

MARCELLUS SHALE

Fact Sheet

Can Provide Three Years of Natural Gas

Over \$2 Billion to the Local Economy

Almost 30,000 Jobs Have Been Created

LOCATION OF MARCELLUS SHALE

- The Marcellus Shale is named after a distinctive outcrop of rock near the town of Marcellus, New York.¹
- The Marcellus Shale is found throughout the Allegheny Plateau region of the Appalachian Basin.²
- The Marcellus Shale runs from southern New York, into Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland, West Virginia, and portions of Virginia.³

THE IMPORTANCE

- The U.S. Geological Survey originally thought that the Marcellus Shale contained a marginal amount of gas in the range of 1.9 trillion cubic feet.⁴
- In April 2009, the U.S. Department of Energy changed that estimate, concluding that the Marcellus Shale contained 262 trillion cubic feet of gas.⁵
- Some geologists believe that the Marcellus Shale could hold as much as 500 trillion cubic feet of gas.⁶
- Modest estimates of total production potential show that the Marcellus Shale, by itself, is capable of producing enough natural gas to meet U.S. natural gas demand for the next two years.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- The development of the Marcellus Shale will have a tremendous impact on Pennsylvania's economy.
- In 2008, operators in the Marcellus Shale spent \$2.95 billion in Pennsylvania.⁷
- From 2005 to 2009, operators in the Marcellus Shale spent close to \$4.7 billion in Pennsylvania - \$2.5 billion on lease, bonus and other land payments and \$2.2 billion on equipment and supplies.⁸
- For every \$1 that Marcellus operators spend in Pennsylvania, \$1.94 of total economic output is generated.⁹
- In 2008, Marcellus Shale production added \$2.3 billion to the Pennsylvania economy.¹⁰
- The development of the Marcellus Shale led to the creation of 29,284 jobs.¹¹

REGULATIONS

- Strategies and policies that encourage growth of the Marcellus gas industry will generate significant economic and environmental benefits for Pennsylvania.¹²
- The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Oil and Gas Management is responsible for the regulation of the oil and gas industry statewide.
- Pennsylvania has developed the Marcellus Shale Wastewater Partnership to address the water disposal issues that arise with natural gas production in the Marcellus Shale.¹³

1 "Marcellus Formation," from Wikipedia, available at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcellus_Shale#cite_note-MGS1918-2.

2 Id.

3 Id.

4 Id.

5 Modern shale gas development in the United States: a primer, U.S. Dept. of Energy, at 17(2009).

6 "Researchers: Shale holds vast supply of natural gas". Business First of Buffalo. David Bertola, available at: <http://buffalo.bizjournals.com/buffalo/stories/2008/02/11/story2.html?b=1202706000%5E1587557>.

7 An Emerging Giant: Prospects and Economic Impacts of Developing the Marcellus Shale Natural Gas Play, Penn State Univ., Timothy Considine, et al. (2009).

8 Id.

9 Id.

10 Id.

11 Id.

12 Id.

13 Available at: http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/marcellus_shale_wastewater_partnership/18683.