



Every environmental victory grows the economy.®

Developing unconventional natural gas: State policy response

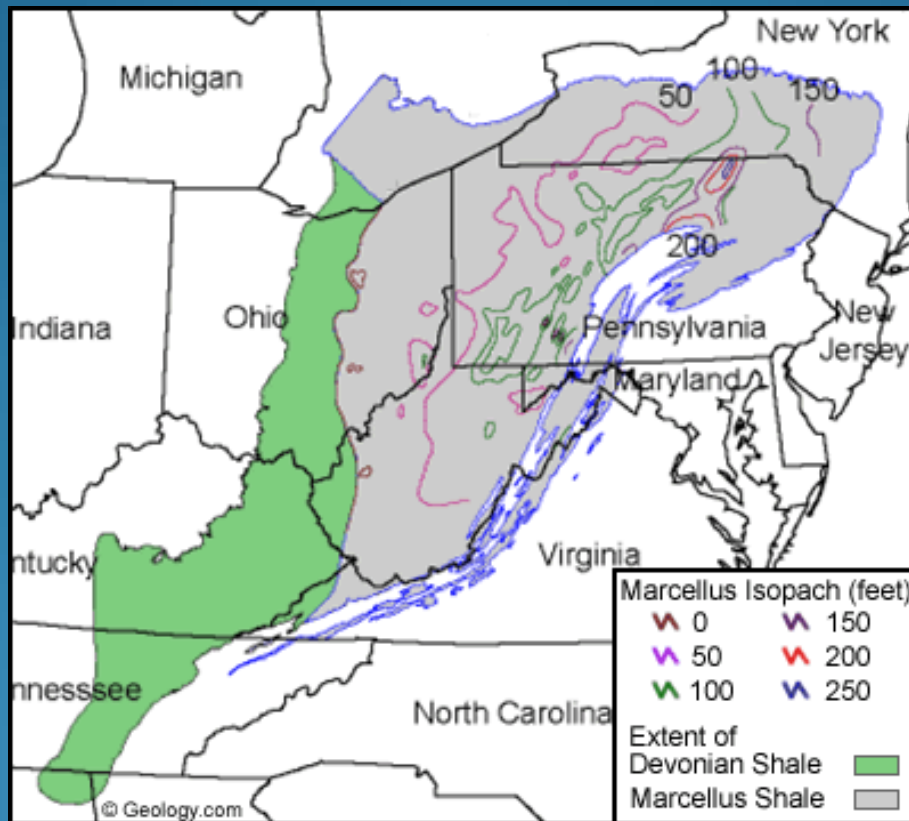


PennFuture

- Founded in 1999
- Staff of 27 in 4 offices – Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Wilkes-Barre, Pittsburgh
- 5 attorneys provide \$2 million/year in pro bono legal services to our members, hunting and angling groups, watershed associations, environmental and conservation organizations and community groups
- Priorities: clean energy, natural gas drilling, clean air, Chesapeake Bay Cleanup



Marcellus – Mother of all natural gas plays



Heavy industry in your backyard



Regulatory readiness - not

- PA 'S regulations written in mid-1980s to address shallow horizontal drilling
- Lack of understanding on character and scale of drilling
- No severance taxes on any mineral extraction
- No water resource allocation in Ohio basin
- Inadequate agency staffing

Local impacts

- Huge increase in heavy truck traffic – wear and tear on roads, bridges
- Challenges for emergency services
- Loss of affordable housing
- Itinerant workforce
- Increase in crime
- Boom town growth

Public distrust and fear



Playing catch-up

- 2009 fee package
- 2010 rulemakings and orders
 - TDS strategy
 - Modernize oil and gas regulations
 - 150-foot buffer rule for special protection streams
 - Moratorium on further leasing of public land for drilling

Policy needs

- Severance tax
- Greater setbacks from water ways and water supplies
- Prohibition on siting wells in floodplains
- Increased bonding
- Increased fines for violations
- Maintain moratorium on further leasing of state land
- Disclosure
- Enhanced monitoring and testing
- Regulation of air pollution
- Retain local zoning authority

Recent Corbett administration actions

- Rescind DEP/DCNR policy for drilling on public land where Commonwealth does not own mineral rights
- Rescind air aggregation guidance
- Allow DCED secretary to expedite permits
- Prohibit inspectors from issuing notices of violations until approved by the DEP secretary
- Absolute opposition to severance tax

Contact

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