



Marcellus Shale Dialogue Process

April 1, 2011

–Marcellus Shale Dialogue

- Multi-stakeholder process to identify issues and concerns related to Marcellus shale gas exploration and development in the Upper Delaware River Basin
- A report was completed on management practices, the current regulatory framework, and regional resource assessments
- Released on 3/1/11 by Pinchot Institute for Conservation

- Marcellus Shale Dialogue
 - Stakeholder meetings were held from March to December 2010
 - Bi-monthly meetings with steering committee conference calls as needed

- Setting up the dialogue –
 - Scope out potential groups/organizations
 - Partner with existing organizations – UD River Roundtable, Common Waters Partners
 - Governmental – CD’s, Co Planning, Env. agencies, NPS, local municipalities, Delaware River Basin Commission
 - Local Citizen groups or just local citizens– both for and against gas exploration
 - Gas Companies

- Meetings –
 - Establish Steering Committee
 - Use sub committees as appropriate
 - good central location for meetings by partnering with the Upper Delaware River Roundtable
 - Facilitation
 - Establish ground rules – common courtesy/respect others views, only one person to speak at a time
 - Use breakout groups for discussions

- Record input from stakeholders
- Provided a copy of input to group
- Were respectful of the various viewpoints
- Were neutral in our comments
- Remind group of the nature of project and anticipated use of reports

- Purpose of the Report

- Education

- A well researched introduction to management practices, regulations, and resources
- A resource for communities, citizens, and stakeholders
- Focused on issues raised by stakeholders

- Process of developing report
 - Stakeholder meetings to identify issues and concerns
 - Initial research on management practices
 - Check-in with workgroup on initial research
 - Additional research and refinement

- **Structure of the Report**

- Issue Area: introduction to categories of management practices and the issues/impacts the practices seek to address
- Management Practices: description of specific management practices and the specific issues/impacts they address
 - Information on management practices is an introduction; many management practices are highly technical and site specific in their application, and a very dynamic process
- Sources: listing of resources we used to research management practices

- Site Location –
 - Effects on water quality, waterways, wetlands, floodways
 - Endangered species and habitat
 - Viewscapes
 - Soil suitability, erosion and sedimentation control
 - Infrastructure – existing and proposed
 - Water withdrawals, storage, and disposal

- Issue Area: Water Resources
 - Location Planning for Water Withdrawals
 - Timing of Water Withdrawals
 - Centralization of Infrastructure

- Issue Area: Well Site Construction
 - Erosion and Sediment Controls
 - Erosion and Sediment Plan Monitoring
 - Zero Discharge Well Pads
 - Closed Tanks with Double Containment

- Issue Area: Water Quality
 - Wastewater Disposal
 - Water Testing
 - Well Casings

- Issue Area: Air Quality
 - Flareless Well Completions
 - Natural Gas Powered Engines
 - Reduced Truck Utilization
 - Dust Control
 - Emissions Controls

- New York and Pennsylvania regulations related to gas exploration, drilling and development were reviewed as they existed on November 1, 2010
- Matrix to compare regulations was developed so that the readers could compare existing requirements
- Regulations in both states and DRBC are subject to change and are in that process

- During meetings and discussions it became evident that a great deal of information and studies have been completed on natural resources in the Upper Delaware River Basin
- Can provide a sound basis for further specific studies
- Compiled a list and provided information about the resource as well as where to obtain the information

- Maps where appropriate were provided in the report
- Many of the reports were prepared by organizations which our stakeholders represented

- The report was released on 3/1/11 with a press release from Pinchot Institute
- Stakeholders were notified and advised where to obtain copies, pre identified stakeholders were provided with hard copies
- Copies are available on the Pinchot Institute web site and hard copies are available
- Local governments, agencies, and libraries

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