

Work Session Summary

January 28, 2011

Attendance: Edward Coar (Chairman), Commissioner Brian Smith, Chris Barrett, Donna Labar, Bob Muller, Michele Stahl, Michael Thomley, Steve Price, Joann Hudak, Ed. D., Mary Beth Wood, Jim Labar, Dave Messersmith, Bob Suhosky

Web Sites – Chairman Edward Coar reviewed the Wayne County Oil and Gas Task Force website with the group. The ‘Links’ to various websites were reviewed for each representative sub-committee and other participating organizations. It was suggested that the information pertaining to natural gas should be prominently displayed on the respective websites to allow the public to find information easily. It was also recommended that it should be demonstrated on the websites how each organization interacts with the Oil and Gas Task Force and the gas issue in general. For example, it was mentioned that the Workforce Wayne website should exhibit how Wayne County’s workforce is impacted. The Conservation District website should provide links to credible environmental websites along with other environmental information that relates to the natural gas issue. A discussion took place in regard to having a common link theme or phrasing to display gas related information. The group decided that each respective sub-committee or member organization should use the wording “Natural Gas” as the link on their respective websites to display gas related information. The “Natural Gas” link should be displayed in a prominent location near the top of each sub committee or organization’s website homepage. In summary, the websites should be as user friendly as possible in order to allow the public to readily identify sources of natural gas information on the various sub-committee and participating member organization websites. It is desired to have each sub-committee or related member organization website updated by the end of next month.

A discussion also took place on where to find the location of drilling activity within the County. It was mentioned that information is available on the PA DEP website. However, it can be difficult to navigate through the site in order to find the information. It was decided that the Wayne County Planning Department would create some mapping to generally illustrate the location of the drilling activity in the County. The map(s) will be posted on the Task Force website upon completion.

Next Public Meeting – It was mentioned that a Task Force public meeting could be held in March. The topic of the public meeting may focus on public safety in regard to the drilling industry. Dave Messersmith, chairman of the Outreach sub-committee indicated that a tentative agenda would include a presentation by Steve Price, Director of the Wayne County Emergency Management Agency, on the training of local first responders in Wayne County. Mr. Price indicated that over the course of the previous eight months more than 300 first responders have been trained here in the County. Mr. Messersmith indicated that it would also be desired to have someone from the industry to provide information on how they work with local responders. It was also suggested that someone from ‘Wild Well Control’ could speak on the training program for first responders. Another topic that could be included in the presentation is the enforcement of traffic safety and the possible speakers could include the PA State Police, Penn Dot and/or the PA Public utility Commission (PUC). A possible location for the public meeting could be the Park Street Complex. A date will be determined in the future.

Work Session Summary

Press Release – Ed Coar circulated a draft press release to the Task Force. The press release is a review of the past year’s activities. It was requested that the Task Force members review the press release and forward any proposed changes to Ed Coar by early next week.

DRBC Draft Regulations – The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) has announced the dates, times and locations for the public hearings that will offer an opportunity for the public to provide oral comment on the proposed draft natural gas development regulations. As reported on the DRBC website, the public hearings will take place in two distinct sessions from **1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.** and **6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.** at the following locations:

- Feb. 22 – Honesdale High School Auditorium, 459 Terrace Street, Honesdale, Pa.**
- Feb. 22 – Liberty High School Auditorium, 125 Buckley Street, Liberty, N.Y.**
- Feb. 24 – Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, 1 Memorial Drive, Trenton, N.J.**

The oral testimony will be limited to two minutes per person and the maximum capacity at the Honesdale High School Auditorium public hearing site is limited to 990 persons, according to the DRBC website.

The DRBC will also accept written comments on the proposed draft natural gas development regulations until 5:00 PM on March 5th. As reported on the DRBC website, written comments will be accepted in two formats. The DRBC will receive written comments either electronically, as the preferred method, (See DRBC website for details - http://www.state.nj.us/drbc/notice_naturalgas-draftregs.htm#hearings) and also through traditional paper submissions either mailed or delivered to: Commission Secretary, DRBC, P.O. Box 7360, 25 State Police Drive, West Trenton, NJ 08628.

The draft DRBC gas drilling regulations can be viewed by going to the DRBC website. Links to the draft regulations have also been provided in the left hand index of the home page of the Wayne County Oil and Gas Task Force website.