

***Work Session Summary***

July 23, 2010

10:35 – 12:15

Wayne County Park Street Complex

Attendance: Edward Coar, Brian Smith, Dave Messersmith, Michele Stahl, Donna Labar, Mary Beth Wood, Peter Chacon, Robert Suhosky, Steve Price, Laura Travis, Jennifer Porter, Erban Travis, Peter Hooker, Dan Hayward and Debbie Varcoe.

The task force was updated on the recent DRBC meeting in West Trenton, NJ. Commissioner Smith stated that many people from Wayne County attended this meeting. He felt they did a very good job in speaking for responsible gas exploration, however regulations first need to be in place. The DRBC has set as their goal to work on getting regulations in place on a timely basis. Commissioner Smith feels it is imminent that gas exploration will occur in the area and the task force will play an important role in education and outreach. Ms. Stahl informed the task force that approval was granted for two test wells for Hess. Mrs. Labar questioned if future meetings will be held closer to us. The DRBC may be holding meetings closer to Wayne County, but they would need to work out the details. No time frame is known at this time. Commissioner Smith pointed out that the DRBC Commissioner from New York State did not attend the meeting as it was learned the reason being New York State did not have the finances to send him. Mr. Hayward expressed Stone Energy's satisfaction with DRBC's approval of their permit for the Matoushek well in Clinton Township. However, they cannot proceed until the DRBC adopts the new regulations.

Mr. Coar informed the task force that additions to the web site now include public comment and responses from the May public meeting as well as the sub-committee goals as suggested at the June work session.

The sub-committee reports are as follows:

**Workforce** – Jennifer Porter, Director of Workforce Initiatives - Workforce Wayne (Sub-Committee Chairman) - Since the last session Workforce Wayne has been working on obtaining training for potential workers in the oil and gas industry. Request for proposals have gone out. Johnson College and Lackawanna College are two facilities they are looking to for various types of training. Ms. Porter reported following up with Petroskills, a company that provides industry related training. She is working on getting them into the area to educate people on the types of occupations and training needed for working in this industry. Ms. Porter stated that WHY, Philadelphia is very interested in Wayne County and has interviewed people and businesses here to put together a possible series.

**Public Safety** – Two wells located on SR191 received physical 911 addresses. During their last work session Mr. Price talked with Sgt. George from the State Police barracks regarding training for fire police and fire marshals involving well fires. Four classes have been established with a 32-seat limit. Mr. Price mentioned that Wayne

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County is part of an eight county task force (PEMA) from which they obtain funding and share information with other counties. He noted the level of coordination between the various emergency departments here in Wayne County is very good. Mr. Chacon mentioned that several local people have had tours with EMS and fire personnel to become familiar with the moving parts of the rigs. He is interested in maintaining public safety.

**Planning** – Edward Coar, Director - Wayne County Department of Planning, Planning (Sub-Committee Chairman) that on July 15<sup>th</sup> the sub-committee viewed a Penn State webinar that focused on zoning as a way for municipalities to have an effect on the gas industry. The webinar focused on the balanced approach to regulations in Lycoming County. As stated in the webinar, they must be reasonable and the quality of life in the county needs to be protected. Residents should be encouraged to have their own water tested. It was also mentioned that Damascus Township is in the process of amending their zoning ordinance. It was also mentioned that state law requires for the reasonable extraction of minerals.

**Outreach** - Dave Messersmith, Penn State Cooperative Extension (Sub-Committee Chairman) mentioned getting a date nailed down for the program (Gas Drilling 101) to be offered in late summer or fall. Mr. Messersmith mentioned interest in a program for landowners being affected by the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Project. He is working on putting together something around September 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>. He has an attorney from Scranton willing to speak regarding pipeline issues. Mr. Messersmith handed out a brochure for a 2-day Marcellus Summit at Penn State. A draft agenda for the summit is available on the Penn State website. The Marcellus Shale Coalition has expressed interest in a radio talk show and press conference. Ms. Wood recommended that the public be made aware of the coordination between EMS and the gas companies. Outreach Chair will contact Mickey from Bold Gold for a possible radio spot

**Government** – Laura Travis stated her committee had nothing new to report.

**Environment** – Mr. Muller was unavailable as he was on a conference call involving dirt roads in the Marcellus Shale area.

**Economic Development** – Mary Beth Wood, Wayne Economic Development Corporation (Co-Sub-Committee Chairman) reported that Donna Labar, Jennifer Porter and herself traveled to Bradford County on June 26th to attend a Gas Expo being held at the fairgrounds. During subsequent sessions they discussed plans to hold a similar Expo in Wayne County possibly in 2011. Mrs. Labar stated that she has received calls from companies that are looking to do business in Wayne County.