

Work Session Summary

February 25, 2011

Attendance: Edward Coar (Chairman), Commissioner Brian Smith, Chris Barrett, Donna Labar, Bob Muller, Michele Stahl, Pete Hooker, Joann Hudak, Ed. D., Mary Beth Wood, Jim Labar, Dave Messersmith, Jennifer Porter

Natural Gas Well Sites Map – Edward Coar and Chris Barrett presented a draft natural gas well site location map to the Task Force. The draft map page illustrates the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) permitted well sites, as well as the locations of the drilled wells within Wayne County. The map utilizes a free Google based mapping application that allows for a map to be embedded directly within the Wayne County Oil & Gas Task Force website. Clicking on a link below the map also allows for a larger version of the map to be opened in a separate page that illustrates an index of the permitted and drilled websites. Viewers of the draft web page are able to zoom to specific sites through the use of Google’s map tools. Information, such as the municipal location, drilling operator and PA DEP permit number are provided for each site. The Wayne County Planning Department will continue to review the information put forth by the PA DEP in order to have the most current information available to the public. The Task Force members were in agreement that the map should be placed on the Task Force website.

Web Sites –The websites of each of the participating member organizations of the Task Force were reviewed. At the previous Task Force work session in January, it was agreed that each member organization would have a tab that reads ‘Natural Gas’ provided in a prominent location at the top of each webpage. The ‘Natural Gas’ tab would open a page that contains information in regard to how each member organization specifically interacts with the Natural Gas industry. Mr. Coar thanked the group for working very hard to get their websites updated. Some of the websites still require updating and this should be completed as soon as possible.

Next Public Meeting – As reported by Dave Messersmith, the Outreach sub-committee is working on the organization of a public meeting. At this point, presenters for the public meeting are still being lined up. The meeting could be held sometime in the spring. Mr. Messersmith indicated that when the details are finalized, a flyer / press release with meeting details will be placed on the Wayne County Oil and Gas Task Force website.

DRBC Draft Regulations / Public Hearings – Commissioner Brian Smith indicated that there was good balanced testimony presented at the DRBC Public Hearing that took place on February 22nd and that the school did a good job hosting the event. March 16th is the deadline for the DRBC to receive written comments. However, there have been reports of requests for the DRBC to extend the comment period beyond the currently established deadline. Despite the reports of the requests to extend the comment deadline, the point was made to be sure to have any written comments to the DRBC by the March 16th.

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Sub-Committee Reports:

Workforce – Jennifer Porter, Director of Workforce Wayne reported that training aspects associated with gas industry workforce development are moving along very nicely. Wayne and Pike Counties are now part of the Shale Net grant for training in six main areas. This is a three-year grant from the State that will be funneled through Wayne County Job Training. Also, Workforce Wayne had some additional grant money for training. This money has been used to support various training efforts throughout the County. In addition to those efforts, there are two current trainings being offered. They involve OSHA training and CPR/AED and First Aid training. The sub-committee meeting schedule is being developed for the rest of the year. Workforce Wayne has also been in contact with the company ‘Petroskills’. They are a worldwide oil and gas industry training company that is located in Houston, Texas. Joann Hudak reported that she attended an event at Johnson College that focused on the types of training and job skills that are desired in regard to the development of pipeline infrastructure. She indicated that welders are very much in demand. Currently, a very large percentage of the welders are from out of State. There is an ongoing effort to bring technical training programs, such as welding, to Wayne County. Joann Hudak also pointed out that, in regard to the pipeline company presentation she attended, the most sought after type of professionals are Forestry consultants.

Public Safety – Pete Hooker reported that on March 17th, he and Steve Price would be attending a training seminar at the PPL Learning Center in Wilkes-Barre in regard to spill response and emergency notification procedures.

Planning – Edward Coar reported that draft model zoning ordinance regulations have been developed by the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) and the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs. This information is being reviewed and will be added to the Planning Sub-Committee website in the near future.

Government – Commissioner Brian Smith reported that he has had discussions with Bradford County Commissioner Doug McLinko in regard to how the industry has improved some historically poor roads in Bradford County. He also indicated that, from an Economic Development standpoint, the gas industry has given the local Bradford County economy a tremendous boost. It was also suggested that a potential future public meeting topic could be to bring in representatives from areas of the State where extensive drilling has occurred in order to convey first hand experiences.

Environment – Bob Muller reported that the sub-committee has revisited some issues and concerns that were discussed initially. He indicated that a number of the issues brought up in the past have resolved themselves. For example, the industry has revised their water use/consumption and recycling practices. They will continue to revisit issues previously discussed. The sub-committee is considering a tour of drilling sites in neighboring counties sometime in the spring. They would like to see drilling sites at various stages of completion. They also hope to include a compressor station and gathering pipeline in such a tour.

Economic Development – Mary Beth Wood reported that work is continuing on the development of a business directory. This may be ready at the time of the next work session. In the second half of the year they will be looking at setting up a seminar.