

The PIOGA Press

The monthly newsletter of the
Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association
August 2022 • Issue 148

A PIOGA Icon Retiring

Matt Benson, PIOGA Director of Internal Communications, will be retiring at the end of August.

A front-page tribute farewell.

Applause, along with words of gratitude and admiration filled the conference room at the PIOGA office on July 21, 2022 – as Matt Benson’s retirement, after 37 years of service, was recognized. “He is an icon in the industry,” said Gary Slagel, PIOGA Board Chairman. “He has been a staple to this organization and our voice of communication for the industry.”



After 37 years, Benson has decided to hang up his ‘Director of Internal Communications’ hat, to spend more time with his family, enjoy his motorcycle and travel.

Benson started his career with the Oil and Gas industry in 1985 – as the Director of Communications for Pennsylvania Oil, Gas and Mineral Association (POGAM). In 1988, POGAM downsized to a one-man show and Benson became a freelance communications contractor for the association through 2006. In 2006, he was rehired as the full-time Director of Communications with POGAM and during the merger with IOGA (Pa) in 2010- Benson was hired to be PIOGA’s Director of Internal Communications.

“I wanted to be Czar of Words and Pictures,” Benson joked. “But they wouldn’t go for it. So, I have been the Director of Internal Communications with PIOGA for 12 years.”

For almost four decades, Matt has been leading the associations (POGAM and PIOGA) communications efforts including the PIOGA Press newsletter, POGAM’s

Practical Operator newsletter, the PIOGA eWeekly, legislative/legal alerts, advertising, website content/maintenance, social media, press releases, contributing writer for The American Oil & Gas Reporter and even leading the early coordination efforts for the Eastern Oil & Gas Conference and Trade Show. Lastly, Benson is known through his work with PIOGA committees, taking meeting minutes to ensure an accurate record of the discussions.

“In 1985, I answered a help wanted ad and never would have guessed this is where it would lead,” Benson stated during his retirement recognition in July. “I have met some great people along the way – and that is something I will always cherish.”

To many (let’s say everyone), in the PIOGA realm it is Benson who is one of the great ones that many cherish. “Matt will definitely be missed,” said Dan Weaver, PIOGA President and Executive Director. “He has been our leader in communication efforts and a known face in the industry for 37 years.”

In 2020, Benson was recognized for his 35-years of service in the industry. Steve Rhoads, POGAM’s past President and Lou D’Amico PIOGA’s past President and Executive Director shared their praise for Benson.

Continues on page 14

Commonwealth Court Enjoined the RGGI Regulations	3
2022 PIOGA Board of Directors Candidates	4
PIOGA Pins & Pints.	12
August’s Just the Facts: Mike Rowe	13
Fleeman, Marks Recognized by PIOGA Board.	13
Constitutionality of O&G Act under the ERA	15
Legislative Update	16
PIOGA Royalty Membership.	18
PIOGA Events	19
Digital Tax Theft	20
Membership Directories	22
PA Recent Tax Changes.	22
Thanks to our PIOGA Partners.	23
PIOGA New Members	26-27
Calendar of Events.	27



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The Commonwealth Court Enjoined the RGGI Regulations; the Action Moves to the Supreme Court



By: Kevin J. Garber, Esq., Babst Calland

On July 8, the Commonwealth Court enjoined the Department of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Quality Board from implementing the Regional Greenhouse Gas Regulations, which means the regulations are not effective as of the date of this article (August 5, 2022). DEP and EQB immediately appealed that decision to the Supreme Court where we await further developments from the high court.

As background, under the final RGGI regulations that EQB adopted in July 2021, regulated sources must acquire 50 percent of the necessary CO₂ allowances for 2022 emissions by March 1, 2023 and acquire 100 percent of their allowances for the compliance period by March 1, 2024. DEP set a partial-year emissions cap of approximately 40.7 million tons of CO₂ for the remainder of 2022 and approximately 75.5 million tons for 2023, which will gradually decline to approximately 58 million tons in 2030. The modeled allowance price was in the \$3-4/ton range when DEP developed the regulations but has increased substantially to \$13.90/ton at the last auction on June 1, 2022. The potential financial impact on businesses and consumers is now much greater than originally predicted. At auction prices of \$13-14/ton, implementation of the RGGI program in Pennsylvania is expected to cost \$700-800 million per year, or nearly \$4 billion over five years at current auction prices.

A group of labor and industry petitioners and a group of elected officials (including the chairs of the House and Senate Environmental Resources and Energy committees) are challenging the regulations in Commonwealth Court. They contend the regulations are an unconstitutional tax and that the Air Pollution Control Act does not provide authority for DEP and EQB to promulgate them. Several business and industry groups including the Pennsylvania Manufacturer's Association, the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, and the

Industrial Energy Consumers of Pennsylvania filed amicus briefs supporting the challengers. Public interest groups filed amicus briefs supporting the agencies. In separate July 8 opinions in both cases, Commonwealth Court Judge Wojcik held there is a substantial legal question as to whether the regulations are an unconstitutional tax because the revenue to be generated vastly exceeds that necessary to administer the CO₂ budget trading program. The rulemaking record estimated that DEP would use only six percent of auction proceeds to administer the program. DEP acknowledged during the hearing that the estimated receipts for the 2022-23 budget year to be directed into its Clean Air Fund would exceed \$443 million. By comparison, over the past five years, there was roughly \$20-25 million in the Fund annually and the total amount the General Assembly appropriated to DEP was \$169 million. Based on this, the Court found the legal issue to be considerable enough to enjoin the regulations. However, the court rejected the argument, for injunction purposes, that DEP does not have authority under the Air Pollution Control Act to promulgate them.

The agencies' July 11 appeal to the Supreme Court acted

Continues on page 12



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Cast your vote!

2022 PIOGA Board of Directors candidates

Ballots are being distributed for the eleven positions that will be filled in the election for the 2022 PIOGA Board of Directors. Below are profiles of the 17 member companies and their representatives who are candidates for this year's election. If the company representative can no longer hold their seat on the board, the seat is still held by the company and a new representative would take that company seat. (Note that (R) accompanying a candidate's name indicates an incumbent running for reelection.) The elected board members will serve a three-year term, 2022-2025, commencing with the 2022 Annual Membership Meeting on October 6.

Per the bylaws change approved in 2020, ballots are being sent electronically. The primary representative of each PIOGA member company receives one electronic ballot. To be counted, ballots must be electronically submitted or mailed to the PIOGA office by 5 p.m. on September 30. Candidates are elected by a simple majority of the returned ballots. The eleven candidates receiving the most votes will be elected. Electronic ballots will be released by August 30, 2022. If you have questions or if you don't receive your electronic ballot or need to request a hardcopy ballot to be mailed to you, please contact Danielle Boston, PIOGA Director of Administration, at danielle@pioga.org.

2022 Board of Directors Election Candidate Profiles

American Refining Group, Inc. (ARG) (R)



ARG's state-of-the-art, ISO-certified blending and packaging facilities bring the refining process full circle. From receiving crude oil to shipping out quality-tested, certified Refined Solutions – and everything that happens in

between – ARG does it all, right here in Bradford, Pennsylvania. Their customers gain access to our logistically favorable location in the Northeastern United States, where they offer truck and railcar loading and unloading, warehousing and shipping. Multi-component blending systems create custom formulation solutions in flexible package sizes, allowing ARG to fully meet almost any customer request. In addition to bulk loading ARG can fill pails, drums and totes along with bottles as small as 8 ounces through 2 ½ gallons. Use their sought-after ARGuard™ label or they'll apply yours. Shipping in full or less-than truckloads (LTLs) or to suit your custom loading requirements, they offer short lead times in most cases. For more information about ARG, visit www.amref.com or follow the refinery on Facebook or LinkedIn.

Company Representative - David Cook

David Cook currently serves as ARG's Crude Relationship Manager for PA/NY where he works closely with producers in both states to bring in PA grade crude to ARG. Prior to joining ARG, David spent over 5 years with Reliance Well Services starting as their Sales Manager and eventually taking on the role of Fleet Manager where he was responsible for setting up 3 new divisions in Allen, KY; Jenkins, KY and Carmi, IL and grew their frac crew company to 3 crews. In 2018, to meet industry demand David helped the company grow from 12 employees to 42 and from 8 trucks to over 100 in their fleet. David started his career at Universal Well Services eventually becoming their Field Sales

Representative working with conventional and unconventional Shale producers. David is a graduate from Maplewood High School and received technical training from Crawford County Area Vo-Tech in Computer and Information Sciences. David has been on PIOGA's Board of Directors since 2021.

Billman Geologic Consultants, Inc. (R)



Billman Geologic Consultants, Inc. is a full-service geologic consultancy run by Dan Billman and Pam Billman. BGC's clients consist of majors to small independents, lawyers, accountants and financial planners and landowners. Billman Geologic has extensive experience both in conventional and unconventional development and exploration plays in the Appalachian Basin. Billman Geologic performs geologic and economic reviews of properties and prospects throughout Appalachian Basin. Also, Billman Geologic performs geologic studies for drilling projects, natural gas storage, saltwater disposal wells and coal bed methane development.

Company Representative - Dan Billman, P.G., C.P.G.

Dan Billman has over thirty-three years of experience in the Appalachian Basin with the last twenty-nine as a consulting geologist and president of Billman Geologic Consultants, Inc. Prior to independent consulting, Dan worked as an exploration and development geologist for Mark Resources Corporation and Eastern States Exploration Company. Mr. Billman is a registered Professional Geologist (PG) in the state of Pennsylvania, an American Association of Petroleum Geologist, Certified Petroleum Geologist (CPG) and a Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists (SIPES), Certified Earth Scientist (CES).

Dan Billman has extensive development and exploration experience in both unconventional (shales and tight gas sandstones) and legacy, conventional plays, and reservoirs in the Appalachian Basin. He has performed countless geologic and economic reviews of natural gas and oil exploration prospects throughout Appalachian Basin, as well as feasibility studies for gas storage, coal bed methane development and saltwater disposal wells. Mr. Billman has written and/or co-authored numerous published papers and technical presentations on the petroleum geology of the Appalachian Basin.

Mr. Billman received his Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from the University of Toledo (Ohio) and his Master of Science degree in Geology from West Virginia University. He is a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) and is currently the AAPG Delegate representing the Pittsburgh Geological Society and Advisory Council member, representing the Eastern Section. Mr. Billman is a current board member of the Pennsylvania Independent Oil and Gas Association. Also, Mr. Billman is a Past-President of the Eastern Section of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, after serving as the organizations Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer. He is a former President (2 terms), Vice-President and Treasurer (2 terms) of the Pittsburgh Association of Petroleum Geologists. Also, a member of the Pittsburgh Association of Petroleum Geologists, Pittsburgh Geological Society, Ohio Geological Society, Appalachian Geological Society, Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists and Northern

Alleghenies Geological Society.

Bittinger Drilling (R)

Bittinger Drilling was founded in the early 1950s by the Bittinger family and operate out of Kittanning, PA. They operate oil and gas wells with Pennsylvania.

Company Representative - Brian Bittinger

Brian began working for the company in 1998 at age 13. His first role as “summer time help” meant, he would do the work that no one else wanted to do. This translates into starting his career at the company from the ground up. As Brian worked his way through the company, he realized the value of the company his predecessors began and the potential for Brian to transform his family legacy into a modern day, thriving, energy producing business.

Brian’s passion for leading and his leadership qualities were evident to his father and co-workers. He soon took on a management role and quickly gained the respect of his colleagues and clients.

In 2017, upon the death of his grandfather, the company was again passed down to son and grandson. Brian and his father now owned the company. This would make Brian the 4th generation of the Bittinger legacy family business. Brian recognizes the current challenges of the Oil and Gas industry and is eager to continue building upon what his predecessors have entrusted him with. He also realizes the complexity and importance of identifying and developing new leaders. With a strategic succession plan, he considers it an honor to equip the next generation for success.

Today, Brian proudly serves as Executive Vice President over all Bittinger enterprises.

BlackRock Resources, LLC



BlackRock Resources was founded in Canonsburg, PA in 2012 with the mission of providing professional staffing and consulting services to the energy (Oil, Gas, Renewables) industry. The company quickly became the go to firm for experienced project personnel and have been a trusted partner to many of the operators and services providers in the industry. In 2015, they expanded their services to include engineering and field services which today has a team with over 350 years of experience.

Blackrock Resources, LLC continues to deliver the exceptional services but entered several new markets in 2019 including infrastructure, construction, power and utilities industries. They landed 13 on the fastest growing companies in the Pittsburgh region. Today their niche market firm is dedicated to supplying the industry’s best talent and resources to our customers. Whether their clients are modest-sized start-ups or large, well-established corporations, they make the same commitment to helping them meet the multi-faceted challenges of their projects. At BlackRock Resources, they are flexible problem-solvers eager to put decades of hands-on experience to work for you.

Company Representative - Gene Pietrowski

Gene is Director of Business Development with BlackRock Resources. He has over 30 years in the consulting engineering industry focused on the energy/industrial market with professional responsibilities including project management, corporate radiation safety, market segment leader, and business development executive. During the past ten years his primary focus has been on the oil & gas sector. His experience has spanned the energy spectrum with projects in electric generation, electric transmission, oil & gas, and industrial.

Gene currently is a member of the PIOGA Market Development

Committee and Co-chair of the New Projects Subcommittee. A national subject matter expert on inventory services, Gene has published multiple articles, newsletters, and presentations. He is an active participant in various professional organizations including: PIOGA (Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association), GOWV (Gas and oil Association of West Virginia), and ABGPSA (Appalachian Basin Gas Processors Association) to name a few.

An innovative problem solver who excels in resolving complex technical issues and exceptional communicator with strong abilities in leading diverse groups. He is a key leader in the continued success of business unit geographical expansions and continued market share growth, including the development and implementation of customer service improvement plans and initiatives. He consistently drives project quality and efficiencies through his analytical decisions and has been instrumental in the growth and development of business but also industry clients and their needs.

Gene was raised in central PA and graduated from St. Francis University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Engineering with continued focus on project management/controls and materials at Penn State under their civil engineering program. He spends his spare time on community projects and is president of the local youth baseball program.

Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC, Inc.)



Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.

Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.

(CEC) is your reliable resource in the energy

industry. Oil and gas companies rely on their expertise and established agency relationships to design on challenging sites and navigate ever-evolving federal, state, and local regulations. Clients depend on their manpower, proven experience, and regional familiarity, along with the unmatched responsiveness and availability of their team.

CEC provides integrated engineering, ecological, and environmental solutions for some of the most complex upstream, midstream, and processing projects. That includes well pads, tank pads, water lines, and impoundments; gathering or transmission lines, including new pipelines, replacements, repairs, and relocations; and compressor stations, processing facilities, and storage facilities.

A multi-disciplined Oil & Gas Market Group is derived from CEC’s practices to strategically focus on the business challenges and drivers of the industry. This diverse team is a conduit to the industry’s latest thinking and advancements, allowing CEC to provide clients with concise, timely information and regulatory updates to facilitate informed decision-making. CEC is ranked at #16 in Pipelines, #24 in Petroleum, and #24 in Refineries and Petrochemical Plants among the Top 500 Design Firms by Engineering News-Record.

CEC was founded by four individuals in Pittsburgh in 1989. Today, CEC is an expanding company with offices nationwide and more than 1,200 employees. Over the years, CEC has expanded service offerings and opened regional offices with a focus on performance, delivery and client satisfaction, allowing our clients to put their primary focus on operations. CEC is an employee-owned team of empowered, engaged, and passionate professionals working seamlessly with our clients to deliver inspired solutions to their most complex challenges.

In this fast-paced industry, we make a personal commitment to be responsive and to move our clients’ projects forward, more directly, the first time. CEC is your reliable resource for design solutions in an expanding energy industry. www.cecinc.com

Company Representative - Paul Kanouff

Paul Kanouff is a Principal with Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc., where he has worked for the past 22 years. Paul is the Ecological Practice Lead for CEC's Monroeville, Pennsylvania office. His work is focused on the natural gas industry, specializing in permitting wetland and stream impacts and resolving endangered species conflicts. Paul's permitting knowledge and expertise has helped his clients navigate changing and increasingly strict regulations.

Paul has been an active member of PIOGA for over 12 years and recently started serving as co-chair of PIOGA's Environmental Committee. Paul also serves as chair of the Erosion & Sedimentation/Wetlands & Streams/Endangered Species sub-committee. As chair of the sub-committee, Paul provides monthly updates on regulatory/policy changes related to erosion and sedimentation and streams and wetlands and prepares comments to draft regulations. Paul also participates in the PADEP Quarterly O&G Industry meetings on behalf of PIOGA.

CNX Resources Corporation



CNX is a publicly-owned Pittsburgh-based energy producer and one of the largest independent natural gas exploration, development and production companies, with operations centered in the major shale formations of the Appalachian basin

Company Representative - Carrie Crumpton

Carrie Beth Crumpton is Vice President of Environmental Strategy for CNX Resources Corporation. She is responsible for providing strategic and technical leadership for the environmental pillar of the company's ESG and compliance efforts. In addition to supporting CNX's Operations team, she focuses on strategy development for emerging issues and external stakeholder and regulatory engagement.

She has over 22 years of experience in the oil and gas industry.

Carrie holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science from The University of Virginia's College at Wise and holds a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) certification through the Institute of Professional Environmental Practice.

Carrie also devotes time and serves on the Board of Directors for Food Helpers (formerly the Greater Washington County Food Bank) and the CNX Foundation.

Fisher Associates, P.E., L.S., L.A., D.P.C. (R)



Providing comprehensive, professional solutions since 1984, Fisher Associates, P.E., L.S., L.A., D.P.C. delivers services in three primary market sectors including Transportation, Energy, and Land Development. These services are com-

plemented by the expertise we provide in our Geomatics, Planning, Environmental, and Landscape Architecture service lines.

In August 2021, Trowbridge Wolf Michaels Landscape Architects, LLP joined Fisher Associates and is now known as TWM, a Fisher Associates Landscape Architecture Studio. TWM and Fisher Associates have worked collaboratively for the past two decades on award-winning projects. Together, Fisher Associates is 165-person strong firm offering engineering, landscape architecture, planning, environmental and surveying services to clients in the Transportation, Energy, and Land Development market sectors, including both public and private higher education clients.

"By living our clientship principles and core values, we create powerful

client experiences." This is their company mission and it serves as the foundation of their approach to every project they undertake. Their staff is passionate about assisting their clients through a personal and collaborative experience that focuses on the client's needs resulting in innovative solutions and superior client service. Fisher Associates are accessible, attentive, responsive and committed.

Company Representative - Brook Bertig-Coll

Brook Bertig-Coll is the Director of Environmental for Fisher Associates. Located in Canonsburg, PA, she oversees a diverse team of highly experienced practitioners located in five offices across two states. Her team specializes in regulatory compliance and environmental permitting with federal, state, and local agencies, environmental impact assessments, wetland and waterbody delineations, natural resource services, invasive species monitoring, site investigation and remediation services and hazardous materials assessments in support of a range of public and private sector projects throughout the Northeast, Midwest and Mid-Atlantic states.

With over 26 years of experience, Brook has provided environmental services for various industries including pipelines, commercial, power, and chemical, as well as the federal government. She has previously served as both a Senior Project Manager and Group Manager and has extensive experience in environmental permitting processes and policies, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) compliance, All Appropriate Inquiry (AAI) Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments, environmental compliance auditing, regulatory applicability, Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, wetland delineations, peer review and technical writing. Brook holds a B.S. in Biology with a Chemistry Minor from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Fusilier Resources, LLC



Fusilier Resources, LLC (Fusilier) is a non-operator, project development group working here in the Appalachian Basin and elsewhere. Their experienced team is passionate about the development of this

Basin's abundant subsurface assets that include oil, natural gas, natural gas liquids, and geologic storage options, with a focus on end use opportunities that also incorporate our Basin's numerous surface assets such as brownfields and extensive, intermodal transportation systems.

At Fusilier, their geologic, environmental, land, and legal team evaluates every investment opportunity with a thorough due diligence and scientific analysis. Throughout this process, they strive to maximize results and minimize risk. They work with stakeholders that include investors, operators, property owners, and technology companies to develop assets in the Appalachian Basin and elsewhere.

Their primary focus areas include:

- Development of both subsurface and surface assets in and around brownfield sites to support fossil fuel end use, manufacturing, and job creation;
- Development and valuation opportunities for investments in unconventional gas well production; and,
- Investment and evaluation of conventional leasing and drilling, including secondary recovery projects.

Their mission is to be the most trusted project development group, connecting developing technology, investors and operators to unleash and power the transition to our energy future. They envision a future in the region where fossil fuel development and high technology industries provide energy and job security.

Company Representative - Don Zook

Don Zook is the founding member of Fusilier Resources, LLC and currently serves as the managing member. Mr. Zook has practiced geology and environmental consulting for over 35 years at a wide variety of facilities located in eleven states and Canada, having worked as both an industry representative and a consultant. In these positions, Mr. Zook was responsible for implementing safety programs, environmental compliance, emergency response, and remediation programs. While working in industry, he managed numerous on-going environmental compliance and remediation projects with annual budgets ranging from \$3MM to \$5MM. He successfully coordinated these activities with business line managers and in-house counsel to ensure minimal business interruptions, compliance with environmental regulations and limited exposures to third-party liability.

As a consultant, Mr. Zook founded and successfully operated The GeoEnvironmental Consortium, Inc.® (GEC), an environmental consulting firm that was recognized by peers and clients for providing high quality geologic investigation and remediation services to the petroleum industry, law firms and other industrial clients. Mr. Zook sold GEC to a Midwest engineering consulting firm, where he remained to serve in roles including shareholder, Vice President of the Shale Gas Market, Principal, and Director, overseeing business management and development of the company's expansion into the unconventional and conventional oil and gas marketplace.

Since 2008, Mr. Zook has worked closely with many oil and gas clients in the Appalachian Basin, helping to establish technical consulting teams used to develop upstream and midstream assets. Mr. Zook has been active in various professional and industry organizations such as the Pennsylvania Council of Professional Geologists (past board member, elected position); the Marcellus Shale Coalition (past co-chair, Natural Gas End Use Committee); and, has been an active member of the Pennsylvania Independent Oil and Gas Association since its inception in 2010.

Mr. Zook is an alumnus of the University of Toledo, holding both a B.S. and M.S. in Geology. The M.S. degree included an emphasis in structural geology. Mr. Zook holds a Professional Geologist (P.G.) license in both Pennsylvania and Kentucky.

Mr. Zook continues to advocate for the oil and gas industry and currently participates as an investor in active drilling programs in both the Appalachian and Illinois Basins.

Huntley & Huntley, LLC (R)



Huntley & Huntley is a privately-owned oil and natural gas mineral investment company headquartered in suburban Pittsburgh. We own and manage a significant mineral rights and royalty interest

portfolio along with both conventional and unconventional hydrocarbon working interests throughout the United States.

Company Representative - Michael Hillebrand

Michael Hillebrand is a principal shareholder and Chief Executive Officer of Huntley & Huntley, a board member of its institutional joint venture, Olympus Energy, a board member of its affiliate, Bow & Arrow Land Company and an Executive board member of the Pennsylvania Independent Oil and Gas Association. Mr. Hillebrand has thirty-five years of combined experience in both vertical and horizontal well drilling, completions, and operations, as well as all operating and financial aspects of oil and natural gas prospect and business development, assembly and acquisition, and marketing.

In 1998, Mr. Hillebrand joined Huntley as an equity partner. From 1998 through 2008, he played a central role in raising over \$150 million through Huntley's creation and management of 26 syndicated limited partnerships and several joint venture programs that involved the drilling and/or participation in over 600 conventional oil or gas wells. Of those, over 400 wells were constructed and made operational under his direct engineering and oversight. In 2008, Mr. Hillebrand foresaw the opportunity to lead Huntley through an industry transformation where horizontal well drilling technology replaced conventional vertical well construction. Since 2012, he has provided the business vision, direction, and execution of Huntley's strategic entrance into horizontal shale plays. He has played a key leadership role as Huntley secured over \$1.1 billion of capital funding and/or commitments into several of Huntley's affiliated companies over the last five years. One of those companies, Olympus Energy, now holds nearly 100,000 acres and operates approximately 300 mmcf.d in natural gas production in one of SW Pennsylvania's last undeveloped core Marcellus, Utica and Upper Devonian positions. Mr. Hillebrand is currently focusing on mineral acquisitions across multiple US basins.

Mr. Hillebrand started his career as a petroleum engineer for an international service company, which focused on cementing, stimulation, and coiled tubing services for well construction. He served as its Appalachian Basin district engineer. In 1990, he joined Power Gas Marketing and Transmission, a subsidiary of Sithe Energies, a large, independent, natural gas fired, electric power generation company. He served as its Vice President of Business Development.

Mr. Hillebrand is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering.

Greylock Energy (R)

Greylock Energy is headquartered in Charleston, West Virginia with offices in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Wyoming and with operations scattered throughout Appalachia and the Rockies.

The company's assets comprise more than 1.19 million acres, about 6,700 wells, and 2,600 miles of pipeline. Greylock's leadership is an experienced team with decades in the energy industry and possessing a wealth of knowledge and unmatched expertise relating to operations, particularly in shale development.

Company Representative - Bruce King

Bruce King is Greylock's Vice President of Production. King began his career as a Senior Project Engineer with NiSource where he spearheaded major infrastructure projects in transmission, storage, gas treatment and liquids extraction. He then filled managerial roles with EnerVest Operating Company, Cabot Oil & Gas, and Stone Energy, where he was responsible for managing the construction department as well as the pipeline group, production facilities group, production engineering, and production operations.

Immediately before joining Greylock, he served for six years as Senior Vice President, Production & Midstream at Eclipse Resources, where he built and led teams responsible for the development and operations of both production and midstream facilities. King is a registered professional engineer and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from West Virginia University Institute of Technology. Prior to college, he served six years in the United States Navy's nuclear power program.

Lego-V
RENEWABLE ENERGY



Lego V, LP

Lego-V, LP is an award-winning, independent renewable energy company committed to innovation, sustainability, and environmental excellence. Lego-V is owned by the Vogel family which operate

a diverse group of waste and recycling companies throughout Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio. They were the first company in PA to capture the landfill gas they generate, refine it into renewable natural gas at their on-site high-BTU plant, then compress it to fuel their fleet of refuse collection vehicles. Lego-V has increased availability to renewable energy in the communities they serve through operation of a gas transmission line from the landfill to the public utility, a publicly-accessible CNG filling station, and through creation of a virtual pipeline connecting customers to mobile refueling sites.

Company Representative - Edward Vogel

Edward Vogel currently serves as Vice President and Board Member of Vogel Holding, Inc. (Vogel), a family-owned and operated business started over 60 years ago by his parents. Vogel is the ultimate parent company for ten subsidiaries located throughout Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio involved in waste collection, disposal, recycling and renewable energy. Ed also serves as Managing Member of Lego-V, LP which operates the Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) High BTU Recovery Facility at the Seneca Landfill.

Ed has been instrumental in the strategic growth of many of Vogel's award-winning enterprises. Most notably, he identified the potential for recovering methane gas; oversaw the financing, permitting, and construction of a state-of-the-art gas beneficiation plant; and guided Lego-V successfully through the lengthy and complex US EPA Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) qualification process. This has allowed Lego-V to monetize designated environmental attributes as well as create a marketable vehicle fuel.

His commitment to environmental sustainability is evidenced in many of the innovative projects he has spearheaded, including: construction of Seneca's Centralized Waste Treatment facility; installation of a five million dollar Single Stream Recycling system upgrade at TC Recycling; and transition of the Vogel fleet from diesel to renewable CNG through construction of CNG filling stations at all the hauling locations, greatly reducing the company's carbon footprint.

Ed is an active member of the National Waste & Recycling Association, PA Solid Waste Advisory Committee, Renewable Gas Coalition, and serves on the Steering Committee for the Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association.

Pennsylvania General Energy (PGE) (R)



Pennsylvania General Energy was founded in 1978 in the City of Warren by four businessmen. One of the partners purchased exploration acreage from Floyd Clinger, a well-known oil and gas pioneer

in the Appalachian Basin. At the time, the partners knew little about the oil and gas business, but they set out to learn all that Mr. Clinger could teach. They began buying wells in Northwestern Pennsylvania and drilling 15 to 20 wells a year to build up production and capital needed to expand their operations. The business continued to expand over the years to our current status as an unconventional operator throughout the northern tier of PA.

Today, PGE is a leading privately-owned, independent oil and gas exploration and production company in the Appalachian basin. By rely-

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THIS IS AN ADVERTISEMENT

ing on the right people, cutting-edge technology and a personal business approach, PGE continues our path as a growing organization, making positive contributions to the region's economy and environment.

Company Representative - Tyson Ruhlman

Mr. Ruhlman grew up in the oil and gas industry, as the fifth generation of his family to be involved in the development of oil and gas wells in Pennsylvania. A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown with a degree in Communications/Public Relations, Mr. Ruhlman began his career as an oil and gas title abstractor before joining Catalyst Energy, Inc. in 2008 as a Staff Landman. He was promoted to Land Manager, and eventually to Vice President of Land and Acquisitions, and was responsible for all facets of land activity within the company, as well as assisting with regulatory and environmental compliance issues. In 2022, Mr. Ruhlman joined Pennsylvania General Energy Company, L.L.C. as their Director of Land. Mr. Ruhlman resides in Forest County, PA with his wife Lacy and their three children.

Robert Beatty Oil & Gas (R)



Robert Beatty Oil & Gas is a producer operating wells in Clarion, Clearfield, Jefferson, Armstrong and Indiana counties.

Company Representative - Robert Beatty

Bob has 38 years' experience in the natural gas and compression industries. Bob is President/Owner of Robert Beatty Oil & Gas and also COO/Owner of Insightfuel where he is the project manager for Major Construction, Optimization, New Product Development, and Maintenance Operations. Before joining Insightfuel, Bob was President of "O" Ring & Associates, Inc. and then became CEO of "O" Ring CNG Fuel Systems, L.P., (& Affiliated Entities) which he founded in 2008. Since merging with Insightfuel in 2017, an entity formed by combining the leadership teams and assets of five technology, manufacturing and construction companies in the alternative fuels sector, Bob continues to expand his presence in the gaseous fuel space.

Externally, He maintains a strong presence in related Government Affairs, Regulatory, Environmental and Industry advocacy organizations. He is also a professional educator, having taught at the university level for more than 25 years. He continues his educational outreach today through various seminars and speaking engagements where he demonstrates the benefits of CNG /LNG/ RNG / Alternative Fuels/ and Energy Security.

He holds certifications from the Natural Gas Vehicle Institute of America in both CNG Fuel Station Design & Construction and CNG Fuel Station Management. He has extensive experience with compressed gases as a technician, system designer, consultant, sales manager, and distributor for several major international compressor brands.

From assessing the best plan for each customer, designing, building, and installing individualized equipment, to both routine and emergency service and maintenance, having the expertise and technical knowledge to diagnose and solve any compression, natural gas, or CNG challenge.

He was awarded the 2013 Pittsburgh Business Times Energy Leadership Award for his efforts in revolutionizing the US transportation industry. In November of 2016 He was recognized again by the Pittsburgh Business Times as a "Who's Who in Energy" in the Region for his accomplishments.

ShalePro Energy Services

ShalePro Energy Services (formerly Basin Energy Group) is headquartered in the metro-Pittsburgh area, heart of the Marcellus/Utica Shale Basin and is proud to provide best-in-class services to the production and midstream sectors of the



oil and natural gas industry.

The company was formed with the backing of Turning Basin Capital (www.turningbasin.com) through a series of acquisitions and mergers. Through those integrations, they evolved into a single brand, ShalePro Energy Services. This began in 2014 with ProActive Services (Compressor Operations and Piggging Services). Starett Energy Services (General Operations & Maintenance Services) was added in 2015, followed by Appalachian Production Services (Well Tending, Compression, and Pipeline Services) in 2016, and Katko (Well Hook-ups/Installation and Fabrication Services) in 2017. In 2020, ShalePro, added I&E to their suite of services. That same year, the company launched HelicalPro, a new helical pile installation services division which leverages the 90+ year experience of Chance helical piles. ShalePro now has more than 300 employees serving the industry across the Appalachian Basin and in shale plays across the country. Additionally, ShalePro is an authorized installer of Commercial Electrical Vehicle Charging Station.

ShalePro has a combined history of operating in the industry for nearly 3 decades and we are continuing that service of excellence today as one combined, stronger brand.

Company Representative - John Snedden

John has over 36 years of management experience in the oil and gas industry and currently serves as Chief Executive Office of ShalePro Energy Services.

Prior to joining ShalePro was Senior Vice President of Operations at a Keystone Clearwater Solutions. John was responsible for leading the company in safety and operational excellence, delivering best-in-class technology solutions through automation, and assuring SOP standards in customer satisfaction and consistent operational performance were

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met.

Prior to joining Keystone, John worked with a national water management company, where he was Vice President of US Transfer Services.

In that role, he managed and directed all the operations and HSE across the United States, responsible for the Profit and Loss of this Multi-Million Dollar business. During his tenure, he developed Competency Assessment Systems (CAMS) throughout the US operational areas, implemented safety management tools that improved TRIR from 1.88 to .88, and developed Standard Operating Procedures for all operations including streamlined purchasing processes, and consolidating inventories across the US.

Prior to that, he held management positions in other well-known companies in the industry including Nabors Industries, one of the world's largest land-based drilling rig fleet and provider of offshore drilling rigs in the United States and multiple international markets and Pennzoil/Quaker State.

Snyder Brothers Inc. (R)



Snyder Brothers Inc. is one of the largest, privately-funded, independent producers of natural gas in Pennsylvania. We have been drilling natural gas and oil wells since the mid 1970's and currently are drilling horizontal Marcellus wells. Snyder Brothers

produces in excess of 300,000 mcf per day in Armstrong, Indiana, Clarion, Warren, Jefferson, Fayette, Westmoreland, McKean, Butler and Clearfield Counties.

Company Representative - Bryan Snyder

Bryan Snyder, currently serves as the Vice President of Snyder Brothers Inc, one of the largest privately funded independent producers of oil and gas in Pennsylvania drilling oil and natural gas wells since the mid 1970's. Snyder Brothers also has a marketing division that purchases natural gas supply from their own production as well as many of their fellow independent operators to provide clean burning fuel to over 3000 customers in Western PA, Ohio and West Virginia.

Starting from the ground floor, Bryan has over three decades of industry experience. He is currently responsible for the day-to-day operations of Snyder's vast inventory of traditional Upper Devonian sandstone, and Shale gas holdings. He is a 1992 graduate of Mercyhurst University with a B.S. in geology, serves on The Learning Center Board and has spent numerous years serving as a youth and college hockey coach. Bryan was a board member of POGAM for over 10 years and has served for the past three years on the board of PIOGA.

Snyder Brothers Inc, has been involved with PIOGA and its predecessor IOGA for 40+ years and has been instrumental in fighting to benefit the industry.

WeldFit



WeldFit offers services and engineered products that make pipelines more productive without compromising ESG objectives.

Strategically located in Houston, Texas, WeldFit has more than 50 years of experience providing hot tapping, plugging and methane reduction solutions that are safe, efficient, and reliable. A leading supplier of state-of-the-art pigging systems, WeldFit also produces high-quality fittings, slug catchers, extruded headers, and manifolds.

Company Representative - Brittany Giarnelli

Brittany Giarnelli has worked in the oil and gas field in the northeast for over seven years. Currently, she is a Senior Account Manager for WeldFit, responsible for all sales, marketing and customer-focused activity in the Marcellus/Utica play, a role she has served in for over

four years.

WeldFit focuses on midstream and pipeline services and is a leading innovator in bringing solutions to market to help producers and transporters of natural gas and crude with emissions recovery. Prior to joining the company, Brittany was the account manager at both Central Hydraulics and BakerCorp. She developed and grew their respective businesses within the Appalachian region while forming invaluable relationships with operators.

Brittany currently serves on the PIOGA membership committee, where she is actively engaged in helping to retain and grow the membership base. She is also active in the Appalachian Pipeliners Association (APA), Appalachian Basin Gas Processor Association (ABGPA), and Women in Energy Network (WEN), serving on numerous committees and providing leadership to each organization as they pursue goals similar to that of PIOGA.

Outside of work, Brittany maintains a busy schedule, including the occasional trip to see her alma mater in Happy Valley. Brittany, her husband, Tom, and daughter, McKenzie, reside in North Huntingdon, PA

WGM Gas Company, Inc. (R)



WGM Gas Company, Inc. was formed in 1989 by the Houser family. After spending many years in the coal business, Walter Houser and his two sons, Garry and Mark, began leasing properties in

Indiana and Armstrong counties and subsequently drilled approximately 100 conventional wells in its 33 years in business. With their main focus remaining in shallow gas, they built the business around providing their production to the local market and grew it over the years to include services surrounding drilling operations. Over the years they've employed hundreds of local people, supported local businesses, and donated to countless charities. They continue to operate their wells and have risen to the challenges the industry has suffered over their many years in business.

Company Representative - Jessica Houser

As a current PIOGA Board member, Jessica Houser actively participates in Board meetings, attends many events and is the Co-Chair of the Membership Committee. She is passionate about bringing legislative reform and governmental awareness to industry difficulties, while serving the association through recruitment and expansion.

Jessica grew up the daughter of Garry Houser and granddaughter of Walter Houser, both of Walter L. Houser Coal Company, Inc. and WGM Gas Company, Inc. Jessica attended Temple University's Fox School of Business graduating in 2010 with a major in Human Resources Management. That year she began working in the family business, making her the 3rd generation in the energy industry. She started by first building the safety department, working her way up to General Manager. She held the General Manager position for 7 years, during which time she managed up to 100 employees, provided policy development and implementation, budget assignment and review, royalty calculation and distribution, vendor and client relations, MSA development, insurance management, and strategic planning assistance. She was responsible in assuring WGM met projected financial and safety goals, while remaining compliant with applicable federal/state legislation. Jessica currently holds the position of Executive Treasurer, managing the company's overall production operations, finances, and also administration. She also owns and serves as President of two certified Women's Business Enterprises, WGM Excavation Services and WGM Contractors, LLC., both providing excavation services in the oil and gas and commercial construction industries. ■

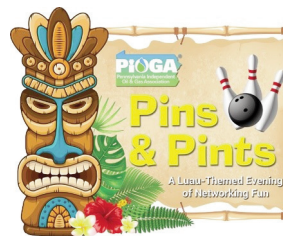
RGGI Regulations *Continued from page 3*

as an automatic stay of Judge Wojcik's injunction. The elected officials then petitioned to vacate the automatic stay, which the Commonwealth Court granted on July 25, thereby reinstating the injunction. The agencies filed an Emergency Application to Reinstate the Automatic Stay on July 26 with the Supreme Court, but the Court has not ruled on that application as of August 5.

So, what's next? First, the Supreme Court will review whether the Commonwealth Court had sufficient grounds to enjoin the regulations. The Supreme Court has not yet set an argument date on the appeal. It seems unlikely that a decision will be forthcoming in the third quarter of this year. Second, litigation on the merits of the challenge will continue before the Commonwealth Court. Briefing will take place in September and October, and arguments are currently slated for the Commonwealth Court's 2022 argument session in Philadelphia. And third, the courts must sort out third-party petitions to intervene in the litigation. A group of environmental organizations (including the Sierra Club, NRDC, and Clean Air Council) together with Constellation Energy Corporation applied to intervene in the Commonwealth Court matter but the Court denied the petition, finding their interests to be adequately represented by DEP and EQB. They also have appealed to the Supreme Court.

There are very important issues with potentially significant consequences to be resolved in a relatively short period. If the regulations are upheld, the regulated budget sources, which currently comprise about 60 electricity generating facilities (most of which are natural-gas fired), must secure 50 percent of their allowances by March 1, 2023 at auction prices that have risen steadily since the regulation was first proposed. The key legal issues before the Commonwealth and Supreme Courts – i.e., when does revenue generated by an environmental program become a tax that must be imposed by the General Assembly, and to what extent may DEP and EQB rely on general rule-making authority in environmental statutes to promulgate regulations concerning subject matter that is not itself expressly covered in the underlay statute - have implications beyond the RGGI program. Stay tuned! ■

PIOGA's Pins & Pints Bowling Event



PIOGA's Pins & Pints Bowling Event was a striking success! Forty PIOGA members joined together to have some fun in their spare time. Hawaiian décor and shirts brightened up the evening event and brought the luau theme to life. Aloha and Mahalo to all the bowlers, eventgoers and especially our Event Sponsors Black Diamond Equipment Rental and WeldFit and our Spare Sponsors Justifacts, Sommer Energy Technologies and Witting Partners, LLC.

Join us for our next event PIOGA's 25th Anniversary Divot Diggers Golf Outing on Thursday, August 18th.





JUST THE FACTS



A Practical World-View of Energy and the Essential Role of Fossil Fuels, Courtesy of Mike Rowe

For August's Just the Facts, PIOGA is leaning a bit on a social media post from well-known television personality Mike Rowe, whose credits include eight seasons hosting the Discovery Channel's Dirty Jobs, along with a range of other work. Rowe also happens to be a featured spokesperson for the Oklahoma Energy Resource Board (OERB) and appears in several movie previews in theaters in that state on behalf of OERB. Rowe received a message from a person who saw one of his OERB segments prior to a screening of "Top Gun 2" at a theatre in Oklahoma City, urging him to use his visibility and influence to warn the public of the perils of fossil fuels.

Rowe's pragmatic, reasonable and informed response is summarized in this month's Just the Facts. Sometimes it takes a television personality to simplify the complexities of the world's demand for energy, the limited sources available in many regions to meet their most basic of needs and the fact that supply, demand, and impacts to the environment are intertwined. To read more from this month's Just the Facts – and to share it with friends and colleagues – visit the Latest News and Blog section at pioga.org.

Fleeman, Marks recognized by PIOGA board

At their July 21 meeting, the PIOGA Board of Directors recognized two long-time members for their service to the association. Ken Fleeman, who has served as chair and co-chair of the Environmental Committee and formerly was a PIOGA board member representing ABARTA Energy, has taken a position outside the oil and gas industry. He is pictured below along with (L-R) PIOGA President & Executive Director Dan Weaver and Chairman Gary Slagel. Replacing Fleeman on the Environmental Committee will be Paul Kanouff, Civil & Environmental Consultant, Inc. Kanouff and Angelo Albanese, Diversified Energy Company PLC, will serve as Co-Chairs of the committee.

David Marks, meanwhile, left the board recently after retiring from BHE Eastern Energy Field Service. David (pictured below) is continuing as a PIOGA member under his consulting business, PA Energy Fuels LLC, and remains chair of the PIOGA Market Development Committee.

"We wish Ken the best in his new career," said Weaver, "but we will miss his deep knowledge of the production side of our industry and his steady demeanor. At the same time, we are very pleased that David remains with us at the helm of the Market Development Committee. Anyone who know David is well aware of his passion and advocacy for our industry."



Retirement *Continued from page 1*

"We lucked out when Matt came to POGAM in 1985. Matt has grown with the industry and has always adapted to the current needs of the association," Rhoads said. "His contributions to the well-being of our industry has been exceptional."

D'Amico mirrored the sentiment, stating "I have seen the work of many industry communications professionals and Matt's work is second to none! What you can't see from the outside is his dedication to our industry. Matt speaks from the head and heart in his writing about the industry."

During his retirement recognition (a celebration with cake), Benson stated that the industry is always changing. "To me this has always been an industry worth fighting for and it has been an honor. The industry is all about change and that change is constant."

Well, it has finally become Benson's time for change and to be honored for his verbiage-fueled fight in the name of the Oil and Gas industry.

"Most of all, I am looking forward to not spending my days in front of a computer monitor having the freedom to be more active," Benson said about his retirement. "I have a motorcycle, a pair of bicycles, a travel trailer, and kayaks that all need a lot more use. My wife, Karen, and I also have four dogs and 8-year-old grand-twins that are always up for some fun!"

From all of us in the industry that have had the pleasure of meeting, working with, or hearing about Matt Benson – it has been an honor and we wish you all of the fun in your retirement! For anyone wanting to send retirement messages/well-wishes to Benson you can email him – matt@pioga.org

Admirations and Farewells from the PIOGA Family

"As a litigation attorney, I fancy myself as a "wordsmith" and from day one coming on board with PIOGA more than 11 years ago I was so happy to find a like-minded colleague in Matt, a trained journalist and excellent writer. He has helped me improve my writing skills in addition to providing opportunities for discussions about writing styles, word choices and grammar. He also provided a wealth of industry knowledge and experience, especially concerning POGAM, to help me understand things about the industry that I didn't know. Matt was also able to help me resolve computer-related issues, as I am not nearly as technically savvy as he is. Enjoy your retirement Matt, you've earned it!" – *Kevin Moody, Esq. General Counsel & Vice President of Government Affairs.*

"After years of excellent work with POGAM, Matt became an integral part of PIOGA when POGAM merged with IOGA-PA. Matt's work became widely known and regarded throughout the oil and gas industry. I was contacted by other state oil and gas associations explor-

ing utilization of his services on a part time basis. Because of the demands of his work on behalf of PIOGA and the industry in PA, we were unable to share his services. Everyone knows his work, but until one has an opportunity to work directly with Matt, you do not fully appreciate what a close colleague and friend he is. PIOGA membership will miss his work - his colleagues will miss his humor, his caring and Matt the person." - *Lou D'Amico, past PIOGA President and Executive Director.*

"Matt's great work ethic, exceptional research abilities, creative mind and passion for the industry were instrumental to the success of PIOGA's communication efforts and keeping our members informed of issues that were relevant to their businesses. Matt also was a great team player and his quick wit and great wisdom were so appreciated and valued. Matt and I worked closely over the years on many of the association's communication efforts and events and always appreciated his partnership and professionalism. I wish Matt a long, happy, and fulfilling retirement and want him to know he will be truly missed!" - *Danielle Boston, Director of Administration and Outreach.*

"It has been a pleasure working with Matt. I will miss his dry, witty humor! Matt, remember to invite your PIOGA family back up for the next 'puppy socialization day'. Always remember, when making your choices, we all know where you live! I wish you much fun and relaxation in your retirement! Know we are always here for you - if you need us!" - *Debbie Oyler, Director of Member Services and Finance.* ■



Constitutionality of Oil & Gas Act and Solid Waste Management Act under the ERA no longer in question – for now

By: Kevin Moody, Esq. General Counsel & Vice President of Government Affairs - PIOGA

Federal court decision declaring Grant Townships claimed “right of local self-government” authority nonexistent and ordinance violative of the US Constitution renders Township’s counterclaims immaterial

Barring a successful appeal – unlikely in PIOGA’s view – the Commonwealth Court on July 12th is the latest court to state that the so-called “right of local self-government” theory is violative of the US Constitution. PIOGA member Pennsylvania General Energy Company, LLC (PGE) began its challenge to the “right of local self-government” theory that local law is superior to state and federal law 8 years ago in federal court. This theory has been advanced by the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF) for over 15 years in Pennsylvania, and Grant Township used the theory to try to justify the township’s attempts to deny PGE its rights to engage in lawful, and comprehensively regulated, business activities.

Abbreviated History

This litigation saga began when CELDF convinced Grant Township that it could prohibit PGE from developing its underground injection control (UIC) well based on a so-called right of local self-government that authorized the township to enact laws that override conflicting state and federal laws. Relying on this advice, the township enacted the “Community Bill of Rights Ordinance” (CBORO), and later a Home Rule Charter (“HRC”), to do so.

PGE sued the township in federal district court in August 2014, claiming violations of the US Constitution and various state laws. PIOGA intervened because of the threat of the so-called “right of local self-government” rationale to not only the oil and gas industry but to any other industries engaging in lawful business activities that a local government wants to ban, for whatever reason.

In 2015, the federal district court agreed with PGE that six provisions of the CBORO: (i) violated the Second-Class Township Code; (ii) were preempted by state law; and/or (iii) were unlawfully exclusionary. Then in 2017, the district court again agreed with PGE and determined that the CBORO violated PGE’s rights under the US Constitution “as guaranteed under the Equal Protection Clause, the Petition Clause, and substantive Due Process.” The court also rejected the township’s counterclaim that PGE’s lawsuit violated the township’s “constitutional and inalienable right to ‘local community self-government.’”

The salient history of the federal court litigation is set forth because the Commonwealth Court determined that the federal court’s decision finding the CBORO provisions violative of PGE’s rights under the US Constitution precluded the township from relitigating

the constitutionality of those provisions in Commonwealth Court, thereby rendering consideration of the township’s counterclaims “unnecessary.”

Commonwealth Court Issues

Our October 2020 newsletter article (“Constitutionality of Oil & Gas Act and Solid Waste Management Act under the ERA still in question”) provides details on the issues involved in the DEP litigation, which DEP initiated in Commonwealth Court against Grant Township just days before the federal district court issued its decision invalidating provisions of the CBORO under the US Constitution, that resulted in the July 12th decision that is the subject of this article.

In December 2020, PGE also instituted a second suit in federal court, challenging the provisions of the HRC that mirrored the invalidated CBORO. The township had adopted the HRC in defiance of the federal court’s invalidation of the CBORO. That matter was stayed pending resolution of the Commonwealth Court proceeding. When it became apparent that the DEP-initiated matter would be going to trial in Commonwealth Court, PGE intervened in the proceeding in order to defend oil and gas development against unlawful local bans, as the Commonwealth Court had ruled that the Township was entitled to seek to prove “that hydrofracking and disposal of its waste is so dangerous to the environment as to be in violation of the ERA, and thus that the statutes upon which DEP bases its preemption claims are constitutionally invalid.”

After the Commonwealth Court’s rulings on a few preliminary procedural matters, the case came down to requests for summary relief (without trial) by both PGE and the township. PGE’s request argued that, under the doctrines of res judicata and collateral estoppel, the township was precluded from relitigating the constitutionality of the HRC provisions determined by the federal courts to have violated its rights under the US Constitution. The township argued that that its HRC was a valid law pursuant to Pennsylvania Environmental Rights Amendment (ERA) “and therefore cannot be preempted by state statutes” but that, if those statutes do preempt the HRC, “they are unconstitutional because they prevent the township from fulfilling its duties as a reasonable and prudent trustee under the ERA.”

These were the two basic issues the court was asked to decide without trial. In its July 12th decision, the court rejected the township’s argument that the federal court decision was not preclusive because the federal litigation “did not involve any claims under the Pennsylvania Constitution.” The court pointed out that in the federal litigation the township “raised similar constitutional claims under the Pennsylvania Constitution . . . [that PGE’s lawsuit] is violating the rights of the people of [the] Township to ‘local community self-government’ as secured by the American Declaration of Independence, the Pennsylvania Constitution, the federal constitutional framework, and the [] Ordinance itself.”

Continues on page 17

PIOGA's Legislative Update

Governor allows HB 2644 to become law without signature, but vetoes energy-choice bill

Two pieces of legislation of interest to the oil and gas industry that had won the approval of the General Assembly arrived on Governor Tom Wolf's desk in early July. One was met with a veto, and the other Wolf allowed to become law without his signature.

House Bill 2644 automatically became Act 96 of 2022 on July 19 without action by the governor. As we reported in the July PIOGA Press, the legislation directs how the Department of Environmental Protection can spend federal funds being made available for plugging orphan wells. The bill also designates the power to set bond amounts for conventional oil and gas wells to the legislature, rather than DEP via the Environmental Quality Board (EQB), for the next 10 years.

Under Act 96, 80 percent of the funds to be received by Pennsylvania for orphan well plugging under the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act enacted last November will go to DEP's existing orphan well plugging program and 20 percent to a new oil and gas well plugging grant program within DEP. Under the new program, a qualified contractor may receive grants of \$10,000 for plugging a well 3,000 feet or less in depth or \$20,000 for wells deeper than 3,000 feet. DEP may increase the grant amounts if it finds it is not receiving an adequate number of applications.

The bill also defines who is a "qualified well plugger" eligible for grants and specifies that those who plug wells under the provisions of the legislation are immune from civil liability except for damages resulting from gross negligence or willful misconduct.

"Pennsylvania has at least 200,000 orphan wells, and some years the Department of Environmental Protection is plugging as few as five," said the legislation's primary sponsor, Representative Martin Causer (R-McKean). "This law gives us the chance to actually put a dent in this problem by using federal infrastructure money to accelerate our well-plugging efforts, benefitting both the environment and our communities."

At the same time, Act 96 will provide what Causer described as "consistency and predictability" for conventional operators by barring the EQB from adopting regulations changing well bonds. Last November, the EQB accepted a pair of rulemaking petitions filed by activist groups calling for conventional well bonds to be increased from \$2,500 per well, or a blanket bond of \$25,000 for 10 or more wells, to \$38,000 per well—to reflect what the groups claim is the actual cost of plugging abandoned wells (December 2021 PIOGA Press, page 1). A second petition seeks to increase the bond for an unconventional well to \$83,000 from the current tiered system that ranges from \$4,000 to \$10,000 per well. The EQB directed DEP to study the rulemaking petitions and make recommendations. No action by DEP has been forthcoming.

The new law sets the per-well bond for wells that are not unconventional wells at \$2,500, and specifies that only the General Assembly has the authority to revise conventional well bond amounts for the next 10 years. An operator may file a blanket bond of \$25,000 for all of its wells. Starting six months after the effective date of the legislation, for each conventional well drilled by an operator, the blanket bond amount for the operator would increase by \$1,000, with the total bond not to exceed \$100,000. Additionally, the blanket bond increase of \$1,000 is to be waived by DEP if the operator provides evidence that within the previous 365 days the operator plugged an orphan well at its own expense for which the operator was not the responsible party.

The governor's parting shot

Even though the governor allowed HB 2644 to become law, he made it known that he disagreed with much of what was in the bill. In a notice published in the July 30 Pennsylvania Bulletin, Wolf enumerated his concerns about how the federal plugging money is to be allocated under the legislation, the plugging grants and that it "eliminates the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) authority to impose requirements on recipients of federal funding that are stricter than the requirements under State law, even if those more stringent requirements are mandatory parts of the federal program."

Wolf's biggest parting shot was aimed at the legislature's taking away EQB authority to change conventional well bonds. The governor cited statistics showing that DEP issued more than 3,300 notices of violation over the past five years for operators attempting to abandon conventional wells and that on average production reports were not filed for 36,000 wells. (A well that does not produce for more than a year is considered abandoned and must be plugged.) Due to these concerns, the governor directed DEP to review existing processes and procedures and provide the following evaluations and recommendations by September 1:

- 1) Evaluation of the conventional industry's recent record of compliance with reporting requirements and performance requirements under existing law.
- 2) Evaluation of using existing authority, including increased exercise of civil penalty authority and forfeiting conventional oil and gas well bonds and requiring submission of replacement bonds, as methods to deter and motivate conventional operators to address abandoned wells and violations of the applicable law.
- 3) Recommendations for increased scrutiny of conventional oil and gas operators' requests for regulatory inactive

status approval and permit transfers, because these steps are often precursors to improper abandonment of wells.

4) Evaluation of using existing criminal provisions related to conventional oil and gas operations as a means of deterring and motivating conventional operators to address abandoned wells and violations of the applicable law.

5) Recommendations for regulatory reform to comprehensively regulate conventional drilling according to modern best practices and industry standards.

Energy choice veto


On July 11, Wolf vetoed Senate Bill 275, which would have prevented Pennsylvania's 2,500-plus municipalities from banning access to certain utilities such as natural gas. The "fuel neutral" proposal would have ensured that no choice, including renewable energy, is discriminated against.

SB 275 would have barred municipalities from adopting policies that restrict or prohibit the connection or reconnection of a utility service based on the type of source of energy to be delivered to an individual consumer within the municipality. Local governments also would have been prevented from discriminating against a utility service provider based on the nature or source of the utility service provided for an individual consumer. The legislation was offered in response to cities in different parts of the nation that have banned natural gas in newly constructed buildings.

In his veto message, the governor said the legislation "would limit the tools available to local governments to address the global threat of climate change in future years and stands in the way of clean energy incentives and initiatives." Further, he claimed the bill was overly broad and sweeping, "likely providing unintended impacts and additional litigation against municipalities." The bill's sponsor saw the veto as shortsighted and potentially harmful to consumers. "Governor Tom Wolf's baffling veto marks a sad day for Pennsylvania," commented Senator Gene Yaw (R-Lycoming). "Energy choice is about giving the power to consumers to decide what's best for them, especially when historic inflationary pressures and skyrocketing utility costs are already pushing many families to a breaking point."

Yaw continued: "Whether the governor likes it or not, our energy policies over the last two decades, especially surrounding natural gas development, have resulted in lower electricity costs for our residents. So, it should be their choice, not his, as to whether they heat their homes with a gas furnace or an electric heat pump. Policies limiting the use of certain fuel sources only slows environmental progress and raises energy costs. This veto will hurt the most vulnerable among us the hardest at a time when they can least afford it."

PIOGA is working with the Pennsylvania Independent Petroleum Producers and the Pennsylvania Grade Crude Oil Coalition to develop a response to the governor's statement and the misleading statistics used. ■



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ARG's roots are deep in the Pennsylvania oil fields. In 1881, the Bradford oil refinery was established in Northwestern PA, the birthplace of the domestic oil industry. 140 years later, ARG remains committed to supporting the Commonwealth's conventional oil and gas producers.

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Grant Township *Continued from page 15*

The Commonwealth Court also observed that even if the township's ERA claims had merit, that "would not otherwise salvage provisions that have been otherwise declared unconstitutional under the U.S. Constitution." In other words, the result would be the same because the U.S. Constitution is the "supreme law of the Land" and "Pennsylvania's ERA does not override the U.S. Constitution. Any conflicts between the U.S. Constitution and the Pennsylvania Constitution must be resolved in favor of the U.S. Constitution."

Every court in Pennsylvania that has considered the lawfulness of the "right to local self-government" theory has ruled that it has absolutely no merit. Despite this, PIOGA is certain that the township will continue its futile promotion of this frivolous theory (no arguable basis either in law or in fact) by appealing the July 12th decision. Continuing this litigation could subject the township to liability for attorneys' fees based on the violation of PGE's rights, which is what happened in the federal litigation, and that will impact everyone in the township. At some point the township and its residents must accept the hierarchy of the rule of law in our republic – federal law is supreme, then state law, then local law.

■

PIOGA Royalty Membership Seeking Help from our Producers

[Hey Producers! Help PIOGA grow their Royalty Membership](#)



There's great potential to grow our membership and supporters if PIOGA can get Producer members to help! PIOGA is looking for Producers willing to send out recruitment letters –

encouraging PIOGA membership – to all your Royalty Owners.

[Don't Worry Producers – We have made the recruitment process easy!](#)

If you are a producer and are willing to send PIOGA recruitment mailings to your Royalty Owners – we have simplified the process! PIOGA has produced a mailing template that can be sent out to Royalty Owners.

Simply click on the following link and use the mailing template: <https://tinyurl.com/2cru7x9t>

The template includes a recruitment letter on the front and the membership application on the back. The letter includes bullet points of key reasons why the Royalty Owners should join and testimonials from other Royalty Owners.

Reach out to PIOGA if you are able to do a mailing – we can be of any assistance to help!

[Kriebel Company Mailing Success!](#)

PIOGA would like to highlight and thank Jim Kriebel and Kriebel Companies for doing a mailing to all their Royalty Owners. The company sent the letters out in July and have already brought in 10 new royalty owners and the membership applications continue to come in daily!

The Kriebel Companies have proven that this recruitment process can work and benefit all members of PIOGA!

[What is a Royalty Member?](#)

Individuals, business entities and associations whose sole relationship to oil and natural gas exploration and production is through leasehold or similar property interests.

[PIOGA Pitch and Key Benefits for Royalty Members](#)

PIOGA represents nearly 360 members, including producers, oil and natural gas royalty owners, drilling contractors, service companies, manufacturers, distributors, professional firms and consultants, pipelines, end users, and others with interests in the success of Pennsylvania's oil and gas industry. PIOGA has been fighting on behalf of the industry for over a century.

Oil and Gas Producers (Individuals and businesses engaged in the exploration and production of natural gas and/or crude oil) and Royalty Owners have a unique partnership. The Royalty Owners has extended the right to develop his/her/their resource to the producer. In turn, the producer shared a portion of its financial rewards in the form of royalties. Anything PIOGA and the association can do to increase wellhead prices or maintain year-round, uncurtailed production benefits both sides of the Producer/Royalty Owner partnership.

PIOGA's work in the legislative and regulatory arenas helps Producers control costs and extend the economic life of their wells, again benefitting Producers and Royalty owners.

PIOGA and its current membership encourages Royalty Owners to be part of the association to better understand the production side of our business and to help us better understand the issues and concerns of Royalty Owners.

Members talk about the value of PIOGA membership

The insight I have gained as a member of PIOGA has served me well in my activities with POGLA (PA Oil & Gas Landowner Alliance). Until we understand each other, we'll stand alone; royalty owners need knowledge of Industry. PIOGA is an excellent source.

Thad Stevens
Royalty Owner - Gaines, Pa.

Follow us for daily social media updates



PIOGATech Waste & Water Management Training

PIOGA's Environmental Committee in conjunction with partners Diversified Energy Company and TD Connections are hosting a Waste & Water Management training session on September 15, 2022, at the Bella Sera Event Villa in Canonsburg.

The training will cover the following topics: Drill Cutting Management & CM Recovery; DEP, Legal and Regulatory Updates; Training on New TDG on RAD Plans; UIC Wells; Operator Roundtable; and more!

The Environmental Committee is currently looking for presenters/presentations on Water or Waste Management technology and best practice updates. If you have any ideas, would like to present, or share a presentation, please reach out to Teresa Irvin McCurdy for more information (teresa@tdconnections.com)

For PIOGA members the training fee is \$175 and \$250 for non-PIOGA members. The fee includes: full-day training; breakfast/lunch and reception; Continuing Education Credits (6 CEUs); and Professional Development Hour (6 PDHs) certificates.

On the day of the event, registration will start at 8am with the training starting at 8:30 am and ending at 5 pm. There is a 2-hour reception that will follow the training.

Deadline to register for the event is September 1, 2022.

Sponsorships and Exhibit tables are available – click on the following links for registration/information on sponsorships and exhibitor fees/details:

[2022 PIOGATech Water & Waste Management Training | Registration](#)

[PIOGATech – Water & Waste Management](#)

A full training agenda will be available soon.

Any members with additional questions about the training or the PDH/CEUs should contact Deana McMahan at deana@pioga.org or call 724-933-730 ext.23.

Event Location: Bella Sera Event Villa – 414 Morganza Rd. Canonsburg, Pa 15317



PIOGA's 25th Annual Divot Diggers Golf Outing

It's the SILVER JUBILEE MILESTONE!!! Our annual golf outing will be held on August 18th at Tam O'Shanter of PA Golf Course, Hermitage, Pa.

Come celebrate with us! This year marks our 25th Anniversary for this well attended, great networking with great prizes event! As with all of the previous years, this year's format will once again be a 4-person best ball scramble beginning with a shotgun start promptly at 9 am. This event will include 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch at the turn, a delicious steak-fry dinner after golf, free beer and a chance to win lots of great prizes!! Registration and sponsorship information can be found on our event page of our website.

A promotional graphic for a golf outing. The background is a bright, sunny golf course with green grass and a blurred background. In the foreground, a white golf ball sits on the grass next to a golf club head. The text is overlaid on the image in various colors and fonts.

**Join us this summer for a day of golf,
networking and great food!**

**25th Annual Divot Diggers
Golf Outing**

**Thursday, August 18
Tam O'Shanter Golf Club,
Hermitage, PA**

Thanks to our title sponsor
ERGON
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PIOGA
Pennsylvania Independent
Oil & Gas Association

Digital Tax Theft

By Isabelle Syring and Robert Ragan Jr. - Custos IQ, LLC.

Tax season is everyone's favorite time of the year- in August the filing deadline may seem eon's away, but the deadline is here before you know it. Tax season is known as the heyday of cyber and phone scams. Tax related identify theft or the harvesting of PII (Personal Identifiable Information), are the most common types of scams. Businesses tend to consider PII and tax related identify theft a consumer grade issue. Organizations often ignore the vast amounts of PII stored in the organizational environment, and forget the value of PII on the black market. In this article, we intend to provide the bare necessities organizations need to have in place to protect PII or Tax-Identify related information stored in their systems . As oil and gas producers, organizations have unique requirements for retaining and protecting PII. PII is used by organizations to pay royalties, report royalty income to taxing authorities, bill gas consumption to landowners, or issue Tax-Forms to consumers and employees alike. IRS rules require organizations to retain (7) years of financial data for audit purposes. Organizations that neglect to purge tax information and other PII in a timely manner, face increased liability should a data breach occur. Permanently stored customer data in the organizational IT-Infrastructure, i.e., applications, cloud based services, or databases provide more information ready for theft. A popular method of shifting liability is the outsourcing of financial services and ergo, any tax-identity related information. Nonetheless, outsourcing requires the exchange of tax-identity related data or PII with the Third-Party financial service. Post-exchange, IT-Administrative employees may either never purge the obsolete data or the 7-year IRS rule for data retention supersedes. Once the tax -return is sent to the IRS or the W4 is sent to the employee, an organization no longer controls a documents integrity. Nonetheless, businesses can control and adequately protect tax-identify related information while the PII is retained in the environment, and reduce organizational liability. To help Oil and Gas Producers and Allies better understand PII and Tax related-identify theft, let's start establish the data contained in Tax-forms . PII is considered information, "that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity—such as name, social security number, biometric data records.... that is linked or linkable to a specific individual (e.g., date and place of birth, mother's maiden name, etc.) (National Institute of Technology and Standards)." In addition, many Producers store further tax-identity related information, including but not limited to banking and routing information or EIN numbers. The organizational storage of PII or tax-identity related Information is regulated by U.S Federal Law. The Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 (GLB) 15 USCA §§ 6801-6809, regulates the collection, use, safeguarding, and disclosure of PII. GLB affects organizations with in-house CPA's or Tax Advisors. Further, GLB applies to businesses utilizing Third-Party Tax-Advisors, CPA's or financial advisors for the out-

sourcing of financial work i.e., billing, tax-advice, accounting, etc.

In addition to GLB, Pennsylvania cyber-security law is based on the landmark ruling Dittman v. UPMC. In Dittman v. UPMC the PA Supreme Court ruled held that "an employer has the legal duty to exercise reasonable care to safeguard it's employees' sensitive personal information stored by the employer on an internet accessible computer system". In 2018, UPMC suffered a data breach affecting 62,000 UPMC employees. Criminals stole UPMC's employees personal and financial information, including, names, birthdates, SSN, Tax Forms, and bank account information. In addition to the Dittman v. UPMC ruling, the Pennsylvania constitution assures the right to privacy, and GLB compliance helps consumers opt-out of Third-Party data management for PII.

Organizations regulated by GLB are required to have an in-house resource responsible for the management of GLB compliance. The GLB compliance program is required to meet the following objectives; (1) the notification of customers regarding the organizations data sharing practices with Third-Parties, (2) the implementation of a written data security program for the protection of PII or tax-identity related information, and (3) provide customers a right to opt-out of information sharing with third-parties. GLB considers any information, whether past or present protected through the applicable data-security plan developed in-house by the managing resource.

A risk analysis conducted by a third-party prior to the development of the data security plan will help understand the thorough risk or liability held by the organization handling PII or tax-identity related information. A risk analysis will not only identify data risks, but highlight general network/workflow vulnerabilities and provide insight for addressing risks. After a successful third-party audit and remediation of immediate risks, a data security plan is implemented to reduce organizational liability. Ideally, plans are created according to the MITRE Attack Framework, which utilizes the following pillars of cyber-defense; (1) Protect, (2) Identify & Detect, (3) Respond, and (4) Recovery.

Consecutively, the security program should involve the physical development and implementation of an advanced security monitoring program and testing application. Data encryption is critical to protecting PII data in the event of a breach or the inadvertent export by a staff member who is authorized to use this information. Monitoring systems should be in place to detect PII from unauthorized transfer via email, file transfer, cloud storage, USB devices, etc. An organization's written information security program needs to describes how customer (PII) information is protected. The program must be appropriate to: Company size and complexity, nature and scope of companies' activities, sensitivity of customer information the company handles. The plan should include technical details of access protection, data encryption technology, application security protections, policies and procedures, and a detailed workflow analysis of how staff members will comply with the policies

established. Some areas the security policy should cover are:

- Proper use of e-mail
- Hard copy protection
- Use of UPSP, FedEx, and UPS, etc.
- Use of CDs, DVDs, hard drives, USB flash drives
- Electronic copies (spreadsheet, file extracts, database, etc.)

PII requires additional protections as: End Point Detection and Response (EDR), Patch management, Backup and Recovery, Data Isolation (VLANS), access restrictions, Data Loss Protection (DLP). EDR, will protect Data from outside threats that have successfully penetrated the network by isolating hackers in the network before further data theft can occur. Data Loss Protection (DLP) program identifies access, movement, identify theft, administrator error, or leaks to outside sources via the use public email providers, i.e., aol.com, Gmail, etc. Further, internal access restrictions, can help restrict unauthorized employees from accessing, altering, stealing, or utilizing PII or tax-identity related information. Finally, as per NIST standard recommendations, Data Isolation through the use of VLAN's will ensure organizational data "lives" in an isolated portion of the network and remains off limits for unauthorized employees or hackers. While there are numerous ways to improve network security and the protection of Organizational IT-Infrastructure, the first step is the proper identification of PII or Tax-identity related information and the liability associated with the storage of data. Organizations need to establish if existing staff is capable of handling a data security program or whether outside resources are required for the design and operation of a data security program. Third-party providers can help organizations understand the organizational liability related to Tax information and the risk for PII loss or theft. As highlighted in this article Tax or PII theft is a complex subject, which require a high level of expertise in safeguarding and defending. Laws safeguarding the protection and liability related to PII are an ever evolving matter, and subject to increasingly stringent national and international regulations. Small, Medium, and large businesses handling tax-related information without adequate protection are not able to escape liability for violating cyber-law by being unaware of regulatory requirements. ■



Annual Meeting

SAVE THE DATE!

PIOGA'S ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP VIRTUAL MEETING



Annual Meeting

Thursday, October 6, 2022

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Mark your calendars for this year's Annual Membership Meeting where you'll get an update on all the work of the association on legislative, regulatory and market development matters that impact your business.

Included in the meeting:
Chairman's Report and Board Member Introductions
President & Executive Director Updates & Staff Introductions
Committee Updates: Environmental, Market Development, Safety, Tax, Legislative, Political Action Committee (PAC) and Membership Development
Member Open Forum



Registration Information Coming Soon!

We look forward to you joining this year's Annual Meeting!

2022-2023 Membership Directories are coming soon!

PIOGA is pleased to announce that the 2022-2023 Membership Directory are scheduled to be shipped in August. The hardcopy directory, published once a year, is the main guide for our association members seeking to contact one another and a resource for companies looking to find services or products from other PIOGA member companies. Please be sure to visit the Select Suppliers section of the directory to locate companies that are eager to support your operations.

One copy of the directory has been provided to each member company. If your company has multiple locations listed, one additional copy has been provided to those locations also. If you would like to request additional directories, contact Deana McMahan at deana@pioga.org. There will be a \$15 charge per directory to cover shipping and administrative fees. Additionally, an electronic version of the directory is available in the "Members Only" area of the PIOGA website.

Thank you for your support and membership in PIOGA. We look forward to our continued work together on behalf of the oil and gas industry here in Pennsylvania.



Go beyond reclamation standards — commit to environmental stewardship.



<https://bit.ly/ErnstPIOGA>

 ERNST SEEDS 800 - 873 - 3321
sales@ernstseed.com

Recent Pennsylvania Tax Changes

By: Bill Phillips, Baker Tilly and Chair of PIOGA's Tax Committee

Pennsylvania has enacted legislation to reduce the corporate income tax over a series of years; What are the reduced corporate income tax rates? The corporate income tax rate will be reduced as follows:

- 9.99% through December 31, 2022;
- 8.99%, January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023;
- 8.49%, January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024;
- 7.99%, January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025;
- 7.49%, January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026;
- 6.99%, January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027;
- 6.49%, January 1, 2028 through December 31, 2028;
- 5.99%, January 1, 2029 through December 31, 2029;
- 5.49%, January 1, 2030 through December 31, 2030; and
- 4.99%, January 1, 2031 and each taxable year after.

Pennsylvania Expense Deduction and Like-Kind Exchange Provisions Updated

Pennsylvania is updating the personal income tax code to conform with the federal treatment of the IRC Sec. 179 expense deduction; and IRC Sec. 1031 like-kind exchanges.

What is the change to the expense deduction? Currently Pennsylvania limits the IRC Sec. 179 expense deduction to \$25,000. Applicable to property placed in service in tax years beginning after December 31, 2022, the IRC Sec. 179 expense deduction allowable in Pennsylvania will conform to the deduction allowed under federal tax law at the time the property is placed in service.

What is the change regarding like-kind exchanges? Under current Pennsylvania law, gain resulting from like-kind exchanges of property occurring in Pennsylvania are generally subject to personal income tax at the time of sale. Applicable to transactions occurring in tax years beginning after December 31, 2022, Pennsylvania's personal income tax will conform to federal IRC Sec. 1031 regarding the exchange of property held for productive use or investment. Federal law allows tax on the gain from real property to be postponed, or deferred, if the proceeds are re-invested in similar property as part of a qualifying like-kind exchange.

Thanks to our 2022 PIOGA Partners

Keystone Partners



Meetings Partners



Committee Partners



Engineer Partners



Executive Partners



Golf Partners



Clay Shoot Partner



Civil & Environmental
Consultants, Inc.

Driller Partner



Learn about the PIOGA Partners program:
pioga.org/publication_file/2022_PIOGA_Partners_flyer.pdf

Oil & Gas Dashboard

Sources

American Refining Group:
www.amref.com/Crude-Prices-New.aspx
 Ergon Oil Purchasing: www.ergon.com/crudeoil
 Gas futures: quotes.ino.com/exchanges/?r=NYMEX_NG
 Baker Hughes rig count: bakerhughesrig-count.gcs-web.com/na-rig-count
 NYMEX strip chart: Mid American Natural Resources
 Basis futures values: BHE Eastern Energy Field Services

Penn Grade Crude Oil Prices

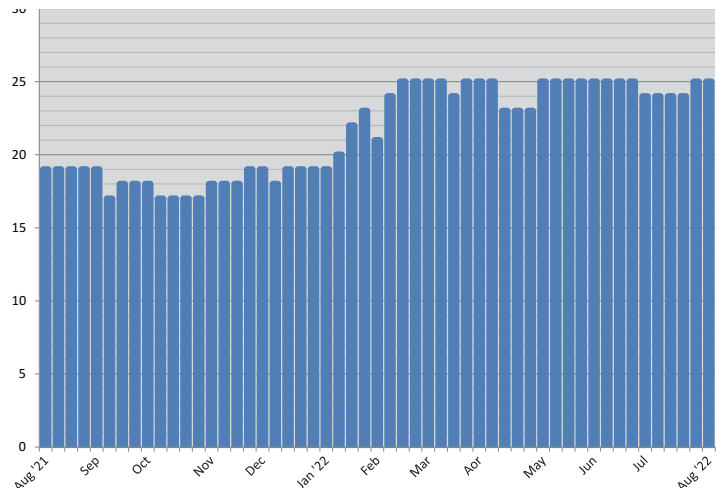


Natural Gas Futures Closing Prices

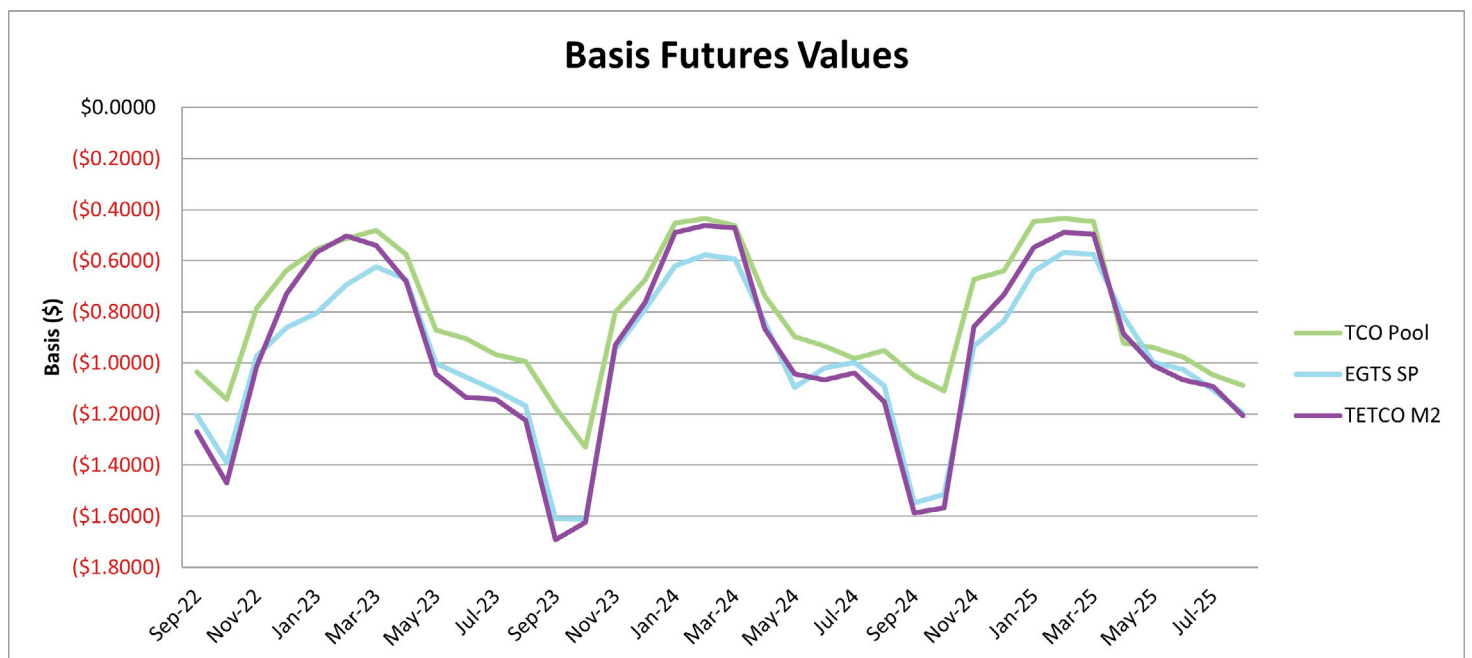
Month	Price
September	\$7.666
October	7.670
November	7.731
December	7.836
January 2023	7.901
February	7.705
March	6.514
April	4.896
May	4.750
June	4.786
July	4.845
August	4.859

Prices as of August 8

Pennsylvania Rig Count

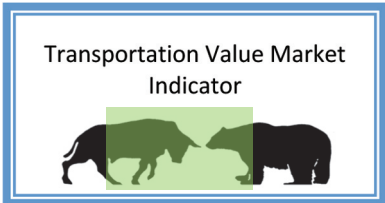


Basis Futures Values



Northeast Pricing Report — August 2022

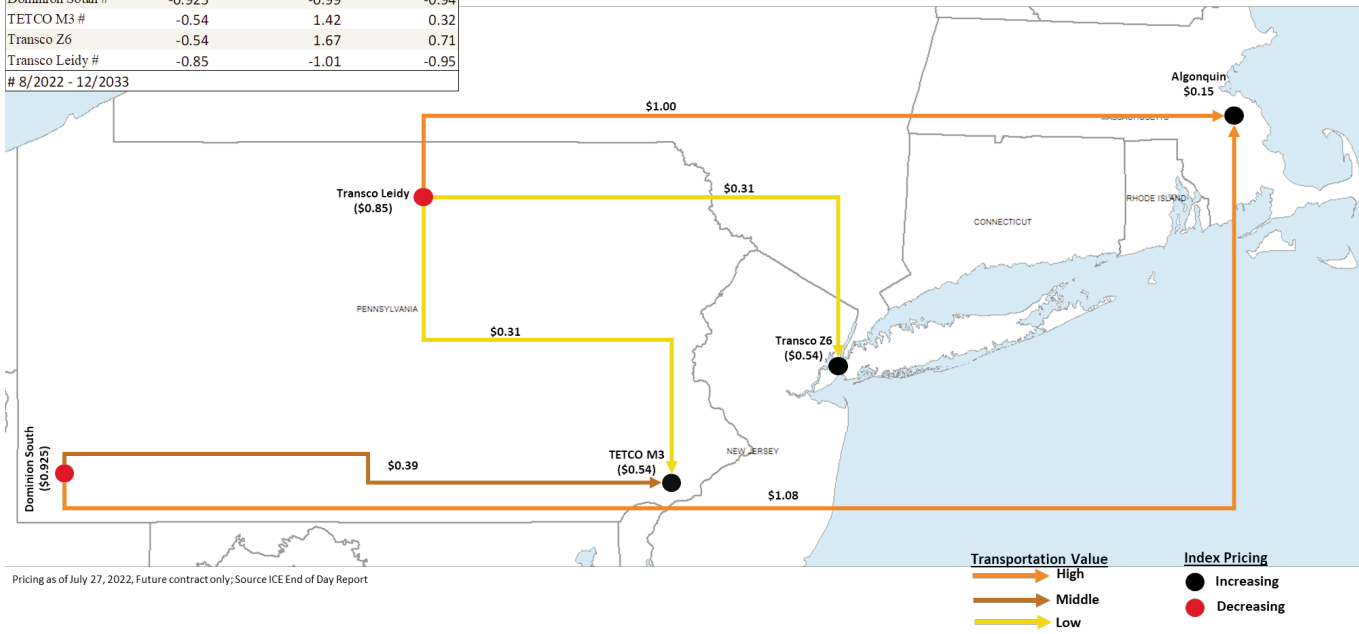
New England gas shortages have significantly increased pricing from the beginning of July. While the price movement is not as substantial as in winter, rarely do we see prices escalate so quickly as they have over the past month. Dominion South and Transco Leidy both decreased by \$0.08 and \$0.05 per MMBtu, respectively. TETCO M3 and Transco Z6 increased \$0.16 and \$0.14 per MMBtu, while Algonquin increased \$0.45 per MMBtu. A massive boost in price was seen for the twelve month rolling average for Algonquin. For this trading period, Algonquin raised by \$3.53 per MMBtu. That is an indication that the region is in for some serious supply shortages. For the same period, Dominion South and Transco Leidy decreased \$0.89 and \$0.91 per MMBtu. TETCO M3 and Transco Z6 had minimal changes at \$0.11 and \$0.09 per MMBtu. For the full trading term, only Algonquin had a significant movement. It rose by \$1.39 per MMBtu. Transco Z6 was flat.



Provided by Bertison-George, LLC
www.bertison-george.com

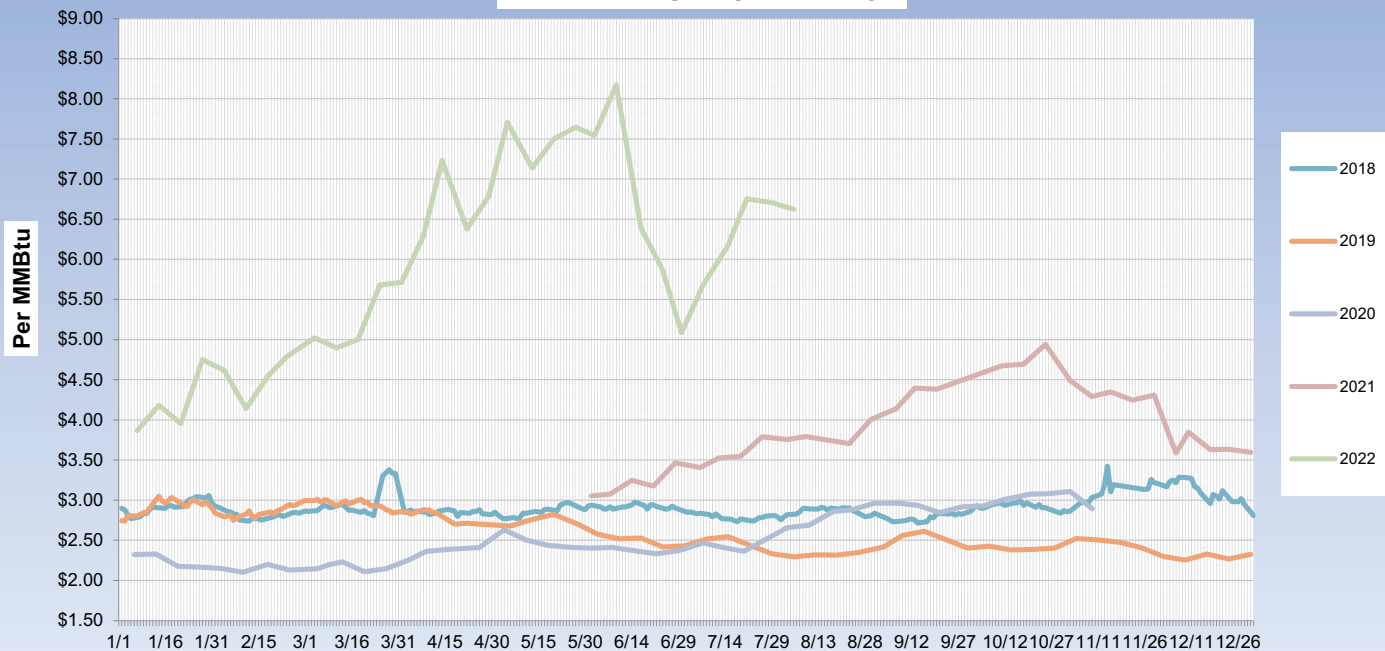
TETCO M3 to Transco Z6 was the only transportation route that decreased in value by \$0.02 per MMBtu. Both Dominion South and Transco Leidy to Algonquin raised by \$0.53 and \$0.50 per MMBtu, respectively. All other transportation routes had increases between \$0.19 and \$0.24 per MMBtu.

Natural Gas Basis Future Pricing			
Location	Pricing Term		
	8/2022	8/2022-7/2023	8/2022-12/2027
Algonquin	\$0.15	\$10.53	\$4.76
Dominion South #	-0.925	-0.99	-0.94
TETCO M3 #	-0.54	1.42	0.32
Transco Z6	-0.54	1.67	0.71
Transco Leidy #	-0.85	-1.01	-0.95
# 8/2022 - 12/2033			



Pricing as of July 27, 2022. Future contract only; Source ICE End of Day Report

NYMEX ANNUAL STRIP PRICE



Spud Report: July



The data show below comes from the Department of Environmental Protection. A variety of interactive reports are

OPERATOR	WELLS	SPUD	API #	COUNTY	MUNICIPALITY
Argeny Oil LLC	1	7/25/22	123-48683*	Warren	Pleasant Twp
Branch John D	1	7/13/22	123-48637*	Warren	Warren City
Cameron Energy Co	3	7/8/22	053-30983*	Forest	Kingsley Twp
		7/18/22	053-30981*	Forest	Kingsley Twp
		7/28/22	053-30982*	Forest	Kingsley Twp
Chesapeake Appalachia LLC	6	7/28/22	015-23719	Bradford	Tuscarora Twp
		7/28/22	015-23718	Bradford	Tuscarora Twp
		7/29/22	015-23723	Bradford	Tuscarora Twp
		7/29/22	015-23717	Bradford	Tuscarora Twp
		7/11/22	115-22849	Susquehanna	Auburn Twp
		7/12/22	115-22848	Susquehanna	Auburn Twp
Coterra Energy Inc	15	7/1/22	115-22992	Susquehanna	Forest Lake Twp
		7/1/22	115-22694	Susquehanna	Forest Lake Twp
		7/1/22	115-22695	Susquehanna	Forest Lake Twp
		7/15/22	115-22914	Susquehanna	Lenox Twp
		7/15/22	115-22916	Susquehanna	Lenox Twp
		7/15/22	115-22983	Susquehanna	Lenox Twp
		7/15/22	115-22984	Susquehanna	Lenox Twp
		7/15/22	115-22985	Susquehanna	Lenox Twp
		7/15/22	115-22986	Susquehanna	Lenox Twp
		7/15/22	115-22987	Susquehanna	Lenox Twp
		7/15/22	115-22988	Susquehanna	Lenox Twp
		7/8/22	115-22971	Susquehanna	Springville Twp
		7/8/22	115-22972	Susquehanna	Springville Twp
		7/8/22	115-22973	Susquehanna	Springville Twp
		7/8/22	115-22974	Susquehanna	Springville Twp
Curtis & Son Oil Inc	3	7/18/22	123-48587*	Warren	Farmington Twp
		7/25/22	123-48588*	Warren	Farmington Twp
		7/28/22	123-48589*	Warren	Farmington Twp
EQT ARO LLC	16	7/12/22	081-21938	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk Twp
		7/12/22	081-21940	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk Twp
		7/13/22	081-21939	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk Twp
		7/13/22	081-21941	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk Twp
		7/16/22	081-21944	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk Twp
		7/16/22	081-21942	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk Twp
		7/18/22	081-21943	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk Twp
		7/18/22	081-21945	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk Twp
		7/18/22	081-21946	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk Twp
		7/5/22	059-28212	Greene	Aleppo Twp
		7/5/22	059-28210	Greene	Aleppo Twp
		7/5/22	059-28211	Greene	Aleppo Twp
		7/6/22	059-28213	Greene	Aleppo Twp
		7/6/22	059-28209	Greene	Aleppo Twp
		7/6/22	059-28207	Greene	Aleppo Twp
		7/6/22	059-28208	Greene	Aleppo Twp
Gas & Oil Mgmt Assn Inc	2	7/12/22	123-48630*	Warren	Mead Twp
		7/21/22	123-48631*	Warren	Mead Twp
Laurel Mountain Production	5	7/1/22	019-22896	Butler	Parker Twp
		7/1/22	019-22907	Butler	Parker Twp
		7/1/22	019-22909	Butler	Parker Twp
		7/1/22	019-22914	Butler	Parker Twp
		7/1/22	019-22917	Butler	Parker Twp
Olympus Energy, LLC	13	7/23/22	129-29171	Westmoreland	Penn Twp
		7/23/22	129-29170	Westmoreland	Penn Twp
		7/23/22	129-29175	Westmoreland	Penn Twp
		7/23/22	129-29174	Westmoreland	Penn Twp
		7/23/22	129-29173	Westmoreland	Penn Twp
		7/23/22	129-29172	Westmoreland	Penn Twp
		7/26/22	129-29176	Westmoreland	Penn Twp
		7/22/22	129-29167	Westmoreland	Washington Twp
		7/23/22	129-29168	Westmoreland	Washington Twp
		7/23/22	129-29169	Westmoreland	Washington Twp
		7/24/22	129-29161	Westmoreland	Washington Twp
		7/24/22	129-29154	Westmoreland	Washington Twp
		7/24/22	129-29153	Westmoreland	Washington Twp
PA Gen Energy Co LLC	3	7/3/22	117-22171	Tioga	Liberty Twp
		7/4/22	117-22170	Tioga	Liberty Twp
		7/7/22	117-22172	Tioga	Liberty Twp
Pennhills Resources LLC	5	7/5/22	053-30965*	Forest	Howe Twp
		7/8/22	053-30961*	Forest	Howe Twp
		7/27/22	083-57349*	McKean	Hamilton Twp
		7/22/22	083-57407*	McKean	Wetmore Twp
		7/27/22	083-57405*	McKean	Wetmore Twp

available by going to the Office of Oil and Gas Management page at www.dep.pa.gov and choosing Report from the menu. The table is sorted by operator and lists the total wells reported as drilled last month. **Spud** is the date drilling began at a well site. The **API number** is the drilling permit number issued to the well operator. An asterisk (*) after the API number indicates a conventional well.

OPERATOR	WELLS	SPUD	API #	COUNTY	MUNICIPALITY		
R&N Resources LLC	3	7/8/22	123-48570*	Warren	Sheffield Twp		
		7/16/22	123-48569*	Warren	Sheffield Twp		
		7/30/22	123-48571*	Warren	Sheffield Twp		
Range Resources Appalachia	3	7/8/22	125-28965	Washington	Smith Twp		
		7/8/22	125-28970	Washington	Smith Twp		
		7/8/22	125-28971	Washington	Smith Twp		
Repsol Oil & Gas USA LLC	6	7/25/22	015-23765	Bradford	Troy Twp		
		7/25/22	015-23766	Bradford	Troy Twp		
		7/25/22	015-23767	Bradford	Troy Twp		
		7/25/22	015-23768	Bradford	Troy Twp		
		7/25/22	015-23769	Bradford	Troy Twp		
		7/25/22	015-23770	Bradford	Troy Twp		
Snyder Bros Inc	6	7/21/22	005-31434	Armstrong	East Franklin Twp		
		7/21/22	005-31435	Armstrong	East Franklin Twp		
		7/21/22	005-31438	Armstrong	East Franklin Twp		
		7/21/22	005-31439	Armstrong	East Franklin Twp		
		7/21/22	005-31444	Armstrong	East Franklin Twp		
		7/22/22	005-31445	Armstrong	East Franklin Twp		
SV ABS Interest Wetmore Proj	2	7/8/22	083-57395*	McKean	Wetmore Twp		
		7/18/22	083-57394*	McKean	Wetmore Twp		
Whilton Brooks A	1	7/26/22	123-48654*	Warren	Glade Twp		
William Southwell & Son Oil LLC	1	7/20/22	123-48558*	Warren	Conewango Twp		
Wilmoth Interests Inc	1	7/27/22	123-48649*	Warren	Mead Twp		
		July	June	May	April	March	February
Total wells	96	62	65	69	61	51	
Unconventional Gas	73	44	40	57	43	41	
Conventional Gas	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Oil	20	17	17	12	18	9	
Combination Oil/Gas	3	1	8	0	0	1	

New PIOGA members — welcome!

Bestway Oilfield

Donald Akin
16030 Market Street, Channelview, TX 77530
Allies & Providers

Centennial Energy, LLC.

Chris Wood
865 N. Albion Street, STE 400, Denver, CO 80220
Allies & Providers

Thomas Brecht

109 St. James Church Road, Saltsburg, PA 15681-4205
Royalty Owner

Carl Cameron

739 Creation Drive, DuBois, PA 15801-3924
Royalty Owner

Edward & Bonnie Lingsch

218 Railroad Street, Ruffs Dale, PA 15679-9778
Royalty Owner

Susan Marini

893 Park Creek Court SW, Marietta, GA 30064-3076
Royalty Owner

New PIOGA members — welcome!

John & Rosemary McCaskie

737 Buttermore Road, Ruffs Dale, PA 15679-1503
Royalty Owner

John Messer

6 Messer Lane, Fredericktown, PA 15333
Royalty Owner

Gerald Quinn

7 W. Jonathan Court, Kennett Square, PA 19348-1848
Royalty Owner

Susan Read

7921 Cherry Corner Road, Curwensville, PA 16833
Royalty Owner

Ilagene Ruff

2256 Piccadilly Court, Naples, FL 34112-3671
Royalty Owner

Sher Properties Inc.

Robert Sher
230 South Broad Street, 17th FL, Philadelphia, PA 19102
Royalty Owner

Calendar

PIOGA events

Information: www.pioga.org > PIOGA Events

25th Annual Divot Diggers Golf Outing

August 18, Tam O'Shanter Golf Course, Hermitage

PIOGATech: Water and Waste Management

September 15, Bella Sera Event Villa, Canonsburg

PIOGA Annual Membership Meeting

October 6, virtual event

Marcellus to Market (M2M) Conference

October 19, Hollywood Casino at The Meadows, Washington

Fall Clay Shoot

October 27, West Penn Sportsmen's Club, Murraysville

PIOGATech: Fall Protection

November 2, The Chadwick, Wexford

Annual Oil & Gas Tax and Accounting Seminar

November 16, virtual event

PIOGATech: Air Quality

December 15, The Chadwick, Wexford

Mix, Mingle & Jingle Holiday Party

December 15, The Chadwick, Wexford

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Michael Hillebrand (Secretary), Huntley & Huntley, LLC.
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Robert Beatty Jr., Beatty Oil & Gas
Stanley J. Berdell, BLX, Inc.
Brook Bertig-Coll, Fisher Associates
Dan Billman, Billman Geologic Consultants, Inc.
Brian Bittinger, Bittinger Drilling, LLC / D&B Gas Production, LLC
David Cook, American Refining Group, Inc.
Paul Espenan, Diversified Energy Company PLC
David Hill, Hill Drilling
Jessica Houser, WGM Gas Company Inc.
Bruce King, Greylock Energy
Teresa Irvin McCurdy, TD Connections, Inc.
Joe O'Donnell, BHE Eastern Energy Field Services
Len Paugh, Long Ridge Energy Generation
Jake Stilley, Patriot Exploration Corporation
Bryan Snyder, Snyder Brothers, Inc.
Tyson Ruhlman, Pennsylvania General Energy Co., LLC
Chris Veazey, OWS Acquisition Co. LLC
Jeff Walentosky, Moody and Associates, Inc.
Ben Wallace, Penneco Oil Company, Inc.

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Wayne Vanderhoof, RJR Safety, Inc.
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