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Strong Support for Leasing in Wayne National Forest at Marietta BLM Meeting

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by Jackie Stewart, Energy in Depth
November 23, 2015



Packed house for the Marietta Oil & Gas meeting

Last week, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) held three public meetings regarding leasing federal minerals located in the Wayne National Forest (WNF). The meetings were held over a course of three days: the first meeting took place in Marietta, followed by Athens, and Ironton, Ohio. EID attended all three meetings in their entirety and witnessed, firsthand, how radical activists made a mockery of the opportunity to give public comment.

If the BLM thought the Athens meeting would go similarly to the first meeting in Marietta, where impacted citizens took the time to ask questions and submit public comment, they were sadly mistaken. In fact, the second meeting in Athens, a known anti-fracking activist hot bed, was the exact opposite of the previous night in Marietta. In fact, activists' behavior got so out of hand at the Athens meeting that BLM had to shut down the meeting early.

Unlike the Marietta meeting, which resulted in headlines like "Citizens Gather to Learn Wayne National Forest Property Leasing," the headlines after the Athens meeting were more along these lines: "Wayne Forest Oil and Gas Drilling Public Forum Heats Up, Gets Called off Early."

So why was there such a contrast between the two meetings? Interestingly, the Marietta area will host the bulk of oil and gas activity if BLM approves leasing in WNF. More than half of the proposed acreage can actually be found in Washington and Monroe Counties, or 51 of the 57 parcels. So when nearly 300 landowners turned out to that meeting Tuesday night, they did so to have their questions answered about activity that could potentially occur on their property and to show support for the jobs development would create. As such, the meeting was educational, informative, and allowed for rational and organized public input.



This photo highlights a civil and productive Marietta public meeting, where attendees interacted with BLM and U.S. Forest Service employees and asked questions about leasing.

Athens County, on the other hand, has the smallest acreage under consideration for leasing, and as such their Environmental Assessment will not even start until both the Marietta and Ironton units are finalized. As this Facebook post below from the anti-fracking group, Buckeye Forest Council demonstrates, activists put out a desperate plea for their folks to attend the BLM meeting in Athens in response to the overwhelming majority of civil supporters at the Marietta meeting.

THE CROW'S NEST

All I want for Christmas is cold weather! Unfortunately this Christmas wish does not appear like it will come to fruition. Most forecasts are pointing to a much warmer than normal winter this year, which thus far have been spot on (as evidenced by December's tropical temperatures). The warm weather has caused the NYMEX natural gas price to tumble nearly a dollar in just a month's time. While gas prices have dropped significantly, the Dominion South Point (DSP) basis has greatly improved. In August 2015 the DSP basis settled at an abysmal negative \$1.65 per mmbtu differential to the Henry Hub price. In just four months however, the negative basis has been cut by more than half to negative \$0.75 per mmbtu.

A negative \$0.75 basis is still certainly nothing to write home about, especially in light of sub \$2.00 natural gas prices, however now that nearly all US oil and gas basins are experiencing sub \$2.00 prices, it should entail that a supply and demand balance be achieved more quickly. How long will this take? Given the warm winter and low withdrawals from natural gas storage, it could still be a while. However, with even more extremely constrained company cash flows, it may result in a more permanent fix to the root cause of the supply problem; too much drilling in an uneconomic price environment due to easy access to capital and investment dollars.

As our industry is hunkered down during these tough times, SOOGA continues to go to battle on the front lines for our membership. One such battle has been in regard to leasing of federally owned land in the Wayne National Forest in Ohio, with Washington and Monroe County acreage being of particular interest. As most of our membership is already aware, the Wayne is a patchwork of federally owned lands interspersed with privately held property. Despite the fact that oil and gas development has occurred in the Wayne for over 100 years, privately held mineral rights have in a sense been held hostage by the slowness of the BLM leasing process.

SOOGA, along with EID, OOGA, and OOGEEP has been working hard to speed up the process. Fortunately

with the success of the Utica and the south and eastward shifting of the "sweet spot" of the play, it has also got the attention of landowners who own minerals amongst the federally owned lands. There has been huge support in the Washington and Monroe County areas to develop the Utica in and around the Wayne. At a recent BLM "scoping" meeting held in Marietta on November 17th, several hundred interested citizens turned out in support of leasing in the Wayne. Hopefully with this profound support, more timely movement at the Federal/BLM level will be achieved. It needs to happen so landowners, the local community, and oil and gas companies holding leases can realize the benefits the Utica has to offer in southeastern Ohio.

SOOGA also recently hosted a tax seminar on December 3rd, which was excellent and well attended. Several more great SOOGA events are planned in 2016, which will soon be posted on the events page of the SOOGA website.

The recent SOOGA Board of Trustees election results were also received and tallied in December. We are happy to welcome back Kathy Hill, Bob Gerst, and Dan Corcoran as they will serve another three year term on the SOOGA Board. Kathy, Bob, and Dan have done a great job in the past and we thank them for their continued service!

As the SOOGA Board continues to fight on your behalf, we also ask our members to provide aid in these battles. Some ways you can help include recruiting new SOOGA members, lending your time and expertise on one of our committees, sponsoring events or direct donations, and staying involved with SOOGA in general. As always, your SOOGA Executive Committee and Board of Trustees will continue to provide you with great events, keep you informed about important issues, and push back against attacks on our industry.

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



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2016 SOOGA Tentative
Calendar of Events

Spring Membership Meeting

April 21st, 2016
Marietta Shrine Club

Spring Golf Outing

May 20th, 2016
Lakeside Golf Course

Summer Clay Shoot

June 17th, 2016
Hilltop Sports, LLC

Summer Golf Outing

August 19th, 2016
Woodridge Golf Club

Annual Trade Show

September 15th, 2016
Washington County Fairgrounds

Fall Clay Shoot

October 14th, 2016
Hilltop Sports, LLC

Annual Gun Giveaway

November 1st, 2016

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**Southeastern Ohio Oil and Gas Association
Gas Committee Report
November, 2015**

PRICING

Prices December 7, 2015

One Year NYMEX strip (Jan., 2016 – Dec., 2016)	\$2.41
Summer NYMEX strip for 2016 (April-October)	\$2.38
Winter NYMEX strip (Jan., 2015 – March, 2016)	\$2.17
TCO Index Posting –December, 2015	\$2.05
DTI Index Posting – December, 2015	\$1.50

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 December 3, 2015 Report

Working Gas in storage was 3,956 bcf as of Friday, November 27, 2015. At 3,956, total working gas is above the 5 year historical range.

Region	Stocks billion cubic feet (Bcf)			Year ago (11/27/14)		5-Year average (2010-2014)	
	11/27/15	11/20/2015	change	(Bcf)	% change	(Bcf)	% change
East	2,028	2,062	-34	1,824	9.3	1,956	1.8
West	586	595	-9	514	10.9	560	2.1
Producing	1342	1,352	-10	1,074	25	1,193	12.5
Salt	380	382	-2	313	21.4	287	32.4
Nonsalt	962	970	-8	762	26.2	906	6.2
Total	3,956	4,009	-53	3,413	15.9	3,709	6.7

Storage is 90.6% full compared to normal as of this report, with normal total capacity of 4,336 at the start of the withdrawal season. Storage is 543 BCF above last year, and 247 BCF above 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.

February 10, 2015 EIA Forecast for natural Gas Prices:

According to the EIA, natural gas consumption will average 74.3 Bcf per day in 2015, and 75.2 Bcf/d in 2016. The projected Henry Hub natural gas price averages \$2.97/MMBtu in 2015 and \$3.31/MMBtu in 2016.

GATHERCO

Chesapeake Utilities Corporation announced a Definitive Merger Agreement to acquire Gatherco, Inc.

On January 30, 2015, Chesapeake Utilities announced a merger agreement to acquire Gatherco, merging it into Aspire Energy of Ohio, LLC. A wholly-owned subsidiary of Chesapeake Utilities. It is expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2015.

The transaction has an aggregate value of approximately \$59.2 million, inclusive of the following:

\$49.8 million in exchange for all outstanding shares of Gatherco common stock, paid as follows:

593,005 shares of Chesapeake Utilities common stock, valued at \$29.9 million, and

\$19.9 million in cash (before payment of certain transaction expenses and escrow deposits);

\$7.7 million in cash in consideration for cancellation of all outstanding Gatherco stock options; and Assumption of Gatherco's debt at closing, estimated to be \$1.7 million.

(Continued to page 6)



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(Continued from page 4)

GATHERCO RETAINAGE

Retainage for August, 2015 is as follows for the Gatherco systems. Treat was 14.0%, Miley was 6.0%, Meigs was 14.0%, York was 6.0%, Grimes was 14.0%, and Elk was 14.0%. September, 2015 retainage was not available as of the date of this report.

WEST VIRGINIA NEWS:

West Virginia legislators are currently considering forced pooling, and the producers and oil and gas associations are working with the House and Senate to develop rules. The last attempt did not pass, and they are working to come up with some acceptable legislation in 2015.

New Tank Regulations:

West Virginia has adopted some new tank regulations recently. The results and requirements of this new regulation were 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.

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.

DOMINION RESOURCES INC.:

Four energy partners formally asked the federal government on Friday for permission to build a 564-mile natural gas pipeline in West Virginia, Virginia and North Carolina.

The 348-page application was submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The \$5 billion Atlantic Coast Pipeline is intended to deliver cleaner burning natural gas to the Southeast as utilities move away from coal-burning power plants amid tighter federal rules on pollution that contributes to climate change.

Richmond, Virginia-based Dominion Resources Inc. and Charlotte, North Carolina-based Duke Energy would have 45 percent and 40 percent ownership stakes in the pipeline, respectively. Charlotte-based Piedmont Natural Gas would have a 10 percent ownership and Atlanta-based AGL Resources, 5 percent.

The pipeline would carry natural gas from Marcellus shale drilling in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia to the Southeast. It would run from Harrison County, West Virginia, southeast to Greensville County, Virginia, and into North Carolina.

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 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.

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.

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WEST VIRGINIA UPDATE – DOMINION GATEWAY

By: Bob Matthey

Here we are, it is almost Christmas and we are pondering how we will survive in 2016. It appears we are selling gas on Dominion this month for seventy one cents (.71), the Dominion spot market price for December was \$1.50 take away sixty cents for Gateway and 12.85% for gathering and retainage. And with warm weather it appears that gas prices will stay depressed for some time.

Discussions were held with Dominion Transmission and Dominion Field Services trying to find some relief and have not been fruitful. Some producers are already upside down with Dominion Field Services (DFS). One company that I am involved in already owes Dominion Field Services over \$3,100 from Gateway fees. We did not sell enough gas to cover Gateway fees. We have received a certified letter of demand for payment.

Further, companies that sell gas to DFS off of other pipelines (such as Chesapeake and EQT) could have the problem of not having enough gas on Dominion pipe to pay for Gateway costs, then DFS will take it away from your other income from Chesapeake or EQT gas sales. This is not good! This proves the old adage “Don’t put all your eggs in one basket”. When any gas contracts with DFS expire for Chesapeake and EQT gas, I will definitely find another marketer!

For those of you who are looking for some relief for Gateway, a group of producers have been having meetings to deal with this problem. The law firm of Bailey Glasser has agreed to represent us. The contact person there is: Jonathan Marshall 304-345-6555.

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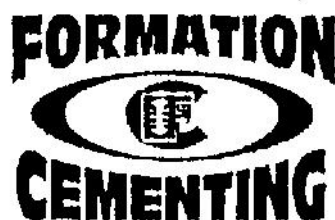
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ENERGY TRANSFER

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.

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 near 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 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/>

Utica Facts and Numbers – Second Quarter 2015 Results:

Numbers released by the Ohio Department of natural Resources show production from Utica shale wells statewide reached 221.8 BCF from Apr. 1 – June 30. Oil production was 5,578,255 bbls., and Brine was 3,100.248 bbls.

As of November 30, 2015, there have been 2,087 Utica Shale permits issued in 23 counties in Ohio to 29 companies, and 1,648 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 1,021 Utica Shale wells in production, with 18 rigs running.

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What is a Confined Space?

A space must have all three characteristics to be considered a confined space:

- Is large enough for a person to enter to work
- Has limited or restricted means of entry and exit
- Is not designed for human occupancy



For more information on confined space and many more topics go to OSHA.gov



Hazards of Confined Spaces:

- Oxygen deficiency
- Flammable/combustible gases and vapors
- Toxic gases
- Engulfment
- High noise levels
- Grinding, crushing, or mixing mechanisms
- Configuration
- Extreme temperatures
- Chemicals
- Lack of lighting

What makes a Confined Space Permit Required?

To be a Permit Required Confined Space it must have the original three characteristics PLUS one of the following:

- Contains or has the potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere
- Contains a material that has the potential to engulf an entrant
- Has an internal configuration such that an entrant could be trapped or asphyxiated
- Contains any other recognized serious safety and health hazard



Confined Space Entry on Drilling Rigs

The Coast Guard requires that confined spaces which have contained or are suspected of containing flammable, combustible or toxic materials be tested by a Marine Chemist. The Marine Chemist is then required to perform an evaluation of the confined space environment using the guidelines of NFPA standard 306, Standard for the Control of Gas Hazards on Vessels. If the environment meets NFPA 306 requirements, "Safe for Workers" and/or "Safe for Hot Work" certificates are issued. (See attached NFPA 306 excerpts.) These requirements specify that the oxygen content of the air be between 19.5 and 22% and that the concentration of flammable materials be below 10% of the lower explosive limit.

Always:

- Test the atmosphere prior to entry and periodically
- Never enter a confined space if the atmospheric conditions are not suitable
- Ensure an attendant is outside the confined space at all times
- Follow your company's confined space policy



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NOVEMBER 2015

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 Inside FERC/DTI: \$1.2400 (Basis: -\$0.793)
 Inside FERC/TCO: \$1.8800 (Basis: -\$0.153)
 NYMEX 3-day Average: \$2.0623

DECEMBER 2015

NYMEX Settlement: \$2.2060
 Inside FERC/DTI: \$1.5000 (Basis: -\$0.706)
 Inside FERC/TCO: \$2.0500 (Basis: -\$0.156)
 NYMEX 3-day Average: \$2.2053

OIL PRICING 2015

ERGON OIL PURCHASING WEST VIRGINIA MONTHLY AVERAGE

October Ohio Tier 1: \$45.4200
 October Ohio Tier 2: \$42.4200
 October Ohio Tier 3: \$40.4200
 October West Virginia Tier 1: \$45.4200
 October West Virginia Tier 2: \$42.4200
 October West Virginia Tier 3: \$40.4200
 October Marcellus/Utica Condensate: \$26.4200
 October Marcellus/Utica Medium: \$45.4200
 October Marcellus/Utica Light: \$39.4200

November Ohio Tier 1: \$41.7450
 November Ohio Tier 2: \$38.7450
 November Ohio Tier 3: \$36.7450
 November West Virginia Tier 1: \$41.7450
 November West Virginia Tier 2: \$38.7450
 November West Virginia Tier 3: \$36.7450
 November Marcellus/Utica Condensate: \$22.7450
 November Marcellus/Utica Medium: \$41.7540
 November Marcellus/Utica Light: \$35.7450

- 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)
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- 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.

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 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:
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OIL PRICING 2015

AMERICAN REFINING GROUP AVERAGE

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 Group 2 OH: \$42.96
 Group 3 OH: \$40.96
 10/21 to 10/31 Group 1 OH: \$44.16
 Group 2 OH: \$41.16
 Group 3 OH: \$39.16
 11/1 to 11/10 Group 1 OH: \$44.31
 Group 2 OH: \$41.31
 Group 3 OH: \$39.31
 11/11 to 11/20 Group 1 OH: \$40.10
 Group 2 OH: \$37.10
 Group 3 OH: \$35.10
 11/21 to 11/30 Group 1 OH: \$40.83
 Group 2 OH: \$37.83
 Group 3 OH: \$35.83
 12/1 to 12/10 Group 1 OH: \$38.19
 Group 2 OH: \$35.19
 Group 3 OH: \$33.19

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

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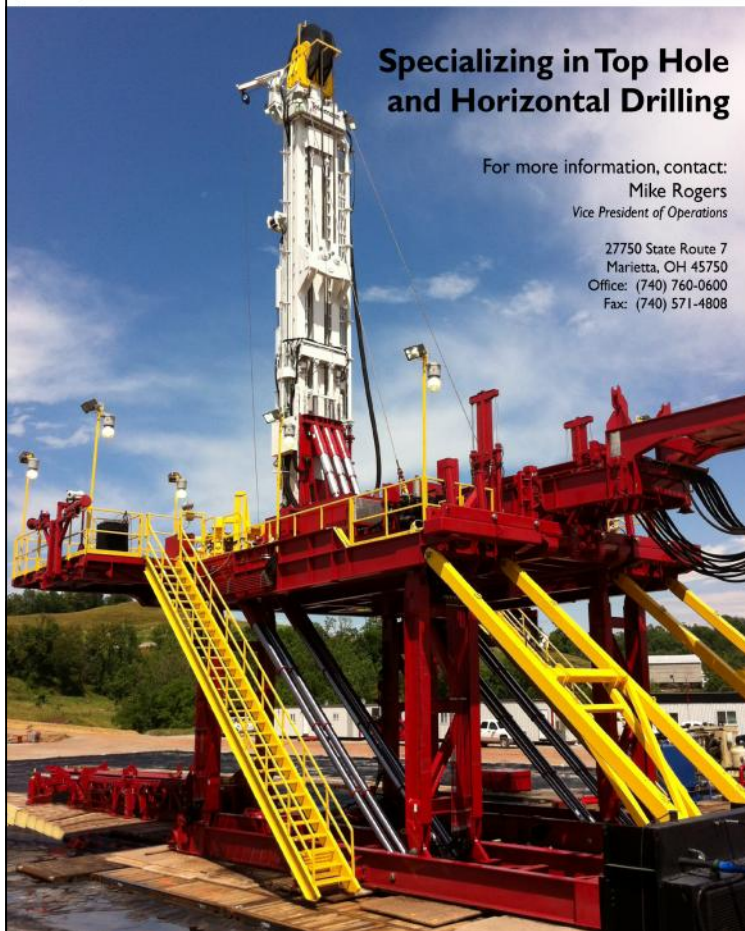


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Utica shale boom moving closer to reality, CSU economists predict

by: John Funk, The Plain Dealer, November 21, 2015

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- The enormous productivity of Ohio's shale gas industry has done more than drive down gas prices and create jobs on drilling rigs in rural Ohio.

Shale gas well development over the last four years, though now at a crawl because of low prices, has already set the stage for a petrochemical and plastics manufacturing boom.

And that boom ought to occur over the next five years, a comprehensive report and analysis released this week by Cleveland State University argues. The three-part, nearly 300-page study is the work of the Center for Economic Development's Energy Policy Center at CSU's Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs.

The analysis goes well beyond typical economic forecasts commissioned by the industry which typically count jobs, wages and taxes that for whatever reason often don't materialize.

The study looks at the extraordinary productivity of the wells developed so far, the capacity of the processing plants and pipelines, both those in service and those on the drawing boards, and the most likely rate of additional wells being drilled and gas production over the next five years.

And its conclusion hinges on a lucky fact that a good portion of the shale play under Ohio, West Virginia, and to a lesser extent Pennsylvania, produces not just methane but propane, butane and ethane, a trio of hydrocarbons called "natural gas liquids" or NGLs.

They could not find workers with the skills, who were drug-free and willing to work more than 40 hours a week."

Ethane is the NGL that will fuel the boom, the analysis argues, because it is a valuable petrochemical. And because there will be so much of it.

The study projects that by 2020, the region -- Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia -- will have such a surplus of ethane, which must be separated from

methane before natural gas can be used as a fuel, that it will only make economic sense to build ethane refineries here rather than try to ship the volatile ethane to crackers on the Gulf Coast.

Called "crackers," the ethane refineries convert, or crack and reconfigure, the ethane molecules into the building blocks used by the entire plastics and polymer and chemical industries.

"The region is capable of extracting enough ... (NGLs) to supply multiple crackers," said economist Iryna Lendel in an interview. "Not just one, or two, or even three, but multiple."

Lendel is the assistant director of the Center for Economic Development at the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs and a co-author of the massive report.

"Everybody has been concentrating on production," she said. "They forgot that we should be focusing on downstream development -- on manufacturing, because manufacturing creates permanent jobs that requires skills and pay well."


Lendel said three companies are proposing to build the multi-billion-dollar plants, Shell Chemical, on the Pennsylvania-Ohio border, a Brazilian consortium, in Parkersburg, West Virginia, and a Japanese-Thai consortium in Belmont County, Ohio.

With a total estimated cost of at least \$14 billion, the three refineries alone would create more than 10,000 construction jobs and nearly 1,000 highly paid permanent jobs, the study estimates.

The three projects are not under construction or even permitted, but the developers have not walked away either, said Lendel. "I think we are in pretty good shape," she said. "The commitment is still there."

(Continued to page 23)

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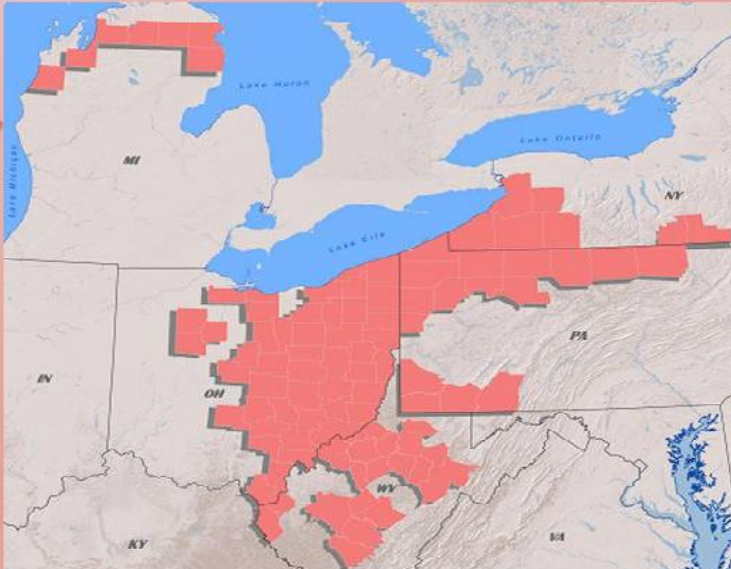
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(Continued from page 1)

The activists were right about one thing: the Marietta meeting was packed, wall-to-wall. As you can see above, attendees signed into the meeting and mingled with the BLM and U.S. Forest Service employees in a constructive and civil process. There was no screaming or displays of disrespect to any of the federal employees. Directly behind the sign-in area, there was also an area for formal public comment, where attendees could sit and write their thoughts for or against leasing. The **packed room in Marietta** represents an overwhelming majority of supporters, largely comprised of landowners.

At the Athens meeting, on the other hand, instead of making an effort to be heard in a way that actually counts, activists came with the intent of disrupting the event. This is evident because of the 200 people who attended the meeting, there were only 50 who signed in, and less than 30 who submitted public comment. Of those who signed in or submitted real and appropriate comment, the overwhelming majority were supporters of leasing.

As attendees entered the Athens Community Center room, security asked all attendees to refrain from bringing in signs (for or against leasing). The supporters of leasing immediately took their signs back to their table outside of the room, while the **activists ignored this security protocol**, as you can see from the pictures below:



Then as the BLM gave a presentation explaining the process and procedures associated with the Environmental Assessment, the activists started heckling and screaming at the federal employees. They then proceeded to "submit" their comments by throwing paper planes at the BLM representatives. And they weren't bashful about their immature behavior, either: Appalachia Resist, even boasted about what they did in a **press release**:

One man dumped a stack of petitions at the feet of Scardinia, (Tony Scardinia, Wayne National Forest Supervisor), saying "1300 signatures and they all say no!" The crowd took up cries of "WE SAY NO! WE SAY NO!" and "WE ARE NOT A DUMPING GROUND! DON'T FRACK THE WAYNE!" as they let loose with a cavalcade of paper airplanes flying towards Scardinia. The paper airplanes read "Don't Frack the Wayne".

Of course, their so-called public comments did not include names or addresses of the protesters, nor did they provide any specific reasons for their claims.

Interestingly enough, Alyssa Bernstein, Ph.D., Director, Institute for Applied and Professional Ethics, recounted her version of the events, **stating**:

"It was simply the kind of more-or-less orchestrated shouting done at peaceful demonstrations. To my knowledge, nobody did anything more aggressive than throw paper airplanes. The shouting by the citizens opposing the fracking proposal was directed mainly at the officials and was not aggressive. As far as I saw, there was no aggressive conduct on the part of anyone."

But a supporter of leasing who attended the meeting was actually spit on by the activists. Armando Mendoza **reported**:

(Continued to page 24)

OOGEEP Reflects on Active 2015, Looks Ahead to 2016

Rhonda Reda, Executive Director, Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program

As Ohio's oil and gas industry experienced an unprecedented year in 2015, the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program (OOGEEP) Board, committees, volunteers and staff worked more diligently than ever to educate Ohioans about the importance of our industry in their daily lives. Through a tested and true mix of presentations, training sessions/workshops, trade show exhibits, public presentations and special projects and programs, OOGEEP worked on many levels to promote the state's oil and gas industry. Now more than ever, it's crucial that all Ohioans understand the vital role our industry plays and what they can do to support it. Below is a summary of major activities and programs undertaken by OOGEEP in 2015.

- **Firefighter Training:** OOGEEP's nationally recognized and first-of-its-kind firefighter training program completed a successful 14th year. An additional 144 firefighters attended five separate workshops, pushing the total number of OOGEEP-trained firefighters to more than 1,350. Departments from across the state and country were represented. We also attended and/or presented at additional emergency response related workshops and events throughout the year, reaching hundreds of additional first responders across the state. OOGEEP continues to review the first responder workshops and curriculum to ensure the most up-to-date industry trends and best practices are being covered and working with industry experts, we plan to complete updates to both the training curriculum and props in 2016.
- **Industry Training:** Demonstrating our continued commitment to the men and women who work and wish to work in Ohio's oil and gas industry, OOGEEP held four IADC RigPass/SafeLand training sessions in 2015. More than 2,200 Ohio workers have now obtained safety certification through OOGEEP. The safety training committee plans to host a significant number of additional specialized training events in 2016.
- **Presentations:** 2015 was another active year for the organization in regards to public presentations. OOGEEP presented or participated in 80 separate events, ranging from civic groups and professional organizations to churches and schools. This number demonstrates the continued demand for OOGEEP's educational and effective presentations.



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(Continued from Page 16)

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The ethylene and other engineered molecules that they produce are the feed stock for the petrochemical industry, which already employs nearly 74,000 people in Ohio, another 50,000 in Pennsylvania and nearly 11,000 in West Virginia, or more than two-thirds of the entire U.S. petrochemical workforce.

Local ethane crackers would give regional petrochemical plants a cost advantage because they would not have to order ethylene from distant crackers, the report argues.

Andrew Thomas, executive-in-residence at CSU's Energy Policy Center, and co-author, said the point of the analysis is that Ohio can, and ought to, build manufacturing on its mineral wealth rather than allow the enormous gas production to create an "extraction economy in which minerals are taken out of the ground and shipped elsewhere to create wealth."

So what happened to the promised jobs in the well fields?

A previous CSU analysis predicted about 55,000 so-called "upstream" jobs would be created drilling and fracturing the shale and supplying the operations.

"We projected about 50,000 to 55,000 jobs altogether, including supply chain jobs," said Lendel. "We are there. The jobs were created because work had to be done."

"Were they all filled by Ohioans? I doubt it. They could not find workers with the skills, who were drug-free and willing to work more than 40 hours a week."

The study and analysis were commissioned by the Regional Economic Competitiveness Strategy (RECS) Shale Committee with support from the Economic Growth Foundation and Jobs Ohio.



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(Continued from page 19)

“Rather than a conversation, debate, and civilized discussion, the anti-shale extremists turned Wednesday night’s public hearing on shale development in the Wayne into a circus. One of the environmental radicals even spit in my face. Others threw paper at the BLM and Forest Service officials as they attempted to explain the process. But based on the “show” Wednesday night, it’s clear the environmental radicals opposed to domestic energy development are more interested in the politics of distraction than engaging in an informed public debate. Each person who spit and threw paper at BLM and Forest Service officials and refused to engage in a civilized discussion should be ashamed.”

After personally witnessing this public meeting from start to finish, our only guess is that Dr. Bernstein was not physically present at the same meeting that actually took place in Athens last week, where activists were not “peaceful”. In fact, it is hard to believe that the Director of the Institute of Applied and Professional Ethics would think that spitting on supporters of leasing, and federal employees would be labeled as such.

Take a look at the video of what happened, you’ll also note the guy in the back who took out a bag of public comments, turned it upside down, and dumped it on the floor.

After this spectacle, the activists proceeded to chant, but were surprised when the supporters in the room, started chanting back. A group of lease supporters shouted “It’s our property,” “Keep your hands off our property,” and “We want jobs!”

At this point, as the room got completely **out of control**, BLM must have realized that a civil meeting would not occur. After all, most present were not actually there to receive any information or have their comments taken seriously. Not surprisingly, the **BLM was forced to end the meeting early**.

Anti-fracking groups have been **adamant they need more opportunities to give public comment**, yet, when they have the opportunity to submit comment or even to give oral comment to an official of BLM, they instead chose to be disruptive and disrespectful.

Despite having ample opportunities to submit comments, we won’t be surprised if they continue to request public hearings, no doubt in an effort to simply delay the process entirely (as if **forcing the federal agency to shorten their meeting wasn’t enough**). But the question then becomes why should taxpayers be forced to pay for another public meeting, when these anti-fracking extremists will simply conduct another unproductive meeting of chaos?

Further, it’s pretty clear that the activists were well aware that the BLM is accepting public comment on the matter.

In fact, the Buckeye Forest Council actually encouraged activists on Facebook not to attend the meeting in Ironton Thursday night, where the meeting ended up being civil and split fairly evenly between those supportive and those opposed to this leasing. The activists clearly state that “in lieu of attending” they encouraged opponents of drilling to submit public comment, another clear indicator that they know the BLM is in fact accepting public comment on the issue.

Even one of their leaders apparently feels that they have submitted enough comment. As Roxanne Groff, the leader of the **Athens County Fracking Action Network** has **stated**,

“They have enough information from the public to say no now.”

These two meetings highlight what we have **watched play out in Colorado** and across the country, where anti-fracking activists have shown absolutely no respect for the law, procedure, federal employees, or the right of others to attend and receive information as part of the civil process. What we saw in Athens was not a gathering of concerned citizens – it was a campaign of chaos conducted only as a media stunt, with a goal of invoking fear into what should be a productive public meeting. We’ve certainly seen similar stunts taking place nationwide by the Keep it in the Ground Movement, **350.org**, the **Center for Biological Diversity**, **Greenpeace**, **Food & Water Watch** and the **Rainforest Action Network** among others.

Hopefully BLM will listen to the landowners who took the time to submit comments, discuss the process and ask real questions about their properties over reckless activists who disregard civility and facts to achieve their agendas.

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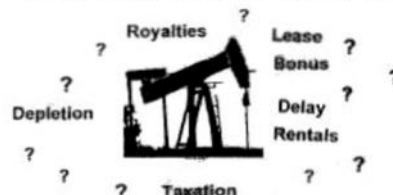
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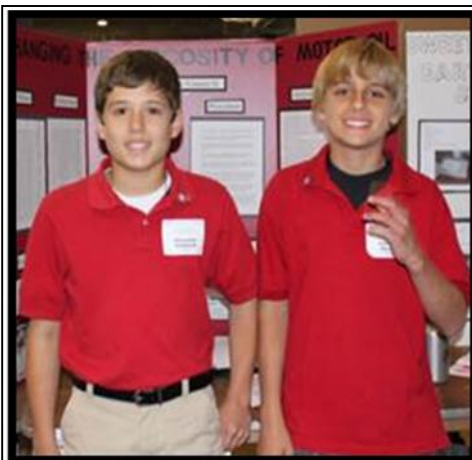
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OOGEEP Reflects

(Continued from page 20)

- **Teacher Training:** OOGEEP's unique series of workshops and resource materials geared specifically toward Ohio's science teachers continued to impress in 2015. OOGEEP held two two-day teacher workshops, one-day workshops and several smaller mini workshops. Hundreds of teachers received OOGEEP training, bringing the total number of industry-trained teachers to more than 2,700. Based on the average number of students placed in a teacher's class each year, it's estimated that approximately 11,000 Ohio students will be impacted by OOGEEP training from JUST one workshop. This innovative program draws full crowds to each and every workshop. OOGEEP recently finished a revision of our science teacher curriculum, *STEM Lessons in Oil and Gas Energy Education*. The revised curriculum and labs demonstrate how oil and gas is formed, trapped, explored, developed, produced, refined and transformed into thousands of every-day products.
- **Science Fair:** Student exhibits at the Ohio Academy of Science's State Science Day once again wowed OOGEEP's volunteer judges. 40 students were recognized for their oil and gas related submissions, bringing the total of industry awards to 142. We will continue to sponsor an award at State Science Day in order to recognize some of the best and the brightest young scientists our state has to offer.
- **Scholarship:** Thanks to the generosity of the oil and gas industry, OOGEEP was able to award a record 56 scholarships from the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Foundation. These awards represented students from 19 universities, college or technical institutes with majors ranging from welders to petroleum geologists. To date, OOGEEP and Ohio's oil and gas industry have awarded more than 250 scholarships to students from 99 hometowns in 48 Ohio counties.
- **Rocking in Ohio:** The popular "Rocking in Ohio" stage show returned in 2015. Five new shows were held at county fairs in Monroe, Wayne, Tuscarawas and Wayne Counties as well as the Shaleabration in Guernsey County. These events were well received by audiences as guests learned about oil and gas development through science facts, music, interactive games and prizes.



(Continued to page 35)

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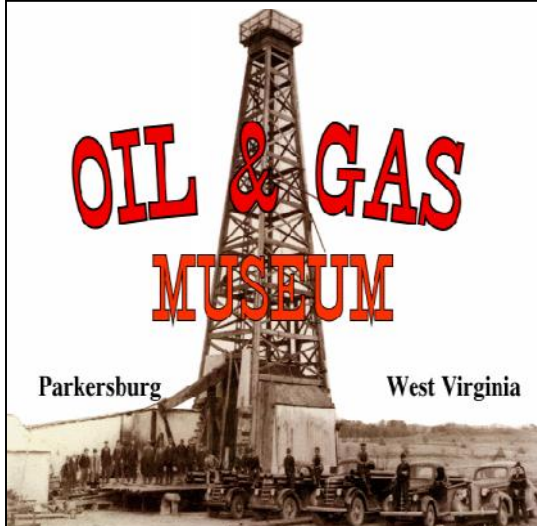
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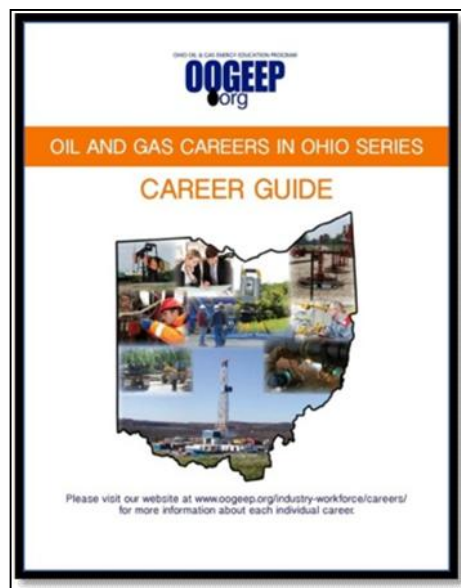
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(Continued from page 27)

OOGEEP Reflects - Continued

- Boy Scouts:** Thanks to our partnership with the Boy Scouts, we completed our third summer at Camp Manatoc, bringing the total number of Scouts who have received their engineering merit badges to more than 300. The weeklong program includes exciting engineering related activities, career development opportunities and even visits to nearby oil and gas wells. OOGEEP is working with other camps around Ohio to expand this successful program in 2016.
- Workforce Development:** Recognizing the continued importance of developing the next generation of industry workers, OOGEEP strived to enhance our workforce development program in 2015. We expanded our efforts with more than 70 universities, college, and career and technical centers to ensure training programs meet industry needs. Every high and middle school guidance counselor received career information, including our in-depth career guides. An exciting development occurred with the commencement of our Career Video Series in partnership with the American Petroleum Institute. The videos are designed to provide students and job seekers a short depiction of the numerous careers available in Ohio's oil and gas industry. The video series will coordinate nicely with OOGEEP's continued efforts to educate students about opportunities in our industry and is expected to be completed in 2016.
- Student Oilfield Safety:** Since OOGEEP's inception, the safety of students around oilfield equipment has been an industry and organization priority and continued to be in 2015. The student oilfield safety program encourages young people to take responsibility for their own actions and safety by staying away from oilfield equipment. Materials conveying this message are distributed at events and to schools on a regular basis and our safety mantra is reiterated during all school presentations. OOGEEP is currently working to update all student safety materials, including our popular DVD and posters.
- Media Outreach:** Outreach to traditional and social media grew in 2015. The organization maintains an active social media presence and has witnessed impressive growth. Year to date, Twitter followers increased 21% and Facebook friends 8%. OOGEEP also worked with reporters to regularly place positive industry and OOGEEP news in outlets across the state.



(Continued to page 34)

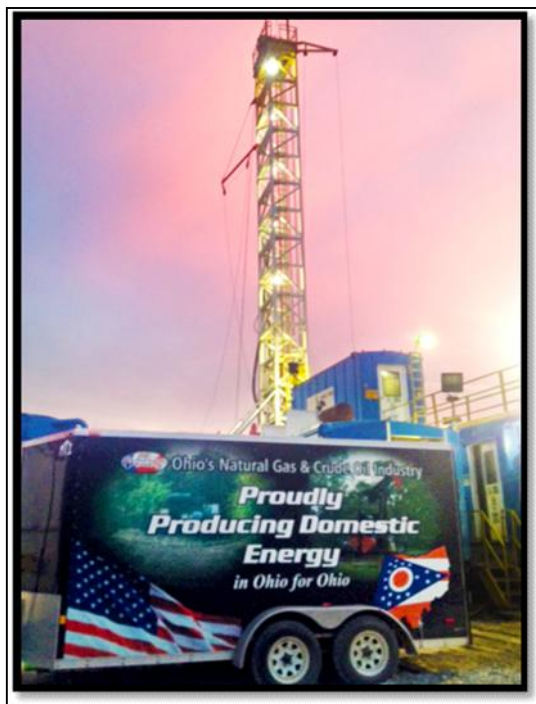
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OOGEEP Reflects - Continued

Media inquiries were routinely handled and on multiple occasions, we worked to rebut stories and narratives that we felt were inflammatory or inaccurate.

- **Informational Materials:** An important part of any public education and outreach program is digital and printed materials. OOGEEP has researched and developed a wide array of fact sheets and handouts covering multiple aspects of the oil and gas industry. All of our materials are available on our website for download and more than one million have been distributed across the state. We continue to review and update all of our materials to ensure facts and figures are updated and reflective of current industry practices and trends.
- **Safety Trailer:** Proving OOGEEP's continued commitment to worker safety, our H2S safety trailer received significant upgrades in 2015. New equipment will allow this proactive safety device to continue to travel to well sites to monitor potential hydrogen sulfide exposure. Managed, maintained and operated by O'Brien Safety Services, it's estimated the trailer and contained equipment potentially saved at least 12 lives in 2015. Thanks to our partnership with SOOGA, we will continue to provide this important safety tool to the industry in 2016 and beyond.

OOGEEP considers it a privilege to execute these programs and any additional efforts on behalf of Ohio's oil and gas industry. We appreciate your continued support and are committed to serving this vital industry that powers the daily lives of each and every Ohioan.



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