain categories of containers have, by definition, been removed as AST's. These included shipping containers, process vessels, devices containing drinking water, surface water or groundwater, food or food-grade materials for human or animal consumption, devices located on a farm used exclusively for farm purposes (unless located within a zone of critical concern), swimming pools, and empty tanks held in inventory or offered for sale are not ASTs. Pipeline facilities, including gathering lines, regulated under the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968 or the Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Act of 1979, or an intrastate pipeline facility regulated by the West Virginia Public Service Commission or otherwise regulated under any state law comparable to the provisions of either the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968 or the Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Act of 1979 and other listed devices are not subject to the AST Act, including the tank registration requirement.

4. Mobile tanks or frac tanks are not aboveground storage tanks" and are not subject to any of the requirements of the amended Act unless they remain in one location on a continuous basis for 365 days. It is unclear if mobile tanks that have been registered can be removed from the registration records. This will need to be addressed by WVDEP.

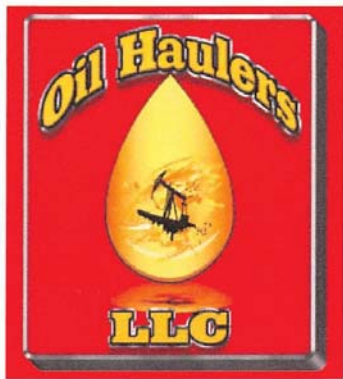
5. The primary focus of this legislation is on two categories of "regulated tanks."

A. "Level 1" regulated tanks are those determined to pose the greatest potential for harm to public drinking water supplies, and encompass:

1. ASTs located within a zone of critical concern ("ZCC"), source water protection area, public surface water influenced groundwater supply source area, or any other AST designated by WVDEP as a Level 1 tank.

2. ASTs that contain a "hazardous substance" under CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14) or identified on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's "List of Lists" in a concentration of one percent or greater, regardless of the AST's location, except that ASTs containing petroleum are not Level 1 tanks based solely upon containing constituents on these lists

3. ASTs with a capacity of 50,000 gallons or more, regardless of contents or location. Level 1 tanks will be more highly regulated than Level 2 tanks because they pose a higher risk of contamination to public water supplies based on their location. Oil and gas tanks containing oil or brine water will not be Level 1 tanks, unless they are located within a ZCC, or have a capacity of 50,000 gallons or more, or are designated as Level 1 by WVDEP.



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WEST VIRGINIA TANK UPDATE CON'T

b. "Level 2" regulated tanks are those located within a "zone of peripheral concern," ("ZPC") which are deemed to pose a lesser potential for harm to public drinking water supplies while still meriting some degree of regulation. The ZPC extends an additional 5-hour time of travel upstream from a public water supply intake beyond the perimeter of the ZCC. The ZPC roughly doubles the area in which ASTs are deemed to be "regulated tanks." The area included in the new ZPC will need to be developed by WVDEP as part of the implementation of the amended Act. Hopefully, WVDEP will identify for AST owners those tanks that are located within a ZPC once that area is determined.

6. WVDEP is authorized to collect registration fees of \$40.00 per AST placed in service prior to July 1, 2015 and \$20.00 per AST placed into service on or after July 1, 2015.

If you would care to read the full version The Enrolled version (as signed by the Governor) can be found at

<http://www.legis.state.wv.us>.



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OOGEEP Announces New Leadership on Board of Directors

Marty Miller elected Chairman after retirement of Eric Smith after 12 years of service

April 20, 2015



GRANVILLE, OH – The Board of Directors of the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program (OOGEEP) recently elected Marty Miller as Chairman following the retirement of Eric Smith.

Smith has served as Chairman of OOGEEP and President of the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Foundation since 2010. Miller

has served as Vice-Chairman of the OOGEEP Board of Directors during the same period. Current OOGEEP Board Member Ron Whitmire, Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer for EnerVest, Ltd., was elected Vice-Chairman.

Marty Miller is Vice President of Operations for Alliance Petroleum Corporation. He has 35 years experience in oil and gas exploration, production and development operations. He has served on the OOGEEP Board of Directors since 2007 and chairs the OOGEEP Safety and Workforce Committee. He is also past President and Board Member of the Southeastern Ohio Oil and Gas Association.

“I’m incredibly proud of the work OOGEEP does on behalf of Ohio’s oil and gas industry and look forward to growing those efforts,” said Miller. “Now, more than ever, Ohioans need to feel a connection to the industry that is responsible for so much from the products they use to the power that runs their lives. I will work tirelessly to continue the legacy of leadership set by people like Eric Smith; it’s a tall task but I’m excited to get to work.”

Eric Smith is the President of Maric Drilling Company, H & S Operating Company and GHS Properties. He was elected Chairman of the OOGEEP Board of Directors in 2010 and has served on the board since 2003. Smith was instrumental in creating and developing OOGEEP’s Emergency Response

Training Program, which is now endorsed by the Ohio Fire Chiefs Association. Eric is a past member of the Ohio Oil and Gas Association’s Board of Trustees and Executive Committee; he also served as and Chairman of the Association’s Technical Committee. He’s an inductee into the OOGA Hall of Fame and in 2014 was named in Columbus Business First’s “Who’s Who in Energy.”

“OOGEEP is as strong as it’s ever been and I can’t wait to see what the future holds,” said Smith. “The organization has adapted along with the industry yet continues to fulfill its core mission of public outreach and education. Ohio’s oil and gas industry is better off because of OOGEEP’s valuable work and I’m honored to have been a part of those efforts for more than a decade.”

“Ohio’s oil and gas producers are indebted to Eric Smith for his service to OOGEEP as Board Member and Chairman,” said Rhonda Reda, OOGEEP Executive Director. “He oversaw a period of growth for our organization that will allow us to increase our education, outreach and training efforts. Marty Miller is the perfect person to lead OOGEEP into the future. His years of experience and expertise will be invaluable as OOGEEP moves forward on behalf of Ohio’s oil and gas industry.”

Miller becomes OOGEEP’s fifth Chairman following John Herron (1998-2000), Jerry James (2000-2007), David Hill (2007-2010) and Eric Smith (2010-2015).

Tim Altier has been selected to replace Smith on the OOGEEP Board. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Technical Advisory Council recently approved Altier’s replacement. Altier serves as Conventional Production Manager for Eclipse Resources. He has worked in the oil and gas industry his entire career, starting on his father’s workover rig. He has worked in drilling, completions, production and natural gas storage operations for several companies, including Range Resources as the company drilled some of the first horizontal Marcellus wells in Pennsylvania. Tim earned degrees in Petroleum Engineering from both Marietta College (Bachelor of Science) and West Virginia University (Master of Science).

OOGEEP Announces 2015 Teacher Workshops

By: Mark Bruce, OOGEEP Communications Director

The Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program (OOGEEP) has selected locations for its 2015 summer teacher workshops. Marietta College will hold a workshop June 18-19, while Youngstown State University will welcome teachers July 27-28. These free workshops draw educators from around Ohio seeking to learn more about Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) principles at use in the state's crude oil and natural gas industry.

Both Marietta College and Youngstown State University are recognized as leaders in preparing today's students for careers in Ohio's oil and gas industry and related fields. OOGEEP has hosted more than 2,700 teachers representing all of Ohio's 88 counties at these teacher workshops.

"We are proud to host our 2015 summer teacher workshops at Marietta College and YSU," said OOGEEP Executive Director Rhonda Reda.

"Today's students need STEM education and these teachers are volunteering their time to learn new and interesting ways to showcase these principles to their students. We can't wait to meet another fantastic group of teachers and get to work learning from one another."

OOGEEP recently introduced a revamped curriculum titled *STEM Lessons in Oil and Gas Energy Education* that demonstrates how STEM can be used to learn about geology, engineering and chemistry, among other areas. The curriculum meets all state and national science standards and is adaptable to grades K-12. It includes experiments that: demonstrate how biotic material is transformed into hydrocarbons; explain the principles of geologic time and rock cycles; help students understand how sound waves are used to map geologic formations underground; how math and engineering plays a key

role in developing and producing local energy; and how chemistry and petrochemicals are refined and processed into familiar products such as plastics, soaps, medicines, synthetic fibers and rubber.

OOGEEP regularly holds teacher workshops to educate teachers about the crude oil and natural gas industry and the STEM principles at work. During the workshop, organizers walk teachers step-by-step through OOGEEP's curriculum, including demonstrations of multiple hands-on science labs. The sessions also include guest industry speakers and field visits to active oil and gas industry sites in the region.

Teachers earn continuing education units and an optional graduate credit by attending the workshop. Through the generosity of Ohio's oil and gas producers, like The Energy Cooperative, there is no cost for teachers to attend, and all will receive graphic organizers, internet activities, career connections, curriculums, classroom supplies and material kits to take back to their classroom and students. For more information and to sign up for the training, please visit oogeeep.org/teachers-students.

About the Ohio Oil & Gas Energy Education Program

The Ohio Oil & Gas Energy Education Program (OOGEEP) is a non-profit organization responsible for public outreach on behalf of Ohio's natural gas and crude oil industry. The mission of OOGEEP is to facilitate educational, scholarship and safety programs, and to promote public awareness about the industry and its positive impact on the economy. For more information, visit www.oogeeep.org. ###

Photo Captions: Marty Miller (right) recognizes Eric Smith at the 2015 OOGA Winter Meeting.

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Continued from Page 11

Investigation found a 70 percent overlap between heating and cooling, which Stagner said meant Stanford was burning natural gas to heat buildings, then spending electricity to expel that heat when it wasn't needed to warm rooms, which were already at optimal temperature.

Stanford's solution was to invest in heat recovery. Now its clean energy facility is a combined heat and power plant, which uses a heat recovery steam generator, plus a steam turbine driving a second electrical generator.

Stagner said of all the environmentally conscious solutions, heat recovery ended up being the cheapest. He believes moving completely from gas to electric and then into future-source renewables is not only a viable goal, but an intelligent one.

He added that gas-based systems often require lots of maintenance. Once Stanford laid down the \$83 million miles of pipes that connected the university buildings to the heat recovery generators, the system ran itself with very little maintenance.

Stanford was also given direct access to the area's electricity, and was able to get solar power at a fixed price for 25 years. With these solutions, Stanford was able to reduce 68 percent of its gas usage within a year and a half, Stagner said.

He stressed that this was an affordable solution, and that Stanford could have spent hundreds of millions more if it had gone for some of the other solutions presented.

"This wasn't a vanity project by a rich university," he said. "It was by far the lowest cost of all the options."

And, he said, he believes these solutions are transferable. Some critics have asked if Stanford's solution is unique to its California location.

"It's really up to the folks there," he said. He encouraged OU to have a "fully comprehensive and transparent analysis" full of "good holistic data" so the whole community can make viable decisions about what's best.

GREENFIELD OF THIRD SUN Solar agreed. Stagner's 21st century approach makes sense, he said, because OU needs to look at the pipeline decision as one that will affect the distant future, not just the next few years. Greenfield said OU's decision to put in the pipeline could box in the university, and put it in a situation it might regret 25 years from now, when the energy situation becomes vastly more dire.

"I don't have to try to convince you climate change is happening," he said, citing the widely accepted objective that increasing the global surface temperature by two degrees Celsius will result in the planet becoming unsurvivable.

"It's easy to point fingers at capitalism," Greenfield said, but he believes the U.S.'s energy problems can't be solved by the government, and that corporations like his have to take matters into their own hands.

Several candidates in the recent Student Senate elections said they were concerned with greener energy, and would like to move in the direction of solar power. Greenfield said that's more possible than ever now that the average price of solar panels has dropped to 61 cents per pane and grid parity is becoming more widespread.

Grid parity means a localized alternative energy source is less expensive than hooking into the electricity grid - so yes, Greenfield said, solar power currently costs less than grid power.

He said the issues that green-energy activists face stem from traditional businesses and utilities who are comfortable with the status quo and don't want to try actively moving forward. He showed a map that squared out an 800 kilometer by 800 kilometer area of desert where panels could be installed, which he said could power not just the whole OU' campus, but the entire world on solar.

"The technology is ready," he said. "It's there."


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Test well in Putnam County leads to gas speculation

The Charleston Gazette By Andrew Brown Staff writer

WINFIELD — As gas companies continue to develop the Marcellus Shale in Northern West Virginia, recent gas exploration in Putnam County and Eastern Kentucky have people speculating about the possibility of a future gas boom in the southwest part of the state.

Last year, Cabot Oil and Gas drilled a vertical test well into the Rogersville Shale, a relatively unexplored deep-shale formation that underlies parts of northeast Kentucky and the southwestern counties of West Virginia.

The test well, located just northeast of Hometown, is the first permitted well drilled into the Rogersville in West Virginia, but Cabot's exploration of the geological formation comes on the heels of two exploratory wells being tapped by another company just over the state line, in Lawrence County, Kentucky.

While neither of the gas developers has released production data from the three wells, the companies' continued interest has government and industry officials waiting to see if the Rogersville can become the country's next profitable shale formation.

"I know that Cabot has an interest in the Rogersville," said Corky DeMarco, executive director of the West Virginia Oil and Natural Gas Association. "I haven't seen any production reports, so I can't comment as to the amount of production they're getting from this well."

The recent exploration of the formation comes at a time when advancements in extraction technology — horizontal drilling coupled with hydraulic fracturing — have unlocked previously unattainable oil and natural gas reserves throughout the country.

However, while industry officials hope the Rogersville will produce sustainable volumes of natural gas, the depth of the shale and slumping gas prices — largely caused by a glut in production nationally — might forestall any immediate development in the region.

"We are looking at various intervals to assess what we have," said Cabot spokesman George Stark, but the company has "no plans to drill any more exploratory wells this year, due to lower commodity prices."

If the formation does prove to be profitable, it could usher in a new wave of drilling in the southwest part of the state.

While Putnam, Wayne and Lincoln counties have a long history of exploration into shallow gas deposits, the development of the Rogersville could provide one of the region's

first large-scale unconventional gas plays, bringing with it the jobs, tax revenue, land disputes and environmental concerns that have accompanied drilling in other parts of the country.

For companies like Cabot that already have substantial lease holdings in the area — including more than 600 tracts held by existing gas wells in those three counties — the formation could offer a new source of profit, once commodity prices rebound.

The Rogersville Shale formation is an older and deeper geological formation than the Marcellus, the formation that has attracted national attention as gas companies have drilled and fracked hundreds of wells in Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia over the past couple years.

Unlike shallow gas deposits that can be captured using vertical wells, unconventional, or tight gas, formations require operators to drill thousands of feet down and out, through the targeted layer of earth, before pressurizing the well with water, sand and chemicals — fracking — to release the gas trapped inside.

While the Marcellus is located around 5,000 feet underground, the Rogersville can be anywhere from 9,000 to 14,000 feet below the surface.

According to geologists with the Kentucky Geological Survey, who have conducted some of the most recent research on the formation, the depth, thickness and composition of the shale varies, depending on the location.

David Harris, the head of the Kentucky agency's Energy and Minerals Section, said the formation tends to be much deeper in West Virginia than it is in Kentucky and that the extreme depths of the Rogersville likely would make production costs higher than a well drilled into the Marcellus.

"In Putnam County, it's going to be a little deeper," Harris said. "It's definitely going to be multimillion-dollar wells."

In a July 2013 company newsletter, officials with Abarta Energy, a company active in Eastern Kentucky, wrote: "The Rogersville shale is even older and deeper than the Marcellus or Utica shales. This makes the potential shale play extremely risky and expensive, but the rewards could also be extreme!"

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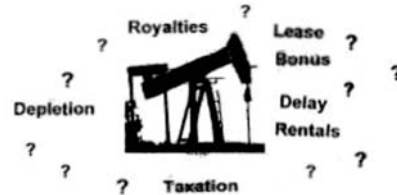
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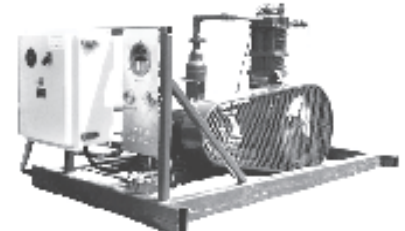
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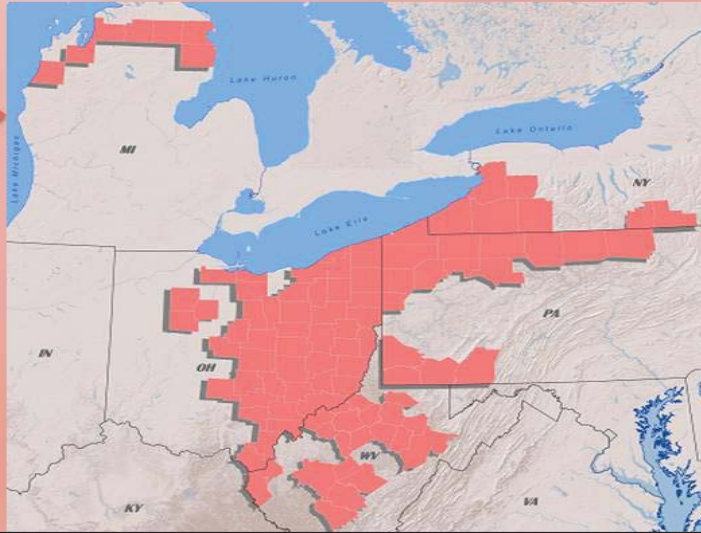


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(Continued from Page 28)

Besides the depth, Harris said he expects the makeup of the gas in Kentucky and West Virginia to also differ.

In Kentucky, he said, the gas produced could include natural gas liquids — butane, ethane and propane — which can be separated off and sold for additional profit. In West Virginia, he said, the gas will largely consist of pure methane.

“The gas content will vary, depending on where you are,” he said.

That difference in the gas composition could be why companies continue to explore the formation in Kentucky, while permitting has remained flat in West Virginia, Harris said.

While there are only two permitted production wells in Kentucky — both owned by Bruin Resources, a subsidiary of Cimarex Energy — Harris said several other companies have submitted paperwork to begin horizontal drilling operations and additional strata-graphic test wells, which allow operators to analyze a well bore while keeping the location and production of the well confidential.

“It’s been a very closely guarded play, so far,” Harris said.

Although none of the companies in Kentucky will have to reveal how much natural gas the Rogersville wells are producing until January 2016, Harris said there is evidence that the wells are hitting.

At times last year, he said, the first well to be drilled in Lawrence County began flaring off gas, with flames leaping above the well pad.

“Everything that I have heard about that well is encouraging,” he said.

Here in West Virginia, state officials have heard only secondhand suggestions of companies’ interest in the formation.

“It is speculation, but we have heard there is a lot of activity planned for that area,” said Gene Smith, assistant chief of the Office of Oil and Gas in the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection. “At this point, we don’t have the documentation to prove it.”

At the Cabot well in Putnam County, production data

could be available a year after the well is completed. Cindy Raines, an administrative assistant with the state’s Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, said that hasn’t happened yet.

Cabot has 90 days after completing the well to file its completion report with the state, and Raines said she could not confirm any production until that occurs.

Besides that well, there have been very few deep wells permitted in the southwest corner of the state, Smith said.

“The Rogersville Shale is big in Kentucky right now,” he said, “but we have not had any other activity in those three counties or the western part of the state.”

Until production data from the wells does become available, officials said, there is no definitive way to determine how significant the formation could become.

Still, Harris said, all indications seem to be positive.

“That’s the interesting aspect to this Rogersville play,” he said. “Despite the drop in prices, the interest in this play seems to be holding up.”



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