

# The PIOGA Press

The monthly newsletter of the  
Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association  
April 2023 • Issue 156

## PIOGA's Spring Meeting highlights the Ever-Evolving Energy Landscape



On March 23, 2023, PIOGA held its Spring Conference at the Rivers Casino in Pittsburgh. The conference 'The Evolving Energy Landscape' showcased the issues and opportunities of the ever-evolving energy world we live in and depend on.

The conference featured presentations from top experts providing thought-provoking information about the future of energy, along with updates on the regulatory, legislative, market development and business climate issues impacting businesses.

The conference was a successful day with informative presentations, great networking and exhibition of products and services from leading companies.

PIOGA would like to thank all who attended, the exhibitors and sponsors that made this year's event a success! Check out page 2 and 3 for a list of sponsors!

A special thank you to PIOGA's Conference Program Committee members that designed a valuable meeting complete with relevant and timely topics/speakers. Program members included: Ben Wallace – Penneco Oil Co./Penneco

Environmental Solutions; Jake Stilley - Patriot Exploration Corp.; David Marks - PA Energy Fuels, LLC.; Jeff Walentosky - Moody and Associates, Inc.; Teresa McCurdy – TD Connections; and Dan Weaver, Danielle Boston and Meghan Keely from PIOGA.

For more scenes from the day's activities check out Page 2 and 3. Be sure to visit the Photos Galleries section at [pioga.org](http://pioga.org) to see all photos from the Spring Conference and Spring Meeting Kick-off Happy Hour.

**Link to access presentations from the 2023 Spring Meeting:** <https://pioga.org/presentation-pages/2023-pioga-spring-meeting-presentations/>

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**The Hype over Hydrogen: What it is and What are the Potentials?** Len Paugh - Head of Gas Development, Long Ridge Energy & Power



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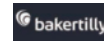
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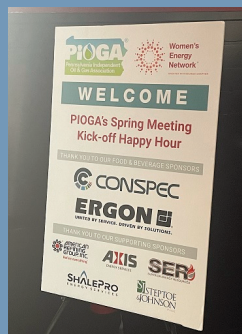


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## PIOGA's 2023 Spring Meeting Kick-off

PIOGA and The Women's Energy Network - Greater Pittsburgh Chapter- held their first joint Happy Hour on March 22nd at the Voodoo Brewing Company, North Shore-Pittsburgh. The happy hour sold out quickly. Great food and networking opportunities combined for the perfect way to kick-off PIOGA's 2023 Spring Meeting.





## How Two Business Owners Sold Their Company and Enriched Their Employees at the Same Time

*The Moon Township-based engineering consulting firm became employee-owned in November*

MOON TOWNSHIP, PA — Like many business owners hoping to retire in the next five years, Amy Veltri and John Nottingham were uncertain about how they would untangle themselves from their successful business they started together 21 years ago.

Founded in 2002, NGE has grown into a successful environmental and geotechnical engineering firm with nearly 40 employees and offices in Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

They knew that the most feasible and lucrative option was likely to sell the business to a third party.

Over the years, Amy and John, who are also siblings, had offers from third-parties to sell them their engineering firm that focuses on geotechnical, drilling and environmental engineering services, but it never felt right.

“When you start a company from nothing, it’s like one of your children. Selling it to someone outside our company just felt wrong,” Amy, who serves as NGE’s CEO, said.

They knew there were other options for their exit strategy but weren’t sure if they would work for NGE. For example, growing up, Amy and John’s father was an early employee at Triad Engineering, a firm which became employee-owned through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) in the 1980s.

Kevin McPhillips, executive director of the Pennsylvania Center of Employee Ownership (PaCEO), said ESOPs are an option for business owners to sell to their employees without them having to personally come up with the money.

“It’s not uncommon to see employees get a second mortgage and clean out their savings in order to buy out the current owners. This can be quite a burden,” McPhillips said. “That’s why ESOPs are such an attractive alternative for companies like

NGE. They allow Amy and John to be bought out while handing the keys to the people they trust the most—their employees.”

Formalized by Congress in 1974, ESOP companies take on debt to buy out the owners and divide the ownership shares among the employees (who pay nothing). And unique within the tax code, ESOP companies pay no tax on profits for whatever portion is owned by the employees. The employees work together to pay off the loan (supported by the tax savings) after which all future earnings are invested to grow the company and the value of the shares. Employees can then cash out their shares upon retiring or leaving the company.

Currently more than 300 companies in Pennsylvania are either partially or fully employee-owned. They include eastern-Pennsylvania-based plumbing wholesaler Nicklas Supply, and kitchen and bath solutions company Splash Kitchen Bath Home. Nationally, over 5,000 other companies have ESOPs.

Despite Amy and John knowing about ESOPs they didn’t think it was a viable option. They thought it was just for large companies, not ones with less than 40 employees like NGE.

“We didn’t feel like we were big enough for an ESOP,” Amy said.

Fortunately, Amy had recently joined the board of KTA-Tator, a Pittsburgh-based ESOP, and saw how versatile the business model could be.

Through KTA-Tator, Amy was introduced to Dan Zugell, a director at Business Transition Advisors, Inc. (BTA), a firm which has transitioned 17 businesses in Pennsylvania and 60 across the country since 2020.

“There are many misconceptions about ESOPs out there, including that a company needs to be a particular size. The reality is that a company with as few as 25 employees to a company with thou-

*Continued on Next Page*



sands of employees might be a good fit for an ESOP.” Zugell said.

Amy and John hired BTA in the fall of 2021 and transitioned NGE into an employee-owned company in November last year.

For Gene Brown, NGE’s West Virginia office manager, the ESOP is the ideal solution.

“I’m pretty excited about this thing. We have ownership without having to buy anything,” he said.

Brown said he’s already helping other employees understand how to act like owners.

“I’ve been telling them, we need to step up and do more. The more we do now, the more it will help our future,” he said.

For Amy, she plans to transition out of her role in two years, while John plans to stay for at least four so they can ensure the company can thrive into the future.

“It’s very satisfying to know I’ll have a comfortable retirement and that the legacy John and I started will continue to prosper and also provide for and reward our employees, many of whom have been with us long-term,” Amy said. ■



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# Chubb Announces New Underwriting Standards for Oil and Gas Extraction

Published by Babst Calland - Authored by Ben Clapp and Gina Falaschi Buchman



On March 22, 2023, Chubb, one of the world's largest insurance companies, introduced new climate-focused underwriting standards intended to induce reductions of methane emissions from the oil and gas production sector.

Under the new standards, Chubb will continue to offer coverage only to clients that implement evidence-based plans to manage methane emissions including, at a minimum, a leak detection and repair (LDAR) program, elimination of non-emergency venting, and measures to reduce emissions from flaring. These criteria commence immediately, but customers will have time to develop an action plan based on their individual risk characteristics. Chubb has also committed to creating a customer resource center to support oil and gas insureds implementing these requirements.

Chubb also announced that it will immediately cease offering coverage for oil and gas projects in government-protected conservation areas designated by state, provincial or national governments. This will include conservation areas covered by International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) management categories I-V in the World Database on Protected Areas, which includes nature reserves, wilderness areas, national parks and monuments, habitat or species management areas, and protected landscapes and seascapes. A sixth IUCN category applies to protected areas that allow sustainable use, and Chubb plans to develop standards for projects in category VI areas and for oil and gas extraction projects in certain key zones not currently listed in the World Database on Protected Areas by the end of 2023.

It is unclear how Chubb's new underwriting criteria will compare with existing and proposed federal and state rules like NSPS Part 60, Subparts OOOO and OOOOa, the proposed NSPS Part 60, Subparts OOOOb and OOOOc, and Pennsylvania's 2022 Control of VOC Emissions from Unconventional and Conventional Oil and Natural Gas Sources Rules. Compliance with these state and federal standards may satisfy insurers like Chubb, but that is not certainly the case. For example, Chubb has announced that it will require, at minimum, a LDAR program, but it is unclear what the required monitoring frequency will be. Wells with emissions below certain thresholds not currently subject to frequent monitoring under federal or state rules may need additional monitoring to remain insured under Chubb's criteria. It is also possible that other insurance companies will follow Chubb's lead in the coming months. Producers should remain alert to notices from their insurance companies to ensure that facilities meet the requirements to remain insured.

This new underwriting policy is an extension of Chubb's recent efforts to focus more on climate-related activities. The company has already limited coal-related underwriting and investment. Chubb has also launched a new climate business unit, Chubb Climate+, which will offer insurance products and related services to companies developing new technologies that support progress towards a low-carbon economy.

Chubb's new standards exemplify the expanding and influential impact of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles on companies operating in the energy sector. ESG generally refers to a set of factors used to measure the non-financial practices in areas such as sustainability, climate, and resource conservation, and non-environmental areas such as diversity, equity, and inclusion. Consumers, insurers, lenders and investors are placing an increased emphasis on ESG considerations



when making business decisions, and regulatory agencies are beginning to take actions aimed at increasing the transparency of regulated companies' ESG efforts through required disclosures.

For example, a number of proposed federal agency rules over the past year could make ESG reporting mandatory, including the Securities and Exchange Commission's proposed Enhancement and Standardization of Climate-Related Disclosures for Investors, which could become the first mandatory ESG reporting requirement for publicly traded U.S. companies. In addition, the Department of Defense, General Services Administration, and National Aeronautics and Space Administration have proposed a rule that would require certain federal suppliers to annually disclose their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and climate-related financial risks, as well as set GHG emissions reduction targets, on an annual basis. Whether through exposure to consumer, insurer, lender or investor initiatives, or to new ESG reporting requirements imposed by regulatory agencies, companies operating in the energy sector are likely to face increased scrutiny over ESG-related practices that may, as in the case of the new Chubb standards, require costly operational changes.

Babst Calland's energy and environmental attorneys continue to track ESG related issues affecting the energy industry. For more information, please contact Ben Clapp at (202) 853-3488 or [bclapp@babstcalland.com](mailto:bclapp@babstcalland.com) or Gina Buchman at (202) 853-3483 or [gbuchman@babstcalland.com](mailto:gbuchman@babstcalland.com). ■



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## PIOGA Harrisburg Update - Senate Appropriations Budget Hearings with DEP

The following update was provided by Gmerek Government Relations, Inc.



The Senate Appropriations Committee held its annual budget hearing with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to discuss Governor Shapiro's proposed spending plan for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. The hearing was hosted by Chairman Scott Martin (R-Lancaster). Other testifiers included: Richard Negrin, Acting Secretary – Department of Environmental Resources; Jessica Shirley, Acting Executive Deputy Secretary; Ian Harlow, Acting Deputy Secretary of Administration; and Ramez Ziadeh, Acting Deputy Secretary of Field Operations.

The following questions were asked to and answered by the testifiers: **(by topic)**

### **RGGI**

#### **Question by Senator Gene Yaw (R-Lycoming):**

Regarding RGGI, what is it and how is it going to bring in \$663.3 million? And when I say, "what is it," I really mean that. What is it?

• **Secretary Richard Negrin response:** RGGI is a market-based approach around carbon pricing, creating a way to get folks who put carbon in the atmosphere to take those dollars and put it back into the system. The money comes from the folks who put carbon into the atmosphere through the carbon pricing mechanism, and those dollars are utilized to help reduce the emissions and to improve the environment. The governor rejects the notion that it's a choice between the environment and the economy. What the governor wants to do is establish a working group. And I'm going to make a little news today to tell you how they're doing that and announce the co-chairs of that group. The goals around that group are pretty clear. Number one, he wants to address climate and the impacts of climate that are a threat to our environment. Number two, he wants to protect and create high paying energy jobs and protect our workers. Number three, he wants to ensure that our citizens have reliable, affordable, clean energy going into the future. We'll be announcing the members of that committee going forward. It's going to represent industry. It's going to represent environmental groups. It's going to represent con-

sumer advocate. It's going to represent a broad group of stakeholders.

**Question (follow-up) by Senator Gene Yaw:** I understand that but you're still not telling me how it works. Who collects the money, where does the money get paid to?

• **Secretary Jessica Shirley response:** RGGI is a cap and trade. It's an agreement that we would have with these other states that are part of it. They would accept our credits and we would accept their credits. Approximately a third of all electricity generated is sent across Pennsylvania's borders and is consumed by consumers in those states. So, we would be collecting revenue based on the carbon credits that are purchased by those electricity generators, who are then sending a third of the electricity to other states. It's based on the carbon price that's set in the market based on supply and demand. Right now, the carbon market is a little higher than we had anticipated, so it would generate significantly more revenue than was anticipated, but approximately a third of it would be paid for by those other states.

#### **Question (follow-up) by Senator Gene Yaw:**

So, the money that is paid by the electric generators is going to be passed on to consumers?

• **Secretary Jessica Shirley response:** It could. The modeling that we did wasn't meant to be a crystal ball, but it was kind of to show us what would happen if certain investments were made. So, if you invest those dollars back into energy efficiency, and other ways that can lower consumer prices, the cost over time actually goes down. But it's based on how those proceeds are invested.

### **Orphaned and Abandoned Well Plugging**

**Question by Senator Carolyn Comitta (D-Chester):** Can you talk about abandoned oil and gas wells and how you are addressing that issue?

• **Secretary Negrin response:** We've started with, what I would call, a morsel of funding this year - \$25 million - to get started, but there's nearly half a billion dollars available in federal funding which we are poised to take full advantage of. I think you heard the governor talk about the fact



that we estimate there's about 300,000 of these wells out there, but that was a fairly conservative estimate. I think there's a real opportunity for us to put people to work in Pennsylvania around this issue and also help the economy. Many of the folks that we're talking about on the permitting side are going to help with some of that stuff as well.

**Question by Senator Elder Vogel (R-Beaver):** Regarding the abandoned wells and orphaned well plugging program, the budget shows that the funding has been cut in about half. I'm wondering, is that funding going to be made up by the IJJA funding that you're getting from the federal government?

• **Secretary Shirley response:** So, the well plugging fund doesn't actually plug wells. It's just what it's called, and we probably need to rename it. That is actually the fund that funds our entire oil and gas program and it's made up of fines, fees and penalties. Most of it is the one-time oil and gas permit fees. So that decrease that you're seeing is actually showing that it is in jeopardy of running out of money. The activity has slowed down, and our permit fees are not significant enough to cover the amount of cost. As far as plugging, we are getting a substantial amount of funding from the IJJA, about \$400 million. We've received \$25 million in the last fiscal year. In this fiscal year, we expect to receive another \$79 million through the formula grant. Those funds can only be used to plug wells and the staff that will be hired to oversee the plugging of those wells. So that funding can't be shifted to overall oil and gas operations. We can't move that to do permitting, but it is going to be a significant shot to Pennsylvania to plug a lot of wells. I think we're estimating we could probably plug about 3,000.

**Question by Senator Elder Vogel (R-Beaver):** When we get around to plugging these wells. Are Pennsylvania companies going to be plugging the wells, or are companies going to come in from all over?

• **Secretary Shirley response:** It is a bidding process. I will just say, there aren't a whole lot of well pluggers and most of them are small businesses. What we've seen so far is most of the well plugging companies that operate in Pennsylvania have been bidding on our initial \$25

million, and it's a mix. The majority of them that I've seen are local.

### Permitting

**Question by Senator Carolyn Comitta (D-Chester):** We know that DEP's resources and staffing have been limited and insufficient to address the needs for the people of PA. The Governor's proposal seeks to expand DEP's capacity by providing \$5.7 million for oversight. How will that money be used?

• **Secretary Negrin response:** There's an additional 30 positions above and beyond the 17 we talked about. We provided a handout for you, detailing our permit plan also. The permitting process is more than just enabling applications and getting folks to do things the right way. There's a direct correlation to oversight and enforcement. The permit is the mechanism in which we have and provide that oversight to protect the environment. Those 30 positions are going to be going towards enhancing the permitting process. So, fixing the permit piece is gonna make everybody happy, specifically, the folks on the Left because it is the way that we exercise environmental oversight. Those 30 employees have other duties beyond just permitting, so you'll rarely see someone who is just a permit specialist. They do inspections, they advise, they help facilitate early engagement with stakeholders. What I want to do is create that rapid response team who are just permit specialist. I want to be clear about one thing. People ask me about how I feel about this budget. I am content, but not satisfied. It's going to take many years as you said for us to this level. We're not going to fix it overnight. We're not going to fix it in one budget.

• **Secretary Ramez Ziadeh response:** There are a few things in this plan that we can do with right away, with little or no additional investment, like promoting pre-application meetings with applicants to better inform potential applicants of processes around permitting and compliance, especially around those complex, large-scale projects and economic development projects. We're trying to promote having a pre-application submission meeting, so we can point to specific issues that can be addressed before they make a formal submission. Something like that would greatly

*Continues on page 16*

# Supreme Court Holds that Daily-Rate Employees are Entitled to Overtime Compensation

Published by Steptoe and Johnson - Authored by Joseph U. Leonoro



**March 17, 2023**

In *Helix Energy Solutions Group, Inc. v. Hewitt*, the Supreme Court of the United States issued an important decision regarding whether highly compensated employees paid on a daily-rate basis were entitled to overtime compensation pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).

## Factual Background

Hewitt worked on an offshore oil rig. He often worked 84 hours a week during weeks he was on the rig. Helix paid Hewitt on a daily-rate basis with no overtime. This means that Hewitt's paycheck would amount to his daily rate times the number of days he worked in the pay period. Hewitt earned more than \$200,000 per year.

## The FLSA Exemption Rules

Helix argued that Hewitt was exempt from overtime because he was a "bona fide executive." The three most common exemptions from overtime under the FLSA are what are commonly known as the "white-collar exemptions": administrative, executive, and professional. Under the FLSA, an employee is considered an exempt executive if the employee meets three distinctive tests: (1) the "salary basis" test, which requires an employee to be paid a predetermined and fixed salary that does not vary with the amount of time worked; (2) the "salary level" test, which requires that the pre-set salary exceed a specified minimum amount; and (3) the job "duties" test, which requires that the employee hold certain responsibilities.

The Department of Labor has implemented two slightly different rules for the executive exemption. The general rule applies to employees making less than \$100,000 per year. Under the general rule, employees are exempt when "they are compensated on a salary basis (salary-basis test); at

a rate of not less than \$455 per week (salary-level test); and carry out three listed responsibilities – managing the enterprise, directing other employees, and exercising power to hire and fire (duties test)." For highly compensated employees who earn over \$100,000 per year, the duties test is relaxed, but the salary-basis test remains the same.

## Application of the FLSA Exemption Rules to Daily-Rate Employees

In this case, there was no dispute that Hewitt met the duties test. Rather, Hewitt argued that he was not paid on a salary basis because, even though he earned more than \$200,000 a year, he did not receive a pre-determined salary as his compensation depended on the number of days he worked in a workweek. The Supreme Court agreed with Hewitt. It was clear that he did not meet the salary-basis requirement because he was paid a daily rate and not guaranteed a fixed weekly amount.

## Bottom Line

Employees paid on a day-rate basis are entitled to overtime because they do not meet the salary-basis test for the white-collar exemptions from overtime under the FLSA. Employers who pay employees a day rate – even if they are highly paid – should ensure that the employees are receiving any applicable overtime compensation when working more than 40 hours in a workweek.

For assistance or questions about this legal insight, please contact the author ([joseph.leonoro@steptoe-johnson.com](mailto:joseph.leonoro@steptoe-johnson.com)). ■





### Senate DEP hearing focuses on permit reform, greenhouse gas pact

Reforming Pennsylvania's environmental permit process and its participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) were key topics discussed Wednesday at a Senate budget hearing for the Department of Environmental Protection.

Acting DEP Secretary Richard Negrin said he's content with the agency's budget proposal, but added it will take more than one budget year to tackle the environmental issues facing the state.

"We are not going to fix it in one budget," he told the Appropriations Committee.

DEP is critical to turning Pennsylvania's economic story around, said Appropriations Majority Chairman Scott Martin, R-Lancaster, referring to permit and enforcement issues.

Mr. Martin said he would like to see a system that is efficient, consistent and has accountability.

Gov. Josh Shapiro is proposing a nearly \$200 million General Fund budget for DEP in Fiscal Year 2023-24, a nearly 9% increase. DEP is also slated to receive \$233 million from an array of special funds and more than \$1 billion in federal funds next fiscal year.

The proposal requests 15 new staff for processing permits, inspections and program oversight supported by the General Fund, according to a budget analysis by the House Democratic Appropriations Committee. DEP wants to hire the staffers for air quality monitoring supported by the Clear Air Fund.

Mr. Negrin said he is creating a rapid response team of permit specialists to focus on permits that are taking too long, are complex or meet priorities such as job creation and restoring brownfields.

The agency has a 10-point plan to improve permit response times, including having a pre-application meeting before an application is even submitted and encouraging that engineers and scientists involved with a firm's permit application attend meetings, said DEP Deputy Secretary Ramez Ziadeh.

Mr. Negrin said he's creating a Center of Environmental Excellence to work on among other things to bring practices in the private sector to DEP.

During the hearing, Sen. Gene Yaw, R-Lycoming, chairman of the Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, and Sen. Kristin Phillips-Hill, R-York, asked how RGGI would operate and said they want more details.

Mr. Martin expressed hope that a new agency work group will look for alternatives to RGGI.

"We are not here to advocate for RGGI," said Mr. Negrin. "We are not here to advocate against RGGI. "It's the beginning of the process for us."

The budget proposal earmarks 17 new positions supported by the Clean Air Fund to oversee RGGI's emissions cap and trade emissions program and to implement air pollution reductions provided the initiative moves forward.

Concerning plugging of abandoned and orphaned oil and gas wells, Mr. Negrin said the agency is poised to take full advantage of federal aid under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act with \$25 million available in the first year.

"We are also eligible and will apply for \$300 million more to address thousands of uncapped wells and to utilize new technology to address thousands of uncapped wells and to utilize new technology to find additional ones whose records have been lost to history," said Mr. Negrin in testimony.

Abandoned wells are the source of 8% of methane emissions in Pennsylvania, he added.

Pennsylvania is getting an infusion of \$250 million a year for the next 15 years for abandoned mine land reclamation under the federal infrastructure act.

"Heavy equipment operators, truck drivers, professional engineers, and many others are part of these projects, taking home paychecks for restoring our commonwealth," said Mr. Negrin, adding that reclaimed land will benefit businesses and tourism too. ■

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## JUST THE FACTS

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### Spring Conference Report - The Evolving Energy Landscape

PIOGA's March 23 conference, held at the Rivers Casino, proved again that what we believe we know about all that is taking place in the oil and gas industry is always less than the what is occurring in real time, and is always changing. The conference offered attendees updates and facts about important issues emerging in Pennsylvania and beyond.

PIOGA thanks the speakers for taking time to attend last month's conference.

This Just the Facts summarizes some of the key points made during the 2023 PIOGA Spring Meeting.

***To read more from this month's Just the Facts – and to share it with friends and colleagues – visit the Latest News and Blog section at [pioga.org](http://pioga.org).***



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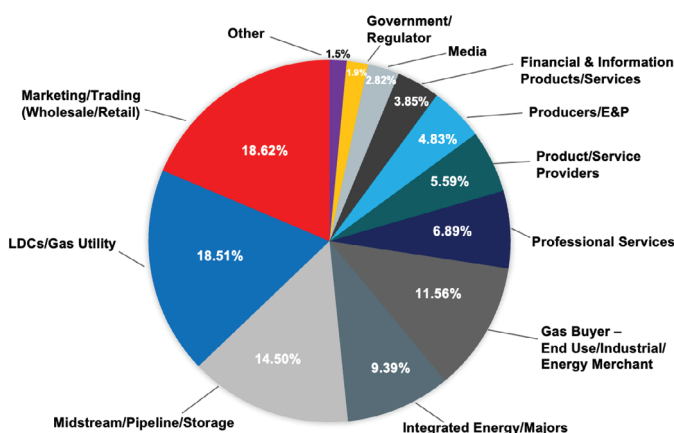
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## PIOGA's Diversity Committee Lunch & Learn Series for 2023

### PIOGA's Diversity Committee's Lunch & Learn Series for 2023 Focusing on ESG



On March 22, over 30 people virtually attended the Diversity Committee's third Lunch & Learn series for 2023 focused on the S (Social) of ESG. Jon Beckman of Steptoe & Johnson PLLC, a committee member, kicked off the virtual Lunch & Learn event by introducing John Gisleson, Partner and Louise Skinner, Partner, of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP. Louise was broadcasting live from London, England.

Gisleson started the first half of the presentation by explaining the "S" of ESG focusing on 1) Health & Safety, 2) Diversity, equity, and inclusion, 3) Equal pay, 4) Civil and human rights and finally 5) Stakeholder and community engagement. He then ended his portion covering the benefits of ESG to PIOGA Members. John did a great job with stating a few case studies – one being CNX.

Skinner joined in on the 2nd half of our Lunch & Learn covering workplace culture, strong leadership, role-modelling for positive behavior. She finished the hour with an overview of supply chain issues and then opened the floor for Q&A.

Did you miss the ESG Lunch & Learn last week? Here's the link to the recording if you want to view the session. [https://pioga.org/publication\\_file/ESG\\_Lunch\\_Larn\\_Part\\_3.mp4](https://pioga.org/publication_file/ESG_Lunch_Larn_Part_3.mp4)

Registration for the final installment, Part 4 of the ESG Series will be opening soon! All PIOGA events can be found at: PIOGA - PIOGA Events.

PIOGA extends a sincere thank you to Deana Stephens for her efforts to bring the Diversity Committee's awareness in a new and positive light. An ESG Subcommittee is currently being planned and formed. Anyone interested in joining the ESG Subcommittee should reach out to Deana McMahan - [deana@pioga.org](mailto:deana@pioga.org).

#### PIOGA Members in the Community

PIOGA is looking for more Members in the Community feature stories! If you are a PIOGA member and have a positive community story to share - please reach out to [meghan@pioga.org](mailto:meghan@pioga.org).

We are looking for stories of community impact - education programs, volunteering, positive industry outreach, donations, etc.

It is time to showcase all the good in our industry and shed light on the positives! These feature stories/articles will be used in PIOGA's social media and future marketing materials!

If you have any questions or suggestions for articles - please reach out! Together we can educate and promote the Oil & Gas industry!



## PIOGA's Membership Matters & We Need You!



Do you have a passion for the Pennsylvania oil and gas industry and want to see PIOGA's membership grow? Are you someone who loves to connect with other business colleagues and talk about the benefits of the industry and the importance of being involved in the industry trade association? Well, if you do, then PIOGA needs YOU!

Did you know that PIOGA has an active Membership Committee that's focused on growing and retaining PIOGA members. The Committee's mission statement is to ensure the sustainability and growth of PIOGA via connection with current members, potential members, and the public about the value the association holds in the oil and gas industry.

The committee is in search of a Co-Chair to help lead these efforts. We are looking for someone who has business development, sales, marketing experience or someone who just loves the industry and wants to help grow and strengthen PIOGA. If you're interested in taking on this role or learning more, please contact Membership Committee Co-Chair, Jessica Houser at [jhouser@wgmxexcavation.com](mailto:jhouser@wgmxexcavation.com). It is a limited time commitment, and you can have big impacts on PIOGA and the industry.

Additionally, if you or someone you know has social media experience we are asking you to get involved on the committee to help PIOGA grow its social media presence. Getting involved is a great resume builder and helps you to connect with other industry representatives.

Lastly, we are also looking for more committee members that can bring fresh ideas and new connections to the committee. WE NEED YOU! Contact Jessica Houser ([jhouser@wgmxexcavation.com](mailto:jhouser@wgmxexcavation.com)) or Danielle Boston ([danielle@pioga.org](mailto:danielle@pioga.org)) if you'd like to join the committee and get more involved!

### PIOGA's Clay Shoot Networking Event

**C**lear your calendars and join us for a fun day of clay shooting with delicious food and drink while having a blast networking with your industry partners.

Join us on May 4th from 10 am - 3:30 pm at the Promise Land Sporting Clays at 204 Spangler Road, Freeport Pa.

Registration for members is \$150 and \$160 for non-members. Registration fees include: 100 sporting clays, cart, continental breakfast, and a delicious catered buffet lunch with beverages after the event.

All participants must supply their own gun and ammo. (100 - 12 gage shells will be needed per person). You may rent a gun directly from Promise Land for \$20 but please notify PIOGA in advance of the event.

Registration deadline is April 28th.

Registration link: <https://pioga.org/event/clay-shoot-networking-event/>

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## Budget *Continued from page 9*

improve review timeframes. Also, regarding the permit backlog reduction plan itself, we are looking to develop some improved electronic reporting tools for pending permitting authorizations, which will hopefully enable improved management of the workload and result in increased efficiency.

• **Secretary Negrin response:** We're also doing something that were calling the Center of Excellence to run something similar to what I did in Philadelphia. This would take some of the best practices that are utilized in the private sector and bring them into government. We're going to be doing things like utilizing a performance management model, in terms of establishing Key Performance Indexes (KPIs), setting goals, having quarterly reviews, and putting that data up online so folks can see how we're doing across our operational metrics. And we're gonna have metrics in every area, whether it's HR, whether it's legal, whether it's technology, whether it's what we're doing around improving in our special projects, and obviously, permitting. The other area I want to measure and make sure we track through the Center of Excellence is our ability to utilize our federal dollars.

**Question by Delvin Robinson (R-Allegheny):** I'm eager to work with you and your department on permitting reform. To understand the problem however, we need transparent data. When I see permitting approval timeframes reported, it only reports on permits in the decision guarantee program, but I'd like to know the approval timeframes for permits that don't qualify for the program. How many permits qualified last year for the decision guarantee program, and how many permits were received that did not qualify? What was the average approval time for those that did not qualify?

• **Secretary Ziadeh response:** In calendar year 2022, the department received 40,018 authorization requests. among those, only 9088 of those applications were complete and were eligible for the permit decision guarantee timeframes. Less than a quarter of permit applications that we are receiving are complete. That's a big problem, and that's what we're trying to address in this permitting plan. So, we need to improve the condition and the completeness of those permit applications

that we are receiving.

• **Secretary Negrin response:** I want to create a formalized process where early engagement best practiced are utilized. When we say "your permit is deficient," and it's repeatedly deficient over and over and over, at some point, that's not your fault. It's ours. At some point we're not being user friendly. One of the things on the plan is having an outside consultant and some experts come in. They're gonna help us look at that process. I know early engagement is going to be a big part of that. If 90% of the permits that are coming in are deficient, at the outset, we're doing something wrong. Our permitting process is too complex and hard to understand, or it's not very user friendly. If you're an engineer, and you can't go online and understand the permit, something's wrong.

**Question by Delvin Robinson (R-Allegheny):** Do we have a timeframe for when you think that will streamline the permitting process? (2023 Permit Plan Handout — Found at end of article)

• **Secretary Negrin response:** I knew that question would be asked when I gave a handout. I was warned. The answer is, I came up with that plan two weeks ago. If you look at number 10 on our plan, it's not a throwaway item. You are a conduit not just to your constituents but to the stakeholders seeking permits in your district, and the more input we can get from you, the better prepared we will be in improving this process.

**Question Senator Cris Dush (R-Jefferson):** I appreciate the approach that you're taking to managing this department. It's long overdue, but when we met you mentioned that you plan on refunding permits that are not completed in a timely manner. My question is, do you plan on using the tracking process in order to incentivize high performers while also beginning the process, which doesn't happen with most state employees, of progressive discipline where it's needed?

• **Secretary Negrin Response:** There's poor performance and then there's bad actors. I think there's something I can do about the performance side. I can drive and create processes, which the Center of Excellence is focused on. I'll be able to see who the high performers are because the numbers will speak for that. The management style is not about gotcha; it's about problem solv-



ing, and lifting all boats. But I'll address the other point you made, which I think is really important. I've heard one story about a DEP employee getting out of their vehicle at a worksite and saying, "who do I get to sue today?" That's not going to happen on my watch. If I hear a story like that, that person is going to be fired, and that goes to my comment earlier. I just don't like bullies, whether they're playground bullies or regulatory bullies.

*The full DEP Budget testimony prepared by Negrin, can be found at the below link:*

[https://pioga.org/publication\\_file/DEP\\_Budget\\_Testimony.PDF](https://pioga.org/publication_file/DEP_Budget_Testimony.PDF)

*The full DCNR Budget testimony prepared by Acting Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn can be found at the below link: [https://pioga.org/publication\\_file/DCNR\\_Budget\\_Testimony.PDF](https://pioga.org/publication_file/DCNR_Budget_Testimony.PDF)*

***Below is DEP's 2023 DEP Permit Plan that was handed out and discussed at the Senate Appropriations Budget Hearing.***

## How To Tell the Government it is Wrong



Article written by Ken Komoroski, Partner, Earth & Water Law

The three branches of government are created to regulate. The legislature creates the laws, the executive branch implements the laws, and the judiciary evaluates the laws.

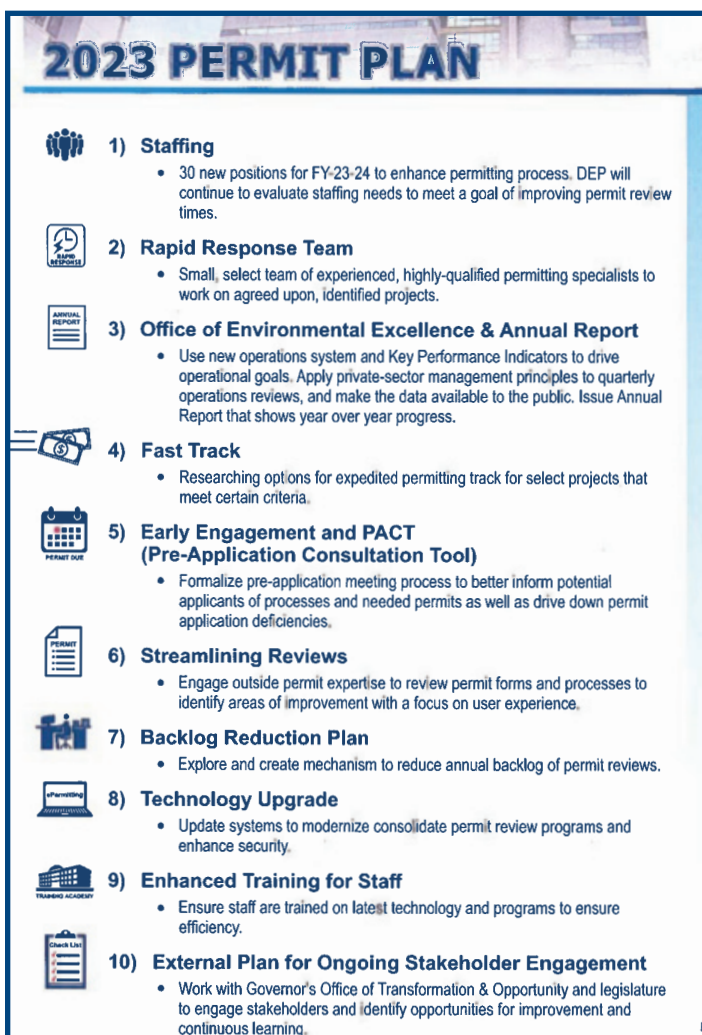
The executive branch of government is typically an agency or department established to develop and enforce regulations. But these executive branch agencies often overstep their authority. It may be the action of the entire agency led by its top official who is causing the issue or it can be a regional manager, a staff attorney or a field inspector. Why does this happen? It is because there is virtually no downside to the attempted overreach. The agency is spending our tax dollars to implement and then defend its actions and politically it can portray its action as being tough on business to protect the public.

The focus of this article is how to successfully convince the federal, state or local government to stop being wrong. A measured response is always best – just enough to correct the situation without unnecessary acrimony and potential for retaliation. Do not over-rely on lawyers or consultants who may take you too far or leave you too short – both of which will result in failure.

I will warn you that the approach explained in this article requires strong leadership, commitment and, especially, perseverance of the type most businesses are unwilling to pursue. This is typically a rollercoaster ride and even your own consultants can and sometimes do work against you. It is essential that you don't jump off the rollercoaster during the ride – you will hurt yourself.

I can also assure you that this approach works well. I have successfully used this approach many times with many agencies – the US EPA (7 different regions), the US Army Corps of Engineers, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") and 30 other

*Continues on page 18*



## **Government** *Continued from page 17*

state environmental agencies, other state agencies, several county agencies and many townships. The process works but only if you stick with it and avoid the mistakes and the pitfalls that are fully within your control to avoid.

Here are the Keys to Success:

### **Key #1 – Be the Smartest Person in the Room**

A critical component for success is to know the rules better than the government. This is not nearly as difficult as it may sound, but it is rarely implemented – by either side. I have never met a government regulator who has read the entire statute and regulations they seek to apply. They “cherry-pick” selected sections of the rules and often paraphrase these rules to your disadvantage. Furthermore, the government will never understand your business operations as well as you do. This is far more important than you may imagine. For example, in many instances, the rules do not even apply to your operations. The government will ask you “when did you stop beating your dog” and the correct answer rarely given is “I don’t even have a dog.” You will be amazed how powerful it is when you can confidently inform a government representative that they are wrong and then proceed to explain why you are correct.

### **Key #2 – Identify Your Target Audience**

Before you respond, you must identify the target audience for your response. Interestingly, your target audience will never be the individual who overstepped. It will be someone who will see things the correct way. It could be one of the individual’s supervisors or someone outside the agency/department, e.g., someone in the legislature or a judge.

Now, I hope you are sitting down. You may, in fact, never need to present your position to the target audience. Often the agency will back down without this step. When you present the message to the individual who overstepped, he/she will recognize that they have been caught in their mistake/wrong action. But the message needs to be crafted for the target audience and not the culprit because the over-step-

per will not want to reverse their position. They need to appreciate that changing their view is better than the alternatives.

### **Key #3 – Stick to the Message**

There will be traps, hazards and used-car-sales-person tactics encountered along the way. Start with an excellent message and don’t adjust your message as a result of these tricks. If you adjust or compromise your message, you will fail.

Examples of tactics used by agencies that cause some to alter their message include:

- “Two other companies took the position you are claiming and now they are complying.”
- “I might be able to see my way clear to removing some of the conditions you don’t like, but not all of them.”
- “I think you are overreacting. Let’s let this play out and revisit it in a few months to see if it is still a problem for you then.”
- “I agree with you but my boss is making me do this. And you don’t want to get her/him angry – believe me. So, let’s let this one slide – so you don’t get hurt.”

### **Key #4 – Don’t Be Afraid to File a Legal Challenge**

Appeal periods can be as short as 10 days from a final act of the government. Notices of Violation are not final actions – except when they are! The government has been known to ramp up the rhetoric in a “notice” letter to the point where the letter or email does become a final action and appealable. If you miss the appeal period, you have lost most, if not all, of your leverage. The government is very good at helping businesses to miss appeal deadlines. I am not encouraging litigation and in fact I discourage it. The costs are rarely worth the benefits, if the benefits are even achieved. Filing an appeal does not obligate you to pursue it to its bitter end. However, it is usually essential leverage to achieve your goal.

### **Key #5 – Don’t Sell Yourself Short**

Don’t give up. Almost no one pursues these issues to completion using this approach, so what is the credibility experience of the naysayers? It is easy to criticize from the cheap seats



and others are very good at repeating the obvious risks of disagreeing with the government. I can tell you from experience that there are no real downsides to successfully convincing the government it is wrong, and there are upsides. But keep your expectations realistic as to what will resolve the situation. The government will probably not formally announce that it has stopped pursuit of the issue. The government has no duty to announce they are wrong and they will tell you that if they put “we were wrong and are dropping this” in writing they run the risk others will want similar treatment for different issues. For these reasons, don’t expect a clear statement confirming your rightness and the government’s wrongness. Furthermore, trying to force the government to provide a statement of certainty can sometimes cause the government’s position to change to your disadvantage.

With these Keys in mind, once you have determined that the government is wrong, your approach should be to first inform the individual who has delivered the message that you have very carefully considered the government’s position and have determined that it is wrong. Be polite in explaining this and respectfully ask them to change their position quickly to avoid unnecessary acrimony and costs. But be direct and concise in stating your request and make clear that you have decided to pursue this further if the individual is unable to promptly resolve the situation. Obviously, at this point, the situation will be frictional so minimize the friction but accept that some is necessary. Depending on the appeal deadline, give the individual a day or a few days to let you know their decision. Also inform the individual that a “protective appeal” will potentially become necessary to avoid waiving your rights. Believe me, no matter how the individual reacts, they understand this, but often they will claim they will take that personally. Then, file the appeal in a timely fashion. Make sure the appeal is written for your target audience so that anyone reviewing it can understand that it isn’t personal, it is just good business. Often overlooked by lawyers is the opportunity to include considerable client-serv-

ing language that is not “legally” necessary but that makes the situation more understandable to others. Talk about the consequences and the problems the position causes so that any business owner or government official can appreciate the situation.

Then move expeditiously to implement the rest of the approach. If you let two weeks pass without a visible step, you are telling the world that this isn’t important. The world doesn’t see what is happening behind your office doors. Remain strong and consistent. Don’t let anyone on your team undercut your strong position by casually disagreeing with the position. Lawyers, consultants and staff have been known to do this and have destroyed legitimate business/legal positions with their unauthorized commentary.

If the individual does not grant the requested relief in a timely fashion, begin to share the information you have written for the target audience with others. Be open about the entire situation even though the information could end up in the hands of the media or local citizenry. Keep your focus on the finish line and don’t fall into the traps.

If you apply this approach in your efforts to convince the government it is wrong, you will succeed. You will look back and realize how critical it was for you to stay true to the approach. Or you will look back and realize that failing to stay true to the approach is the reason that you did not obtain the correct result. The former situation is far more fun than the latter.

\*Ken Komoroski was a partner for more than 20 years at two of the largest and most prestigious law firms in the world, K&L Gates and later Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, before moving his practice to E&W Law.



<https://www.earthandwatergroup.com/our-professionals/ken-komoroski/>



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## Members talk about the value of PIOGA membership

*Moody and Associates, Inc. (Moody) is a private, environmental, geologic and engineering consulting firm that was established in western Pennsylvania in 1891. Moody has been a long-time supporter of PIOGA as we are advocates for many organizations within the oil/gas industry. While PIOGA is an "all hands-on deck" organization with the staff members wearing many hats, there are so many opportunities to take advantage of as a member of this organization. The available resources are many within PIOGA, which includes constant news updates, along with numerous networking, event and training opportunities. Moody greatly values our PIOGA membership and great sponsorship opportunities throughout the year.*

*From a personal and professional standpoint, I feel strongly in the value that PIOGA provides to its members. The operator members (conventional and unconventional) are well represented in the legislative, legal, regulatory, environmental and safety arenas by Dan Weaver and his staff. For non-operator members, there are a wealth of opportunities to get involved and make a difference with PIOGA. No matter your professional discipline, if you are willing to raise your hand and volunteer, there are opportunities for you. I have taken advantage of these opportunities with the organization over the years to have significant involvement in many aspects of the organization, where I have established many relationships with fellow PIOGA members that I truly recognize as business partners and friends.*

**- Jeff Walentosky, P.G. - President and CEO, Moody and Associates, Inc.**

### **PIOGA** **PIOGATech** Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association PIOGA's Technical Seminar Series **Seeking Ideas and Topics for PIOGATech**

Do you have a timely topic that you would like featured in a future PIOGATech? Would your company be interested in hosting a future PIOGATech? Please submit a brief description to Deana McMahan at [deana@pioga.org](mailto:deana@pioga.org)

### **Happy Birthday PIOGA Ladies**

PIOGA Staff - Danielle Boston (March 5), Debbie Oyler (March 10), Meghan Keely (March 18) and Deana McMahan (March 29) all celebrated birthdays in March!



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to see what we can offer your Association.



## PIOGA's 2023-2024 Directory Update

If you are your company's main member contact for PIOGA, don't forget that updates are needed by Monday, May 1, for our 2023-2024 PIOGA Membership Directory.

You should have received a letter recently giving you the opportunity to update information about your company as well as other colleagues listed as company contacts in our database.

If you have questions, please contact Deana McMahan at 724-933-7306 ext. 23 or [deana@pioga.org](mailto:deana@pioga.org).

Don't forget too that advertising is available in the directory, also due May 1. Please contact Debbie Oyler at 724-933-7306 ext. 22 or [debbie@pioga.org](mailto:debbie@pioga.org) for more information on advertising.

## PIOGA Board News

### **PIOGA board welcomes new Diversified Energy representative**

- Diversified Energy has a new representative on the PIOGA Board of Directors.

Charles "Chuck" Cunningham.

Chuck began his career working in the natural gas industry in 2007 with Equitable

Resources (now EQT), initially

learning conventional production operations and engineering, and helping ramp up their Lower Huron horizontal development in Southern

Appalachia. As the Marcellus Shale boom came about, his work quickly shifted to focus on shale assets and development. This included various engineering and management roles in

Development Planning, Completions, Production, & A&D, as EQT grew to become the

largest producer of natural gas in U.S. In 2019, he joined Diversified Energy as a Sr. Engineer. In his current role as Engineering Manager, he

works to maintain corporate reserves for the largest well holder in U.S., with over 77,000 PDP's - over 21,000 of those properties being in

Pennsylvania. Chuck's established relationships in the industry and knowledge of Appalachia upstream business - along with DEC's unique

position in the state - will bring valuable producer representation to PIOGA's board. Chuck has a B.S. in Petroleum & Natural Gas Engineering from West Virginia University and an MBA from



Carnegie Mellon University. Originally from Charleston, WV, Chuck has lived in the Pittsburgh region for over 14 years and currently resides in the Mars area. He enjoys spending time with his family: wife Ellen, who works as a nurse in the UPMC hospital system, and two children, Adeline-7 and Sam-5.

"I am honored and pleased to serve PIOGA, and represent DEC on this Board. Looking forward to working with you all to align and effectively advocate for our industry in the Commonwealth." said Cunningham.

Cunningham is replacing Paul Espenan who served on the PIOGA Board representing Diversified for the past 3 years. Dan Weaver stated, "We thank Paul for his contributions to the board and appreciate his leadership to the organization."



## PIOGA's online Career Center

Did you know that our website offers the ability for companies to post open positions? To help in your employee recruitment efforts, go to [pioga.org](http://pioga.org) and click on Careers.





# PARTNERS

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## Oil & Gas Dashboard

### Sources

American Refining Group:  
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 Ergon Oil Purchasing: [www.ergon.com/crudeoil](http://www.ergon.com/crudeoil)  
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 NYMEX strip chart: Mid American Natural Resources  
 Basis futures values: BHE Eastern Energy Field Services

### Penn Grade Crude Oil Prices

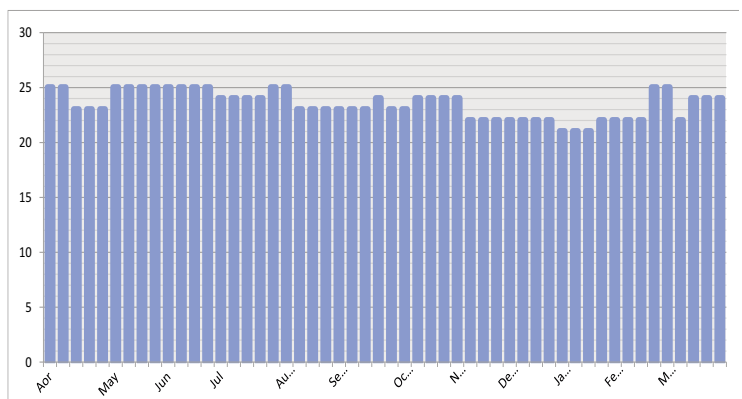


### Natural Gas Futures Closing Prices

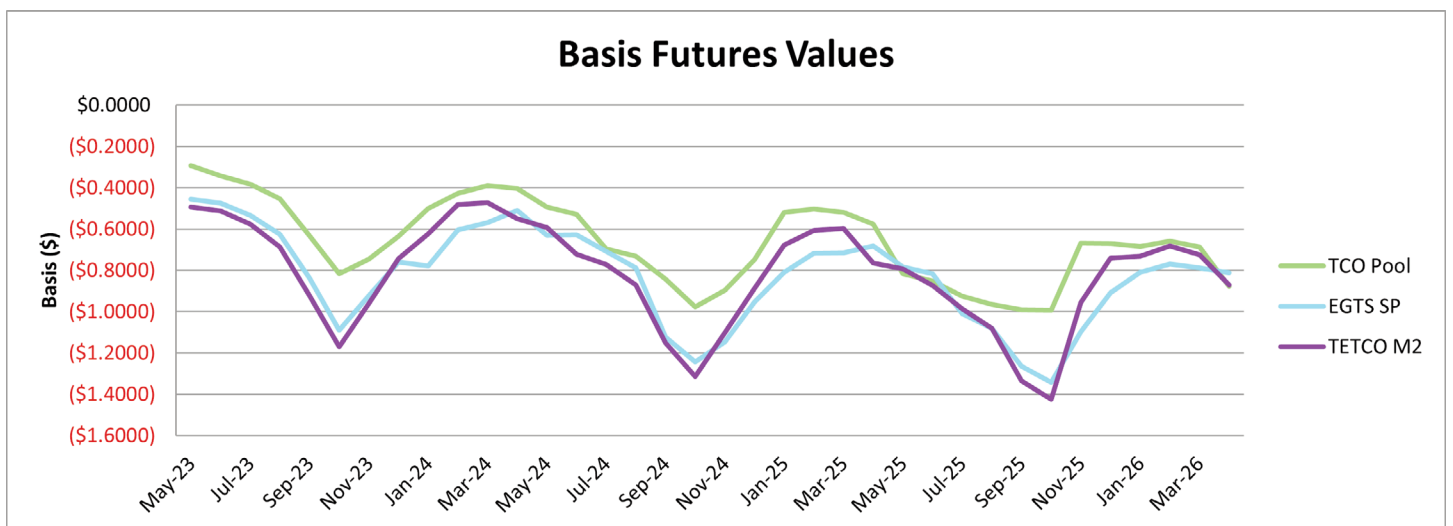
April 2023	2.024
May	2.085
June	2.345
July	2.660
August	2.658
September	2.655
October	2.750
November	3.123
December	3.599
January 2024	3.784

Prices as of April 3, 2023

### Pennsylvania Rig Count



### Basis Futures Values





## Northeast Pricing Report — March 2023

The market continues to drop. With no early cooling demand in sight, gas prices may continue to slide. For front month trading, Algonquin is near negative at \$0.04 per MMBtu, which was a \$2.73 Per MMBtu decrease. Every other Northeast point is already trading in negative territory. Dominion South gained \$0.08 per MMBtu to reach (\$0.36) per MMBtu. TETCO M3 and Transco Z6 dropped another \$0.23 and \$0.27 per MMBtu respectively to land at (\$0.23) and (\$0.25) per MMBtu. For the rolling 12 month term, Algonquin decreased by \$0.03 per MMBtu. All other trading points increased. Transco Leidy increased the most at \$0.12 MMBtu. Transco Z6 improved the least by \$0.01 per MMBtu. For the full term trading period, every location rose. Transco Leidy and Dominion South raised the most by \$0.05 and \$0.04 per MMBtu.

It's the third month in a row where every transportation value dropped. Dominion South and Transco Leidy to Algonquin decreased the most by \$2.81 and \$2.74 per MMBtu. TETCO M3 to Transco Z6 dropped the least by \$0.04 per MMBtu. Transco Leidy to TETCO M3 and Transco Z6 decreased by \$0.24 and \$0.28 per MMBtu respectively.

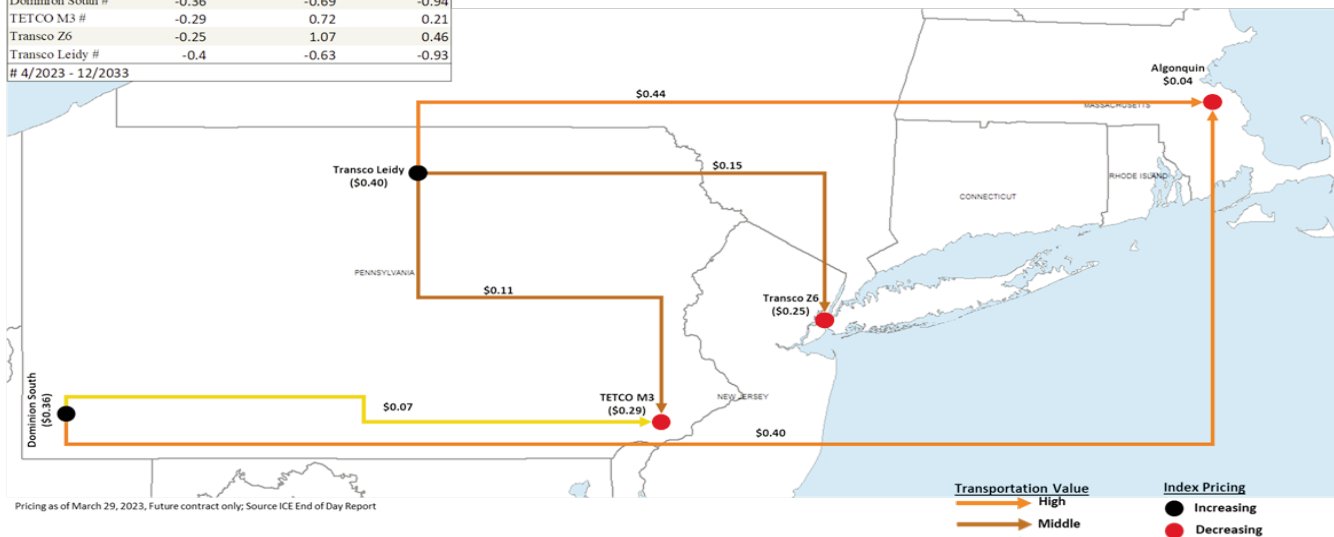
### Transportation Value Market Indicator



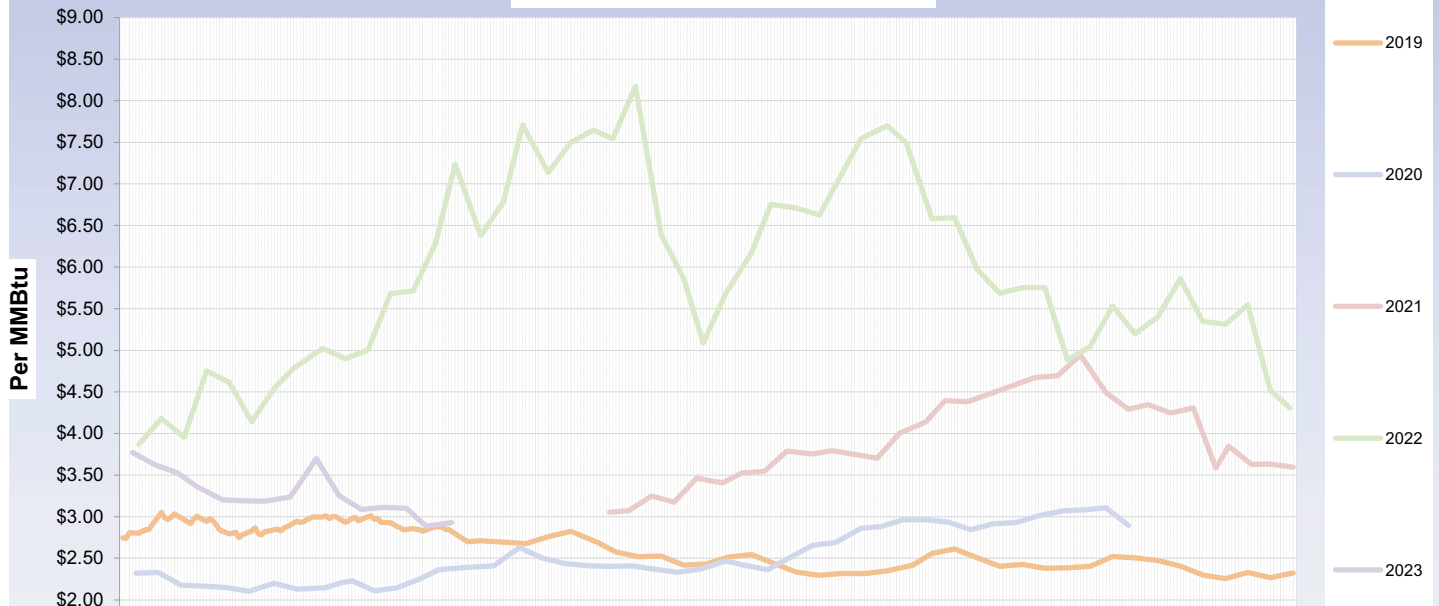
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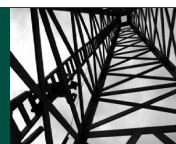
Natural Gas Basis Future Pricing (\$/MMBtu)			
Location	Pricing Term		
	4/2023	4/2023-3/2024	4/2023-12/2028
Algonquin	0.04	3.33	2.89
Dominion South #	-0.36	-0.69	-0.94
TETCO M3 #	-0.29	0.72	0.21
Transco Z6	-0.25	1.07	0.46
Transco Leidy #	-0.4	-0.63	-0.93
# 4/2023 - 12/2033			



### NYMEX ANNUAL STRIP PRICE



# Spud Report: March



The data show below comes from the Department of Environmental Protection. A variety of interactive reports are available by going to the Office of Oil and Gas Management page at [www.dep.pa.gov](http://www.dep.pa.gov) and choosing Report from the menu. The table is sorted by operator and lists the total wells reported as drilled last month. **Spud** is the date drilling began at a well site. The **API number** is the drilling permit number issued to the well operator. An asterisk (\*) after the API number indicates a conventional well.


Operator	Wells	Date	API#	County	Municipality
Apex Energy (PA) LLC	6	3/14/23	129-29192	Westmoreland	Hempfield
		3/16/23	129-29191	Westmoreland	Hempfield
		3/18/23	129-29187	Westmoreland	Hempfield
		3/29/23	129-29188	Westmoreland	Hempfield
		3/31/23	129-29215	Westmoreland	Hempfield
		4/3/23	129-29190	Westmoreland	Hempfield
Branch, John D.	2	3/2/23	123-48639	Warren	Warren City
		3/22/23	123-48640	Warren	Warren City
Cameron Energy Co.*	4	3/6/23	123-48685	Warren	Sheffield Twp
		3/10/23	123-48687	Warren	Sheffield Twp
		3/20/23	123-48688	Warren	Sheffield Twp
		3/27/23	123-48689	Warren	Sheffield Twp
Chesapeake Appalachia	4	3/16/23	015-23835	Bradford	Terry Twp
		3/16/23	015-23830	Bradford	Terry Twp
		3/16/23	015-23829	Bradford	Terry Twp
		3/16/23	015-23828	Bradford	Terry Twp
Coterra Energy Inc.	4	3/14/23	115-23063	Susquehanna	Springville
		3/14/23	115-23064	Susquehanna	Springville
		3/14/23	115-23065	Susquehanna	Springville
		3/14/23	115-23066	Susquehanna	Springville
EQT Prod Co.	4	3/1/23	125-29007	Washington	East Finley
		3/1/23	125-29008	Washington	East Finley
		3/1/23	125-29005	Washington	East Finley
		3/1/23	125-29006	Washington	East Finley
INR OPR LLC		4/2/23	063-37548	Indiana	Armstrong
KCS Energy		3/13/23	123-48711	Warren	Watson Twp
Laurel Mountain	2	3/6/23	031-25793	Clarion	Licking Twp
		3/6/23	031-25794	Clarion	Licking Twp
Olympus Energy LLC	5	3/16/23	129-29207	Westmoreland	Penn Twp
		3/16/23	129-29208	Westmoreland	Penn Twp
		3/23/23	129-29204	Westmoreland	Penn Twp
		3/26/23	129-29205	Westmoreland	Penn Twp
		3/28/23	129-29203	Westmoreland	Penn Twp
PVE Oil Corp Inc.*	5	3/6/23	083-57538	McKean	Sergeant
		3/13/23	083-57543	McKean	Sergeant
		3/16/23	083-57540	McKean	Sergeant
		3/23/23	083-57539	McKean	Sergeant
		3/30/23	083-57537	McKean	Sergeant
Range Resources	7	3/31/23	081-21972	Lycoming	Cogan House
		3/31/23	081-21973	Lycoming	Cogan House
		3/31/23	081-21974	Lycoming	Cogan House
		3/7/23	125-29022	Washington	Nottingham
		3/8/23	125-29021	Washington	Nottingham
		3/9/23	125-29020	Washington	Nottingham
		3/10/23	125-29025	Washington	Nottingham
Respol Oil & Gas USA	4	3/27/23	015-23834	Bradford	Armenia Twp
		3/27/23	015-23831	Bradford	Armenia Twp
		3/27/23	015-23832	Bradford	Armenia Twp
		3/27/23	015-23833	Bradford	Armenia Twp
Russ Holden Well SCV *		3/22/23	123-48655	Warren	Watson Twp
Snyder Bros Inc.	2	3/16/23	005-31451	Armstrong	Sugarcreek
		3/16/23	005-31452	Armstrong	Sugarcreek
STL Resources LLC	2	3/23/23	117-22216	Tioga	Gaines Twp
		3/23/23	117-22217	Tioga	Gaines Twp
SWN Prod Co LLC	2	3/13/23	115-23057	Susquehanna	Rush Twp
		3/13/23	115-23056	Susquehanna	Rush Twp
Whilton, Brooks A. *		3/30/23	123-48657	Warren	Mead Twp

	March	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Nov.
<b>Total Wells</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>75</b>
Unconventional Gas	41	33	51	37	59
Conventional Gas	0	0	0	0	0
Oil	14	8	13	8	14
Combination Oil/Gas	0	0	0	2	0

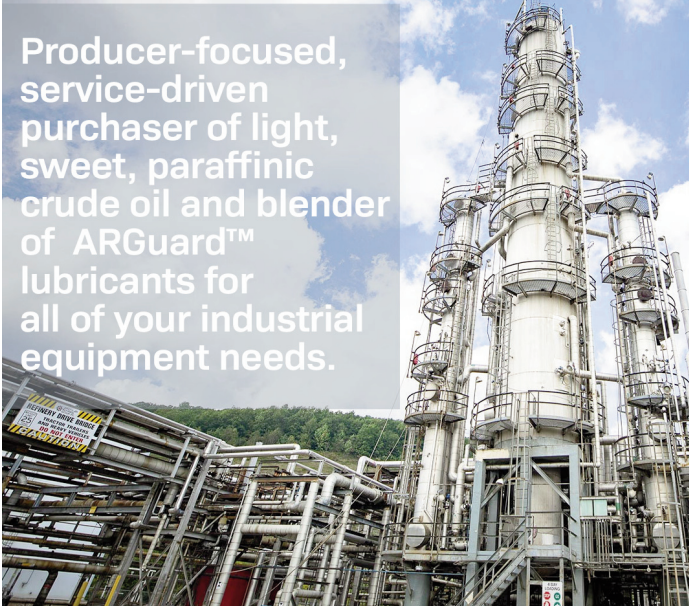
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## Calendar

### PIOGA events

Information: [www.pioga.org](http://www.pioga.org) > PIOGA Events

#### PIOGATech - Spill Prevention, Planning & Response.

April 25. The Loft Conference Center, Cannonsburg.

#### PIOGA Clay Shoot Networking Event

May 4. The Promise Land Sporting Clays Club, Freeport.

#### PIOGA Oil Patch Classic Golf Outing & Steak Fry

June 6. Wanango Country Club, Reno.

#### PIOGATech - Safety/Fall Protection

June 27. TBD (venue)

### Other events

#### Appalachian Shale Energy Outlook 2023-Seven-week free online webinar series.

February - March.

<http://mwhendersonconsulting.com/webinar/>

#### LDC Gas Forum - Northeast Forum. 28th Annual. June 12-14 - Boston, MA.

<http://mwhendersonconsulting.com/webinar/>

PIOGA Members and Industry Partners - Please email [meghan@pioga.org](mailto:meghan@pioga.org) to advertise upcoming events.

## Recruit a New Member

Earn a credit equal to 10% of the dues of every new PIOGA member you bring in, and use the credits toward reducing your own dues, event fees, advertising and more. Find out more by clicking "Join PIOGA" at [www.pioga.org](http://www.pioga.org) and scrolling to the list of member benefits.

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