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**Shale Crescent USA launches multi-state initiative**

*By Hannah Chenetski Posted: Thu 7:53 PM, Jun 09, 2016*



**MARIETTA, Ohio (WTAP)** An initiative three years in the making finally comes to fruition.

Thursday, Shale Crescent USA launched its campaign, with a lot of support on its side.

"Here we sit on extraordinary resources and great opportunity," says

Youngstown State University President, Jim Tressel.

It is referred to as a game-changer by all parties involved.

Shale Crescent USA is an economic development initiative to encourage business growth in the Mid-Ohio Valley, based upon, what the director says, are three world-class assets.

"The lowest cost of natural gas and energy in the United States, and the world for that matter. Secondly, is our water. The Ohio River, people just don't realize how big it is and we have a lot of water for manufacturing and transportation. Thirdly, the proximity to market. We are within a days drive of 50% of the U.S. population and over 50% of the Fortune 500 companies," says Shale Crescent USA Director, Mark Schwendeman.

He says this initiative will create thousands of new jobs the valley needs.

"Business ought to come here, both manufacturing companies and petrochemical companies. We want to bring to our area high-paying, blue collar jobs because we think that is what sustains communities and actually advances communities," says Schwendeman.

As an educator, Youngstown State University President, Jim Tressel, sees this as a huge opportunity for students all over the country.

"Being a college president and making sure that we can get things ready for our graduates and the graduates of all the institutions around the state, and the nation, and make sure we can compete in this world. This is an exciting initiative that's happening. We are so blessed here on the eastern edge of Ohio, the western edge of Pennsylvania and on into West Virginia," says Tressel.

## THE CROW'S NEST

A welcome rebound! As many companies are distributing revenues for the worst natural gas and oil pricing months we have seen to date (February & March), we are at the same time seeing a significant rebound in current and future prices. Both oil and natural gas prices have nearly doubled since February. Thank goodness! Remaining positive and focused on survival has been extraordinarily difficult in the face of \$1.00/mmbtu natural gas prices and a \$26/bbl oil price. The recent price rebound has provided welcome rays of hope for our industry.



“Weathering the storm” has been a common theme since the downturn began. Unfortunately the warm weather this past winter resulted in a perfect storm in the already severely battered price environment. Fast forward six months and the weather has had the exact opposite effect. The warmer than normal summer thus far has greatly supported natural gas prices. In addition, a tightening in oil supply and demand has also helped boost oil prices.

While the rally in prices are certainly welcome relief, it will still be several months before the increase in prices is actually felt due to the lag in receiving and distribution of those revenues. Patience and positive focus will still remain key in weathering the storm. An uptick in cash flow a few months from now will certainly help with that focus.

Speaking of staying positive, the recent SOOGA Spring Golf Outing held on May 20<sup>th</sup> and the SOOGA Spring Clay Shoot held on June 17<sup>th</sup> were both great events. The weather was cooperative and there was good turn out at each outing. I’d like to thank our sponsors and advertisers who helped make these events possible. A big thank you also goes out to BD Oil Gathering for preparing and providing the meal at the Clay Shoot! The food was fantastic! Thank you also to Billie Leister, Whitney Huck, our volunteers, and the SOOGA Events Committee for working so hard on these great events!

Another fantastic event, the official kickoff of Shale Crescent USA, also recently took place at the Peoples Bank Theater in Marietta on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Shale Crescent USA is an initiative organized by local business leaders aimed at attracting large consumers of natural gas to this area. These consumers can take advantage of the cheapest natural gas in the industrialized world as well as the many other benefits the Mid-Ohio Valley has to offer. Jim Tressel provided the keynote address for the event and there were more than 700 in attendance. If you have not already heard about Shale Crescent USA, I strongly encourage you to visit [shalecrescentusa.com](http://shalecrescentusa.com) to learn more and to get involved in any way you can to promote this initiative.

Another recent and very positive development is in the continued movement towards leasing acreage in the Wayne National Forest. In late April, the BLM issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in its draft Environmental Assessment prepared to address the anticipated environmental impacts of leasing in the Wayne. A public comment period was again opened by the BLM for this phase of the process and comments were due by May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016. SOOGA prepared and submitted comments in favor of leasing and urged the BLM to move forward with the process. This is critically important not only for the oil and gas industry in southeast Ohio, but also for the landowners, businesses, and local community as a whole.

In the months to come, SOOGA will stay engaged in the BLM leasing process and continue to monitor and address other developments that impact our membership. And as always, SOOGA 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. As you continue to navigate through these tough times and weather the storm, keep your head up and remember... this too shall pass!

President  
Matt Lupardus

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**Southeastern Ohio Oil and Gas Association  
Gas Committee Report  
June 2016**

**PRICING****Prices June 7, 2016**

One Year NYMEX strip (July, 2016 – June, 2017)	\$2.82
Summer NYMEX strip for 2016 (July-October)	\$2.53
Winter NYMEX strip – 2016 (Nov., 2016 – March, 2017)	\$3.04
TCO Index Posting – June, 2016	\$1.85
DTI Index Posting – June, 2016	\$1.39

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 June 2, 2016 Report**

Working Gas in storage was 2,907 bcf as of Friday, May 27, 2016. At 2,907, total working gas is 753 bcf above the 5 year historical range.

Region	Stocks billion cubic feet (Bcf)			Year ago (05/27/15)		5-Year average (2011-2015)	
	05/27/16	05/20/2016	change	(Bcf)	% change	(Bcf)	% change
East	537	511	26	430	24.9	463	16.0
Midwest	655	629	26	421	55.6	463	41.5
Mountain	178	171	7	134	32.8	126	41.3
Pacific	304	298	6	313	-2.9	262	16.0
South Central	1,233	1216	17	897	37.5	841	46.6
Salt	370	372	- 2	272	36.0	223	65.9
Nonsalt	863	844	19	625	38.1	618	39.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,907</b>	<b>2,825</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>2,195</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>2,154</b>	<b>35.0</b>

Storage is 67% full compared to normal as of this report, with normal total capacity of 4,336 at the start of the withdrawal season. Storage is 712 BCF above last year, and 753 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.

**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:

(Continued to page 6)

Recent publicity about “new directions’ of US EPA will have a significant impact on all drilling and producing operations. Along these lines we are presenting an article (from Oil and Gas Journal, 3-7-2016) which illustrates the mind set of EPA administrator Gina McCarthy.

## EPA ADMINISTRATOR 'REVVED UP' ABOUT REGULATING ENERGY

People should exult in their work—except when they regulate others for a living, in which case some measure of introspection seems appropriate. Gina McCarthy obviously likes her job. “I’m as revved up as I was last year and the year before,” the Environmental Protection Agency administrator assured energy executives Feb. 24 at IHS CERAWEEK in Houston. She expressed this enthusiasm after promising to toughen the regulation of methane emitted by oil and gas operations and implement as much of the Clean Power Plan (CPP) as jurisprudence will allow during the final year of the administration she serves. “We are going to meet both our moral obligations to our kids and our grandkids and our commitments to the global community,” she declared.

Disappointments, of course, intrude, such as the Supreme Court’s stay of implementation of the CPP, which requires states to submit plans for aggressively cutting greenhouse gas emissions.

“I wanted to be the one to first approve the first plan that came in this year,” McCarthy confessed.

She’s a regulator on a mission, who described the COP21 climate summit in Paris last December as “really fun” and who indulges no doubt about the wisdom of rushing away from fossil energy.

In Paris, she said, “There was no climate denier standing up and hooting and hollering.” Fun, indeed.

Back home, extension of renewable energy tax credits means, “The clean energy train has left the station, folks,” McCarthy said, exuding confidence that “renewables will

continue to thrive in the marketplace” and that “people want electric vehicles.”

Maybe.

Maybe the CPP will survive judicial review and renewable energy will increase its share of the US energy market beyond the 20% V the Energy Information Administration otherwise projects for it in 2040.

Or maybe the CPP, coupled with natural gas costs elevated by unwarranted regulation, will make electricity too expensive to use for transportation.

The EPA administrator wouldn’t want anybody “hooting and hollering” that way, though. She’s having too much fun.

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(Continued from page 4)

\$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.

### **GATHERCO RETAINAGE**

Retainage for February, 2016 is as follows for the Gatherco systems. Treat was 13.0%, Miley was 9.0%, Meigs was 15.0%, York was 8.0%, Grimes was 18.0%, and Elk was 8.0%.

March, 2016 retainage was not available as of the date of this report.

### **EIA FORECAST March 8, 2016:**

EIA forecasts that inventories will end the winter heating season (March 31) at 2,288 Bcf, which would be 54% above the level at the same time last year. Forecast Henry Hub spot prices average \$2.25/million British thermal units (MMBtu) in 2016 and \$3.02/MMBtu in 2017, compared with an average of \$2.63/MMBtu in 2015.

US crude oil production averaged an estimated 9.4 million barrels per day (b/d) in 2015, and it is forecast to average 8.7 million b/d in 2016 and 8.5 million b/d in 2017. EIA estimates that crude oil production in December fell 80,000 b/d from the January level.

Forecast West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude oil prices average \$2/b lower than Brent in 2016 and \$3/b lower in 2017. However, the current values of futures and options contracts continue to suggest high uncertainty in the price outlook. For example, EIA's forecast for the average WTI price in June, 2016 of \$35/b should be considered in the context of recent contract values for April 2016 delivery ([Market Prices and Uncertainty Report](#)) suggesting that the market expects WTI prices to range from \$24/b to \$58/b (at the 95% confidence interval).

### **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 2017.

### **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.

### **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.

(Continued to page 8)

(Continued from page 1)

Supporters say the multi-state initiative offers companies highway access to more than half of the U.S. population, navigable rivers, rail access, a trained and educated workforce, low natural gas prices, a commercial airport and a low cost, but high quality of living.

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**2016 SOOGA  
Calendar of Events**

**Desk and Derrick Boat Ride**

July 29th, 2016  
Valley Gem Sternwheeler  
Marietta, OH

**Summer Golf Outing**

August 26th, 2016 (New Date)  
Woodridge Golf Club

**Annual Trade Show**

September 15th, 2016  
Washington County Fairgrounds

**Ergon Fish Fry**

September 21st, 2016  
St. Marys Marina  
St. Marys, WV

**Fall Clay Shoot**

October 14th, 2016  
Hilltop Sports  
Whipple, OH

**Annual Gun Giveaway**

November 2016

**SOOGA Legacy Fund**

The oil and gas industry has been a big part of our community for more than 120 years. Our history with the community led us to partner with the Marietta Community Foundation to establish the SOOGA Legacy Fund in 2013. This fund was established to give back to our communities across Ohio and West Virginia and to honor the memory of members who have dedicated their life's work to this industry.

To give a tax deductible gift make checks payable to:

Marietta Community Foundation  
SOOGA Legacy Fund  
MCF, P.O. Box 77  
Marietta, OH 45750  
Phone: 740.373.3286

*The SOOGA Board serves as the advisor to the fund.*

(Continued from page 6)

### 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.

### 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 28<sup>th</sup>. 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.

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## OBITUARIES

### Jerrold Eddy

June 23, 2016  
Marietta Times

Jerrold (Jerry) Ward Eddy, 74, of Reno died Wednesday, June 22, 2016, at Marietta Memorial Hospital surrounded by his family, following a boat trailer accident.

He was born March 10, 1942 to Edward Virgil and Vera Louise Smith Eddy.

Jerry was a 1960 graduate of Lawrence High School. He was a member of the Mt. Hope Church of Christ (Eddy's Ridge) where he was the adult Sunday school teacher.

Jerry was married to Nancy Joan Roach on June 25, 1961. Together, they owned and operated ears. Per his wishes, the company will continue.

Jerry was a graduate of Andrew Barber College in Columbus and was a barber at the Frontier Barber Shop in Marietta. He was employed in the oil industry with Main Star Oil Co., the Ashland Oil Co. and American River Terminal. He was a past member of the Newport Lions Club, Frontier Local Board of Education and was also named the Business Man of the Year in 2008 by the Frontier Local Economic Development Association.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Nancy Joan Roach Eddy of 54 years. He is survived by three brothers and one sister: Ronald (Wilda) Eddy, Lowell (Kay) Eddy, Jack (Gayle) Eddy and Darla Eddy. He was preceded in death by his parents, Virgil and Vera Eddy, and his father-

and mother-in-law Lester and Ruth Sims Roach.

Jerry is survived by six daughters, Debby (Mark) Romick, Patty (Pat) Garrett, Kimmy (Ron) VanWey, Jerrilyn (Greg) Kirkbride, Missy (Frosty) Schneider, and Taffy (Jason) Riggs. He is the loving "Pappy" to 14 grandchildren, Dr. Lindsey (Andrew) Rosendale, Jessi (Billy) Jones, Ryne Romick, Jerrod (Jennifer) Schneider, Alissa (Quinton) McPeek, Kylea Garrett, Zachariah (Mikaela Headley) VanWey, Michael (Kaitlyn Springer) Garrett, Josh Kirkbride, Drew (Maddy Martin) Schneider, Ben VanWey, Jasmine Riggs, Hannah Riggs, and Izzy Riggs.

"Pappy" was the great-grandfather to Graycie Jones, Lillian Rosendale, Laynie Jones, Rylee McPeek, Annabelle Rosendale and Grayson Jerrold Schneider (due in September).

Jerry's greatest joy in life was the time he and Nancy spent with the family at the Sunday dinner table, family gatherings, traveling the country attending various school and athletic events for his children and grandchildren and the yearly family vacation.

The Eddy Family would like to convey a special thanks to Brad Fickiesen, Little Muskingum VFD, Newport EMS, MMH Trauma Unit and the 4th Floor ICU Staff.

Messages of sympathy may be sent at [Lankfordfh.com](http://Lankfordfh.com).

### Orville Crousser Jr.

June 23, 2016  
Marietta Times

Orville Crousser Jr., 86, of Fleming, Ohio, passed away at his residence on June 21, 2016, after a short illness.

He was born, June 13, 1930, in Wood County to the late Orville Crousser, Sr. and Hazel Loretta Ayers. He was retired from the oil field industry after 50 years of service.

Orville is survived by his children, Chris (Jennie) Crousser and Mike (Justina) Crousser all of Fleming, Steve Crousser and Dolores (Russell) Money Penny all of St. Marys, and Sheila Davis of Fleming; his sister, Sylvia McClasky of Parkersburg; 19 grandchildren, 33 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 63 years, Dortha Wilson Crousser, his daughter, Donna Evans, and a great-grandson, Dakota Money-penny.

Services will be held 1 p.m. Friday, June 24, at the Maple Lane Freewill Baptist Church in Hebron, W.Va., with Pastor Rex Cox officiating. Interment will be in the Maple Lane Masonic Cemetery in Hebron. Friends may call from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. An online guest register is available at [ingramfh.com](http://ingramfh.com).

# SUN PROTECTION SAFETY

## THE DANGERS

We've all been burned by the sun at some point. Sunburn is the effect of ultraviolet (UV) radiation on the skin. UV rays are more powerful than visible light rays. They're so powerful that they can cause cancer. Ultraviolet radiation can also cause cataracts, other eye damage, and premature aging of the skin. While working in the sun, especially in spring and summer, you need to minimize the hazards of UV exposure.

## WAYS TO CONTROL SUN EXPOSURE

1. Wear a shirt and long pants to cover most of your skin.
2. Protect the rest of your skin with sunscreen. Use SPF 30 or higher. Follow the instructions regarding how often to reapply. Don't forget your ears. The more you sweat, the more often you need to reapply sunscreen.
3. Protect your eyes. Wear safety sunglasses if the tint doesn't interfere with your vision. (Most safety glasses—clear or tinted—decrease your UV exposure.)
4. Avoid contact with substances known to cause photosensitization, such as coal tar. Some medications such as antibiotics and NSAIDs, can also cause photosensitization. It is important to always check the label information and protection yourself appropriately.

## THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Sunlight doesn't have to be direct to do damage. Light reflected off surfaces such as sand, water, concrete, and snow can also cause UV exposure.
- Weather reports now include a UV index. When the index is high (7 or higher) you can get sunburned in only 15 to 20 minutes.
- Sunscreen should be standard equipment for anyone working in construction during spring and summer. Keep a bottle handy in your toolbox.

UV PROTECTION CHART				
Low (0-2)	Medium (3-5)	High (6-7)	Very High (7-10)	Extremely High (11+)
Sunscreen	Sunscreen	Sunscreen	Sunscreen	Sunscreen
Sunglasses	Sunglasses	Sunglasses	Sunglasses	Sunglasses
	Hat	Hat	Hat	Hat
		Shade	Shade	Shade
				Indoors from 10am – 4pm







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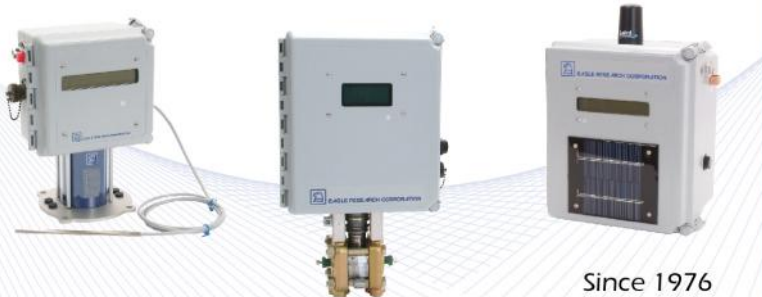
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**GAS PRICING 2016****MAY 2016**

NYMEX Settlement: \$1.9630  
 Inside FERC/DTI: \$1.3900(Basis: -\$0.573)  
 Inside FERC/TCO: \$1.8500 (Basis: -\$0.113)  
 NYMEX 3-day Average: \$1.9783

**JUNE 2016**

NYMEX Settlement: \$1.9950  
 Inside FERC/DTI: \$1.3100(Basis: -\$0.685)  
 Inside FERC/TCO: \$1.8700 (Basis: -\$0.125)  
 NYMEX 3-day Average: \$2.0320

**OIL PRICING 2016****ERGON OIL PURCHASING WEST VIRGINIA MONTHLY AVERAGE**

April Ohio Tier 1: \$40.0247  
 April Ohio Tier 2: \$37.0247  
 April Ohio Tier 3: \$35.0247  
 April West Virginia Tier 1: \$40.0247  
 April West Virginia Tier 2: \$37.0247  
 April West Virginia Tier 3: \$35.0247  
 April Marcellus/Utica Condensate: \$22.6913  
 April Marcellus/Utica Medium: \$40.0247  
 April Marcellus/Utica Light: \$34.0247

May Ohio Tier 1: \$45.8994  
 May Ohio Tier 2: \$42.8994  
 May Ohio Tier 3: \$40.8994  
 May West Virginia Tier 1: \$45.8994  
 May West Virginia Tier 2: \$42.8994  
 May West Virginia Tier 3: \$40.8994  
 May Marcellus/Utica Condensate: \$28.8994  
 May Marcellus/Utica Medium: \$45.8994  
 May Marcellus/Utica Light: \$40.3994

- 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)  
 One stop location (one or more tanks at a single location)
- 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](http://www.ergon.com)

**OIL PRICING 2015/2016****AMERICAN REFINING GROUP AVERAGE**

4/11 to 4/20 Group 1 OH: \$40.04  
 Group 2 OH: \$37.04  
 Group 3 OH: \$35.04  
 4/21 to 4/30 Group 1 OH: \$43.43  
 Group 2 OH: \$40.43  
 Group 3 OH: \$38.43  
 5/1 to 5/10 Group 1 OH: \$43.45  
 Group 2 OH: \$40.45  
 Group 3 OH: \$38.45  
 5/11 to 5/20 Group 1 OH: \$46.11  
 Group 2 OH: \$43.17  
 Group 3 OH: \$41.17  
 5/21 to 5/31 Group 1 OH: \$47.88  
 Group 2 OH: \$44.88  
 Group 3 OH: \$42.88  
 6/1 to 6/10 Group 1 OH: \$48.50  
 Group 2 OH: \$45.50  
 Group 3 OH: \$43.50

**ARG GROUP PRICING CATEGORIES AND DEFINITIONS FOR PENNSYLVANIA GRADE CRUDE OIL (LEGACY)**

**Group 1 (OH/PA/NY)** - 150.0 barrels from a single location, with a BS&W of 2% or less,

**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:

Gary Welker, Mgr.-Crude Supply & Gathering -  
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(Continued from page 8)

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/>

**2015 horizontal well production has already surpassed Ohio's 2014 totals**

**COLUMBUS, OH** - During the fourth quarter of 2015, Ohio’s horizontal shale wells produced 6,249,116 barrels of oil and 302.505.428 Mcf (303 billion cubic feet) of natural gas, according to figures released today by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). Quarterly production continues to set new records as horizontal shale well production totals have increased by more than 100 percent from 2014’s fourth quarter totals. Additionally, Ohio’s horizontal shale wells have produced more oil and gas in the first nine months of this year than all of Ohio’s wells produced in 2014.

4<sup>th</sup>. Quarter YTD Totals

	2014 (SHALE)	2015 (SHALE)	INCREASE
Barrels of oil:	7,438,375	15,707,339	111%
Mcf of gas:	287,846,105	651,193,106	126%

AS of April 30, 2016, there have been 2,182 Utica Shale permits issued in 23 counties in Ohio to 29 companies, and 1,748 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 1,265 Utica Shale wells in production, with 11 rigs running.

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.

Disclaimer:

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## Geologists identify sources of methane, greenhouse gas, in Ohio, Colorado and Texas

May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016/Adapted from Science Daily

Source: University of Cincinnati

Researchers from the University of Cincinnati recently studied the sources of methane at three sites across the nation in order to better understand this greenhouse gas, which is much more potent at trapping heat in the atmosphere than is carbon dioxide.

The UC team, led by Amy Townsend-Small, assistant professor of geology, identified sources for methane in Carroll County, Ohio; Denver, Colorado; and Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas, by means of an analysis technique that consists of measuring carbon and hydrogen stable isotopes (isotopic composition). This approach provides a signature indicating whether methane is coming from, say, natural gas extraction (fracking), organic/biologic decay, or the natural digestive processes of cattle.

Said Townsend-Small, "This is an analysis technique that provides answers regarding key questions as to specific sources for methane emissions. With isotopic composition analysis, it's possible to tell whether the source is fracking or biogenic processes (like bacterial decomposition in landfills or algae-filled water). It's a laborious technique to implement, but its use makes it possible to trace and attribute the source of methane production."

In findings to be presented at the May 18-21 regional American Chemical Society Conference held in Covington, Ky., Townsend-Small will present research results achieved with a team consisting of Claire Botner, recent UC graduate student; Paul Feezel of Carroll County Concerned Citizens; Don Blake, professor of chemistry, University of California-Irvine, and Josette Marrero, former UC-Irvine doctoral student. As part of the ACS program, she will report on a 2012-15 study examining methane levels and origins of methane in groundwater in the Utica Shale region of eastern Ohio:

### Monitoring groundwater supplies near Ohio fracking sites

The UC Groundwater Research of Ohio program first launched in 2012 in Carroll County, Ohio, when there were only three fracking (hydraulic fracturing) wells

in the county. The goal of the research was to establish a baseline for methane levels and origins of methane in private wells and springs before, during and after the onset of fracking. By the time the study was complete, there were 354 fracking wells in the county. Most of these wells were fracked in Utica zone at depths of over 5000 feet.

Results from this study, where 23 water wells were tested three to four times each year and a total of 191 samples examined, found that methane levels in these groundwater wells came from decay of organic matter (decomposition of plants) biological processes occurring in subsurface coal formations. In less than a handful of cases, the natural methane levels were relatively high (above 10 milligrams per liter). However, most of the wells carried low levels of methane.

The water wells varied in their distance from active natural gas wells, from 1 kilometer to more than 10 kilometers.

### Monitoring fracking in Colorado and Texas

In the Denver Basin, which encompasses the city of Denver and the surrounding region, Townsend-Small and her team examined about 200 methane samples in 2014, collecting airborne measurements via aircraft as well as measuring methane levels on the ground, site by site.

Collection efforts focused on both atmospheric data and ground-level, site-specific samples in order to help ensure accuracy via cross checking of results. In the Denver region, the isotopic composition signatures of the samples collected demonstrated that up to 50 percent of methane emissions in the region were from agricultural practices (cattle) and/or landfill sources, with the other half (about 50 percent) coming from fracking for natural gas.

Similar testing in the Barnett Shale region of Dallas/Fort Worth, involving the collection and analysis of 120 samples in 2013, found that 64 percent of the methane emissions came from fracking while 36 percent came from landfills and cattle.

(Continued on Page 19)



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(Continued from Page 17)

**Editor's Note:** While we can't speak for Colorado or Texas, in the Appalachian area which includes Carroll County, Ohio, finding methane gas in shallow water wells has long been known. Often the gas comes from coal seams in the subsurface strata which have been penetrated while the water wells were drilled. Even in areas of no coal seams of mineable width, there are often several thin coal seams at shallow depths, which often contained methane. Where coal mining took place it was not uncommon for a particular mine to be classified as "gassy" requiring methods to handle the methane liberated by the mining process. Often this was done by circulating air into deep mines to dilute the methane to very low levels so it was no danger to the underground miners.

The ODNR Division of Mines has declared many areas of eastern and southeastern Ohio to be "coal bearing areas" even where no historical coal mining has been done. This dec-

laration requires special techniques for drilling and plugging of oil and/or gas wells drilled in these areas.

Over the past 150 years or so, the Ohio coal resources have provided energy to make Ohio a great industrial economy. Without coal all of the trees and forests would have been consumed to provide heat and energy.

It should be remembered that almost every successful producing oil or gas well in eastern Ohio drilled since the 1950's has been fraced with no problems occurring. Only in the last several years have environmental activists who are "anti-everything" discovered "fracking" as something sinister to be avoided in their push to stop drilling.

Remember: Oil wells saved the whales!

*Carl Heinrich*  
*Insider Editor*

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## TransCanada to Acquire Columbia Pipeline Group for \$13 Billion

Article from: [North American Oil & Gas Pipeline](#), May, 2016 Issue

TransCanada has just made a blockbuster move to acquire Houston-based Columbia Pipeline Group Inc. Including the assumption of Columbia Pipeline Group (CPG) debt, the total enterprise value of the transaction is approximately \$13 billion, according to a March 17 statement announcing the deal.

Columbia Pipeline Group Inc. is a Houston-based company that operates an approximate 15,000-mile network of interstate natural gas pipelines extending from New York to the Gulf of Mexico, with a significant presence in the Appalachia production basin.

Under the terms of the all-cash deal, unanimously approved by the boards of directors of both companies, Columbia shareholders will receive \$25.50 per common share, an 11 percent premium based on Columbia's closing stock price on the New York Stock Exchange of \$23 as of March 16 and a 32 percent premium to the volume weighted average price over the last 30 days. TransCanada is assuming approximately \$2.8 billion of CPG's debt.

"This transaction delivers tremendous value to our shareholders and places CPG within a leading energy platform that can maximize the value of our strategic positioning and deep inventory of transformational growth projects," said CPG chairman and CEO Robert C. Skaggs, Jr. "The value presented here is a strong endorsement of our team's outstanding work. I am confident that this newly enhanced business will continue to deliver on our core commitments to customers, employees, stakeholders and stockholders."

The acquisition is expected to close in the second half of 2016 subject to receipt of Columbia shareholder approval, along with certain regulatory and government approvals, including compliance with the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, and the satisfaction of customary closing conditions. Upon closing, Columbia will become an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of TransCanada and will cease to be a publicly held corporation. The transaction requires the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of CPG's outstanding shares.

"This transaction is truly transformational for TransCanada," said Russ Girling, president and CEO of TransCanada. "CPG's interstate pipeline and mid-stream assets sit directly on top of the fastest growing areas of the Marcellus and Utica shale regions. This provides us with a complementary asset base, a substantial growth pipeline network and a broad team that has a solid track record of executing on projects and delivering results."

Following completion of the transaction, TransCanada will own the general partner of Columbia Pipeline Partners LP (CPPL), all of CPPL's incentive distribution rights and all of CPPL's subordinated units, which represent a 46.5 percent limited partnership interest in CPPL.

"The acquisition represents a rare opportunity to invest in an extensive, competitively-positioned, growing network of regulated natural gas pipeline and storage assets in the Marcellus and Utica shale gas regions," said Russ Girling, TransCanada's president and chief executive officer. "The assets complement our existing North American footprint which together will create a 91,000-km (57,000-mile) natural gas pipeline system connecting the most prolific supply basins to premium markets across the continent. At the same time, we will be well positioned to transport North America's abundant natural gas supply to liquefied natural gas terminals for export to international markets."

Columbia owns one of the largest interstate natural gas pipeline systems in the United States, providing transportation, storage and related services to a variety of customers in the U.S. Northeast, Midwest, Mid-Atlantic and Gulf Coast regions. Its assets include Columbia Gas Transmission, which operates approximately 11,300 miles of pipelines and 286 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of storage capacity in the Marcellus and Utica shale production areas, and Columbia Gulf Transmission, an approximate 3,300-mile pipeline system that extends from Appalachia to the Gulf Coast.



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## Be Happy with What You Have

by Bob Matthey

Over the weekend I went to Richwood, WV which was devastated by the West Virginia floods last week. I went down to the area to find out what people really needed. Many truckloads of supplies have been delivered, but there are still needs for various supplies. I learned they had plenty of bottled water, but had gone without laundry detergent, bleach, medicine (antiseptic, aspirin, ibuprofen, Band-Aids), push brooms, shovels, and many other things. The devastation in the area was horrifying and very sad. I met one 80-year-old lady who had lost her house; all she had left were the clothes on her back.

After visiting Richwood, I realized we complain about low prices, regulators, and gas pipelines, but we are still very fortunate and blessed to be able to survive in this environment and still help others. On Monday I sent a truckload of Laundry detergent, bleach, and medicine. Anyone who would like to send supplies to the people of flooded areas, call me at (304) 838-1299 and I will see that it gets delivered!

Gateway Case Filed

About 30 producers have filed suit in Marshall County, WV against Dominion Transmission, Dominion Field Services, and Joseph Vanzant over Gateway.



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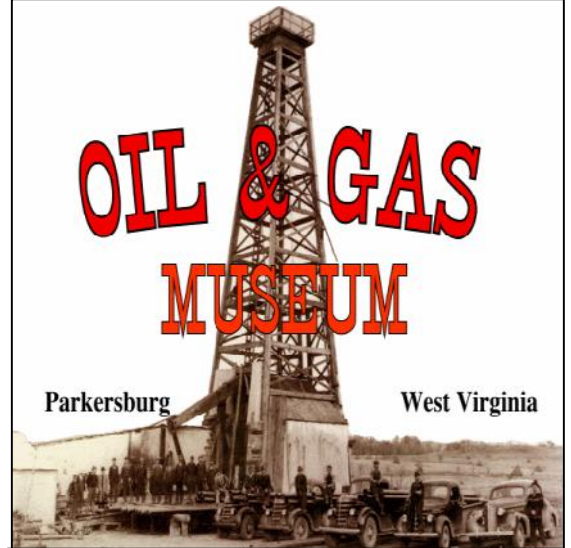
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The SOOGA Board of Trustees would like to thank everyone for the support of our organization. SOOGA has seen a steady growth in membership over the past 15 years, from a few hundred to over 500 by the end of 2014. This growth is thanks to you.

Our industry has experienced its' share of highs and lows. Currently we are in the midst of unprecedented challenges. The issues at hand, whether regulatory, environmental or economic, are challenges aimed at the way we do business and impact our livelihood.

Make your voices heard. SOOGA has dedicated leadership that is connected to the issues at hand and a voice heard by the people who can make a difference.

Now more than ever your SOOGA membership is valuable. By staying involved in your organization you have the ability to stay ahead of the issues that will affect your business.

Make your voice heard, stay involved and encourage your associates to be involved.

*The board of directors and officers of SOOGA want to thank you for your continued support.*

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# 2016 SOOGA Spring Golf Outing





## 2016 SOOGA Spring Golf Outing

### Flight A Winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Team- Murray Sheet Metal (Rob Noe, Nathan Flutharty, Lendal Flanagan, Ben Palmer)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Team- Leslie Equipment (Brian Wells, John Gaydos, Doug Garner, Steve Jackson)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Team- Full Circle Oil Field Services (Mitch Fouss, Garrett Fleming, Doug Schott, Randy Burnworth)

### Flight B Winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Team- Water Energy Services (John Albrecht, Noah Albrecht, Wes Mossor, Scott Mapes)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Team- D&K Supply (Brandon Preston, Glen Wieaser, Mike Goff, Brian Kenny)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Team- Engle Field Oil (Larry Shears, Dave Posey, John Craig, Sam Kable)

### Skill prize Winners:

#### MEN

- # 4 Long Drive in the Fairway- Jud Byrd
- # 18 Longest Putt - Craig Hesson

#### LADIES

- # 14 Long Drive in the Fairway- Bobbie Lauer
- # 5 Longest Putt Made- Tina Pethtel

#### MEN OR LADIES

- # 3 Closest to the Pin- John Albrecht
- # 7 Closest to the Pin 2nd shot - Bryan Wells
- #16 Closest to the Pin- Jeff Brammer
- # 9 Straightest Drive (Closest to Line)- Brandon Preston

- 50/50 Winner- Paul Fulks
- Skins Game- Ergon Oil Purchasing (Team 2)
- Skins Game-Murray Sheet Metal



THANK'S TO EVERYONE THAT MADE THIS EVENT A BIG SUCCESS!!



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## Desk and Derrick Club Wins Award for Visit to OOGEEP Firefighter Workshop

By: Mark Bruce, OOGEEP Communications Director

The Tuscarawas Valley Desk and Derrick Club recently won a prestigious Award in Maintaining Energy Excellence (A.I.M.E.E) from Region 1 of the Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs (ADDC). The organization was presented First Place in the “Best Industry Field Trip” category for a visit to the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program’s (OOGEEP) emergency response training facility in Wooster. The club is now in the running for a national award from the ADDC.

ADDC is a national energy industry association that works to bring people together to build better careers, companies and communities. Members are employed in or affiliated with the petroleum, energy and allied industries. Clubs educate members about the oil and gas industry through informative programs, field trips, workshops, seminars and teaching publications.

Members of the Tuscarawas Valley Desk and Derrick Club visited OOGEEP’s emergency response training facility at the Wayne County Regional Fire and Rescue Training Center. Club members learned about OOGEEP’s curriculum and training workshop that is designed to train Ohio first responders how to respond to potential, but rare, emergencies in the oilfield. Visitors were also able to witness first responders participate in live burn exercises.

“It’s important that our club members understand the positive training being done on behalf of our industry,” said Sarah Tipka, OOGEEP Board Member and Tuscarawas Valley Desk and Derrick Club Member/Past President. “After attending the OOGEEP training, club members can go back to their communities and tell their family, friends and neighbors all the great work our industry is doing to educate first responders and give back to our communities.”

“Desk and Derrick Clubs fill an important role by making sure anyone who works in the oil and gas industry can serve as an ambassador and advocate for our industry,” said Rhonda Reda, OOGEEP Executive Director. “OOGEEP is proud to work with these clubs to help educate about the incredible benefits provided by Ohio’s oil and gas industry each and every day.”



The Tuscarawas Valley Desk and Derrick Club is one of three clubs in Ohio. Others are based in Marietta and Findlay. If you’d like to learn more, visit [addc.org](http://addc.org)



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