

The PIOGA Press

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Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association
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Current Administration's War on Oil and Gas

The Federal Government's current administration seems to have a plan for American energy; make it harder to produce and more expensive to purchase. Since President Biden took office, his administration and its allies have put into place over 175 actions designed to make it harder to produce energy.

The Institute for Energy Research (IER), a free-market energy research nonprofit, began compiling a list of all the actions the current administration has taken against oil, gas and coal. By November 2022, the list was over 100 items – it is now up to 175. *(as of September 2023)*

On his first day in office, Biden canceled the Keystone XL pipeline and issued a moratorium on all oil and natural gas leasing activities in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Within a week, he extended that moratorium to all public lands.

In July, the administration proposed raising drilling costs of federal lands and held a Methane Summit to reduce methane emissions – no one from the oil and gas industry was invited.

Recently, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposed removing more than 1.6 million acres from oil and gas leasing in Colorado and proposed revisions to the National Environmental Policy Act that would make it harder to permit any natural gas, oil or coal project.

In September, the administration canceled oil

and gas leases held by the state of Alaska in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge, and more than half of the prospective area of the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska was withdrawn.

Also in September, the Biden Administration quietly rescinded a Trump-era regulation allowing companies to transport liquefied natural gas (LNG) via rail. Prior to Labor Day – the Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) formally suspended the 2020 authorization of LNG transportation in rail tank cars. This rule will remain in effect until either a permanent ruling is proposed and finalized – a process that could take until June 30, 2025.

On October 1st, the Biden Administration secretly issued a 59-page report outlining the current scope of federal energy-related subsidies revealing that the renewable energy sector enjoys a significantly larger taxpayer backing than the fossil fuel industry. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) determined that

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from 2016-2022, the federal government doled out \$183.3 billion in direct and mainly indirect taxpayer subsidies to the renewable energy sector. More than half came over the last three years.

In the past week, the Biden Administration revealed its plan to offer the fewest offshore oil and gas leases in history. The U.S. Department of the Interior released its Proposed Final Program for the next five years of offshore oil and gas leasing, and it has the fewest lease sales in history. Several oil and gas groups expressed their disappointment over the U.S. Department of the Interior's proposed final 2024-2029 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program. The American Petroleum Institute (API) stated that the program is part of a coordinated strategy to decrease energy production, jeopardize America's energy dominance and limit access to affordable energy.

The above are just several of the current administration's movements constructed against oil, gas, and coal – ***below is a list of actions from January 2023 – September 6, 2023.***

A link to all 175 actions with further detail can be found on the Institute of Energy Research's webpage. instituteofenergyresearch.org¹

Action List

January through September 2023

January 10, 2023 – US Interior Dept. named known opponent to oil development, Elizabeth Klein to oversee offshore energy.

January 12, 2023 – EPA's proposed rule regarding the Clean Water Act. The rule would expand the EPA and Army's regulatory oversight to include traditionally navigable water, territorial seas, interstate waters and, "upstream water resources that significantly affect those waters." The ruling has the potential to affect natural gas infrastructure projects. It also would exert federal control over lands not owned by the federal government.

January 17, 2023 – Biden appointee proposes ban on gas stove.

January 31, 2023 – Biden administration blocks Minnesota's Twin Metals Mine. The administration blocked plans for a major copper, nickel and cobalt mine in northern MN that could have helped supply minerals for his "net-zero" plans.

February 3, 2023 – Biden administration blocks the

development of Alaska's Pebble Mine. EPA blocked the mine – the most significant undeveloped copper and gold resource in the world due to concerns of environmental impact on state's aquatic ecosystem.

March 3, 2023 – Biden/EPA approves Midwest governors' request for year-around E15 sales – expanding sales of gasoline with a higher ethanol blend.

March 9, 2023 – Biden administration attacks oil and gas in FY24 budget proposal.

March 10, 2023 – Biden's offshore oil and gas lease plan delayed by 18 months.

March 14, 2023 – Biden withdraws more areas of Alaska from oil exploration.

March 16, 2023 – Sen. Whitehouse (D-RI) introduces the "Clean Competition Act" – a carbon border tax.

March 17, 2023 – EPA's "Good Neighbor" rule increases the costs of electricity for consumers. The Biden administration announced tougher limits on emissions from power plants, factories and other industrial facilities that cross state boundaries. New EPA standard intended to place tighter constraints on emissions from states that have coal and natural gas power plants/facilities.

March 20, 2023 – Biden uses veto to preserve DOLE Rule on ESG investing.

March 23, 2023 – U.S. Army Corp of Engineers slow walks Line 5 permitting process.

March 30, 2023 – California gasoline price gouging bill. State Democratic lawmakers approved a bill that could provide a penalty for supposed price gouging at the gasoline pump, allowing regulators the power to fine oil companies for supposedly profiting from gas price spikes.

March 31, 2023 – New York State to ban gas stoves in new buildings.

April 12, 2023 – Biden releases new rules to force electric vehicles on Americans. EPA to release rules that are intended to ensure that electric cars represent between 54-60 percent of all new cars sold in the US by 2030.

(April 12, 2023) – EPA announces new GHG emissions regulations rule for heavy-duty vehicles/tractors starting in model year 2027.

April 25, 2023 – EPA proposes to regulate carbon dioxide emissions from existing and new power plants.

May 12, 2023 – Department of Transportation proposes rules to reduce methane emissions from pipelines.

May 15, 2023 – EPA proposes new regulations requiring power plants to reduce GHG emissions and require carbon capture and sequestration or hydrogen co-firing even though these are uneconomic technologies.

June 2, 2023 – Biden orders a 20-year ban on oil and gas leasing within 10 miles of Chaco Culture National Historical Park. In withdrawing the lands from development against the wishes of the Navajo Nation, the action

prevents Navajo mineral owners from developing their oil and natural gas resources and realizing \$194 million in royalty income over 20 years.

June 22, 2023 – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) proposes three new ESA rules regarding interagency cooperation, listings, and critical habitat designation. The result is reduced areas open to development, increased costs, unwarranted or unjustified permit requirements, delays, and a multitude of operational constraints that significantly impact the ability to responsibly develop energy resources.

(June 22, 2023) – FWS along with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) proposes new regulation on interagency cooperation with respect to the Endangered Species Act.

(June 22, 2023) - The FWS and NMFS also propose the new regulations on Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat.

(June 22, 2023) - The FWS proposes an additional rule pertaining to endangered species. Again, resulting in reduced areas open to development, increased costs, unwarranted permitting requirements, and operational constraints that impact development of energy resources.

June 30, 2023 – FWS proposes to list the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Despite extensive conservation efforts by oil and natural gas operators, the listing in the highly productive Permian Basin of Texas and New Mexico seems specifically designed to reduce development in one of the nation's most prolific oil producing regions.

July 20, 2023 - Biden Administration Proposes to Raise Drilling Costs on Federal Lands. The Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has proposed a rule to implement the increased royalty rates for oil and natural gas drilling production on federal lands from 12.5 percent to 16.67 percent. BLM goes far beyond IRA by also raising the minimum bond paid upon purchasing an individual drilling lease from \$10,000 to \$150,000. To top it off, they propose raising the minimum bond required for a drilling lease on multiple public lands in a state from \$25,000 to \$500,000—a 20-fold increase.

July 26, 2023 - The White House holds a Methane Summit to reduce methane emissions but doesn't invite anyone from the industry.

July 28, 2023 – National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) proposes new fuel efficiency regulations requiring the average light-duty vehicle estimated to reach 58 mpg by 2032.

(July 28, 2023) – NHTSA proposes new fuel efficiency regulations for heavy-duty pickup trucks and vans for model years 2030-2035.

August 1, 2023 - EPA proposes updated greenhouse gas reporting requirements for the oil and natural gas industry. Rather than recognizing that industry continues to

decrease methane and other greenhouse gas emissions, the rule attempts to overcount GHGs as a means to eventually impose a carbon budget on the industry. By manipulating emissions factors that are used to calculate emissions, the rule could overestimate industry emissions nearly three-fold.

August 2, 2023 - The White House issues new guidance on valuing ecosystem services for use in calculating costs and benefits of proposed regulations.

August 3, 2023 - BLM proposes removing more than 1.6 million acres from oil and gas leasing in Colorado.

August 4, 2023 - BLM proposes to close 1.566 million acres to oil and natural gas leasing in the Grand Junction and Colorado River Valley field offices in the highly productive Piceance Basin on Colorado's West Slope. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) considers the Piceance Basin to have five of the top 50 natural gas fields in the United States in proven reserves.

August 7, 2023 - Biden proposed 236-pages of revisions to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) guidance to make it harder to permit any natural gas, oil, or coal project.

August 10, 2023 - EPA denies small refinery biofuel waivers and sets large future biofuel mandates.

August 24, 2023 - The Interior Department holds lease sale 261 but withdraws 6 million acres previously scheduled for leasing.

September 5, 2023 - The Department of Transportation banned the transportation of LNG by train.

September 6, 2023 - The Biden administration canceled oil and gas leases held by the state of Alaska in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge area. This area was specifically set aside by Congress for oil and gas leasing and congressionally mandated lease sales.

(September 6, 2023) - The Biden administration proposed new regulations to make it more difficult to produce oil and gas in the National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska by withdrawing almost half of the prospective area. ■

Articles related/Articles of Interest:

- Billionaire Harold Hamm On How Biden Is Holding American Energy Hostage (forbes.com)
- New Offshore Leasing Program Draws Criticism from Oil and Gas Groups (energyportal.eu)
- Biden admin quietly released study showing green energy receives far more subsidies than fossil fuels (yahoo.com)
- Biden's 'war against oil' is pushing prices up, US shale execs say (nypost.com)
- Biden admin quietly reverses Trump-era rule, bans transporting fossil fuels by train (foxnews.com)

¹ <https://www.instituteforenergyresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/175-Ways-Biden-Has-Made-It-Harder-To-Produce-Oil-And-Gas-IER.pdf>

PIOGA's Annual Tax & Accounting Seminar for the Oil & Gas Industry

The PIOGA Tax Committee is pleased to partner again with BAKER TILLY, US, and once again joining with GO-WV and SOOGA to host a special **virtual** oil and gas tax and accounting seminar from **9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 7th.**

Oil and natural gas companies continue to face ever-changing economic conditions and new challenges that come with it. In a continuing effort to keep members of the oil and natural gas industry informed of current issues and to help them navigate these challenges, we have once again asked Baker Tilly US to present the Oil and Natural Gas Accounting and Tax Seminar (Virtual).

Who Should Attend: oil and gas investors, operators, royalty owners, service companies, accounting and legal professionals.

The following important and timely topics are on the agenda:

- General Tax Updates for 2023 – Federal and State, including issues now being addressed in Congress, and at the individual state levels.
- Oil & Gas Industry Tax Updates for 2023
- Structuring deals from a tax perspective
- Purchase/Sale, Valuation, Succession and Estate Planning
- IT Security

This year's presentation will include an update on Tax Reform and updates on not only various federal, state and local taxes, but will approach each area to explain how oil and gas investors, operators, royalty owners, service companies and professionals should maximize tax and economic benefits.

After completion of the course, participants will be able to address current accounting and tax issues in the oil and gas industry for themselves and their companies, have increased awareness of IT security issues and maximize their tax benefits.

Instructors: Marlin Witt, Partner, CPA, CFP, CGMA; Bill Phillips, Partner Emeritus, CPA; Tyler Cornell, CPA; Chad Parker, CPA; Jonathan Jones, CPA; and Benjamin Ellis, Director, Technology.

Attendees are eligible for 7.0 CPE credits. CLE credits are available by self-reporting to the appropriate state bar association. Time will be allotted for questions during the seminar and the presenters will be available for questions and consultations by phone or email after the seminar.

Registration is a two-step process: **1** – Register and pay using this link: (<https://gowv.com/events/2023-tax-seminar/>) 2023 Oil and Natural Gas Accounting and Tax Seminar – Gas & Oil Association of West Virginia (gowv.com). **2** – Connecting to the event: Prior to the seminar, you will receive an email with instructions for connecting to the event (via Cvent). If you do not receive this email, please check your spam folder

Registration Requirements: Participants may register and pay by using the link included above. You will then receive an email with the Webex Webinar connection information. For those needing CPE credits, expect to answer random polling questions as a method of attendance verification. Note that you must answer at least 75 percent of the polling questions in order to receive full credit for your participation; partial credit will not be awarded. The registration deadline is November 3, 2023; please RSVP by 5:00 p.m.

Cancellation policy: You may cancel without penalty if written cancellation requests are received by Friday, November 3, 2023. Due to financial obligations incurred by the host, we will not provide a refund after this date. Please contact PIOGA: Deana McMahan at (724) 933-7306 ext. 23 or Deana@pioga.org or GO-WV: Lori Miller Smith at LMillerSmith@gowv.com or (304) 344-9867 or SOOGA: Billie Leister at mail@sooga.org or (740) 374-3203 to cancel or request a change.

Questions? Should you have any questions, please contact Deana McMahan at deana@pioga.org. If you have specific questions concerning the technical issues to be covered during the seminar, or if you would like a particular item to be covered during the presentation, please contact Marlin Witt or any other associate at Baker Tilly, US at 1-800-924-0729.

GO-WV – Lori Miller Smith at LMillerSmith@gowv.com or 304-344-9867 **PIOGA** – Deana McMahan at deana@pioga.org or 724-933-7306, ext. 23
SOOGA – Billie Leister at mail@sooga.org or 740-374-3203.

PIOGA's Birds & BBQ Clay Shoot

PIOGA members had a great time shooting the bird, Thursday (September 14), at PIOGA's 3rd Annual Birds & BBQ Clay Shoot.

Check out some of the event photos below and make sure to visit the Photo Galleries section at [pioga.org](https://pioga.org/about/photo-galleries/) to view all photos from all events! (<https://pioga.org/about/photo-galleries/>)



Join us for these December Events

Air Quality Compliance Training

PIOGA's annual air quality PIOGATech is coming up December 6th at The Chadwick in Wexford.

The training will be held from 9 am - 4 pm.

More details and registration information will be coming soon - check out the event webpage for more!

<https://pioga.org/event/piogatech-air-quality-compliance-training/>

*Plan to stay after the training for our **Mix, Mingle & Jingle** holiday networking event at the same venue!*

Mix, Mingle & Jingle Networking Event

Tis' about to be the season to get your **mingle** and **jingle** on! Join us on Wednesday, December 6, from 4 to 7 pm at the Chadwick in Wexford.

Join us for great food, beverages and company!

For more details and registration information keep an eye on the event webpage!

<https://pioga.org/event/mix-mingle-jingle-holiday-party/>

Information and Registration at www.pioga.org > PIOGA Events

Press Release

Published by PA Public Utility Commission. September 26, 2023.

PUC Commissioner Zerfuss Appointed to Newly Formed Presidential Task Force on Evolving Gas Infrastructure

Joint Initiative of NARUC, U.S. DOE Will Facilitate the Development of State Planning Roadmaps for Enhanced Gas Infrastructure and Utility Decarbonization

HARRISBURG – Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) Commissioner Kathryn L. Zerfuss has been appointed to a newly formed Presidential Task Force on Evolving Gas Infrastructure Planning established by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and the United States Department of Energy (DOE).

Launched in July, the new national task force will assist state commissions in developing their own roadmaps related to gas distribution infrastructure planning and future technology investment options to achieve utility decarbonization in the coming decades.

“I am honored to be appointed and represent Pennsylvania on the Task Force on Evolving Gas Infrastructure Planning,” Commissioner Zerfuss said. “State-level decarbonization goals present utility regulators and jurisdictional utilities with new and complex challenges – with many regulators lacking sufficient information to make gas investment decisions within current frameworks.


“This task force and the collaboration and cooperation it brings will provide needed guidance and support to utility regulators related to the issues, potential solutions, and investment options surrounding gas infrastructure planning.”

Commissioner Zerfuss added that over the next two years, the task force will move through a two-phase effort to develop and provide technical and policy guidance along with the needed tools to assist regulators – including, but not limited to, a toolkit with strategic and tactical resources that can be immediately used by state commissions. The task force’s kick-off work-

shop is planned for November 2023.

In addition to this most recent task force appointment, Commissioner Zerfuss also serves as a member of NARUC’s Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment. She was nominated to serve as Commissioner by Governor Tom Wolf on Sept. 20, 2022, and subsequently confirmed by the Pennsylvania Senate on Oct. 19, 2022. Her term will expire on April 1, 2026. ■

About the PUC -The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission balances the needs of consumers and utilities; ensures safe and reliable utility service at reasonable rates; protects the public interest; educates consumers to make independent and informed utility choices; furthers economic development; and fosters new technologies and competitive markets in an environmentally sound manner. Visit the PUC’s website at puc.pa.gov for recent news releases and video of select proceedings.



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Critical Thinking and the Scientific Process Are Advanced by a New Educational Website

I remember when the scientific method and critical thinking were taught in school. Scientific theories and laws were only kept until one piece of evidence was found that disproved them, and then they were dismissed. Scientists are a stubborn group and will hold onto an idea until they are finally forced into a paradigm shift by overwhelming evidence. I see this a lot in areas of science that have not yet been politicized, such as basic geology. But all of that has changed now with the new breed of science: climate science.

Some scientists and most public educators now collectively protect climate science with such absurd statements as “the whole goal of science is consensus”¹ or “emphasize to students that no



Our scientists got expelled from the NSTA convention for promoting the scientific method & critical thinking skills.

scientific controversy exists regarding the basic facts of climate change and that any controversies are based on social, economic, or political arguments and are not science.”²

In fact, when a group representing the CO2 Coalition³ went to the

annual National Science Teaching Association’s (NSTA) conference in Atlanta this past March, they were thrown out of the convention⁴ because they presented a document questioning the NSTA’s position⁵ on teaching climate science. These attempts at squelching any legitimate questioning of data, model prediction failures, or impacts of carbon dioxide are anything but science.

In addition, statements such as these do not encourage critical thinking but promote indoctrination. Any true scientist understands that consensus is not a scientific concept, but a political one. The best and most important discoveries

were made by “renegade” scientists who came up with crazy ideas that turned out to be accurate. The structure of the solar system and the theory of plate tectonics are two that come to mind, and there are many more.

With these concerns in mind, the CO2 Coalition Education Committee created the CO2 Learning Center (co2learningcenter.com) to educate young people about critical thinking and the scientific method, free of indoctrination and climate alarmism. The Education Committee is led by Dr. Gordon Fulks⁶, an astrophysicist with a degree from the University of Chicago, who is also the author of our children's books. Payne Kilbourn spent 28 years in the U.S. Navy Submarine Service and is the producer of our videos. I have a doctorate in analytical chemistry from the Georgia Institute of Technology, have spent over 20 years teaching science to high school students and am the author of the lesson plans. Our beautiful illustrations are all created by Thiago Hellinger da Silva⁷, a professional artist from Brazil. The CO2 Learning Center and all our materials are a collaboration of nearly 20 top scientists and experts that include physicists, chemists, geologists, engineers and economists.

Our free materials provide scientific information simple enough for the enjoyment and comprehension of a young child. From a series of books⁸ and videos⁹ created in the style of comics using manga and anime art, users learn that carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the miracle molecule necessary for all life, including humans, and that increasing CO₂ is helping plants to grow faster and bigger. And they learn that natural and man-made processes eventually transform plants and animals into the miracle molecule so that new life can emerge.

Our lesson plans for the books and videos have

Continued on page 8

CO2 Coalition *Continued from page 7*

been warmly welcomed by homeschooling parents as well as by some charter and private schools (public schools have not been so welcoming). These are available as a free printable pdfs on our website.

We were recently sponsors of the Southeast Homeschool Expo, also in Atlanta, where our materials and our message were well received. We distributed almost 3,400 copies of our books and 115 lesson plans. We also distributed our "Challenging Net Zero with Science"¹⁰ report and introduced our new website. All our books, videos, lesson plans, and information on our education committee are available there.



Our scientists at Homeschool Expo in Atlanta

We are excited to make available to educators everywhere materials that provide honest science that promotes critical thinking and the scientific method.



Please check us out at
CO2LearningCenter.com. ■

¹ <https://www.cyprus-ceo.com/22664/how-to-beat-bad-science/>

² <https://www.nsta.org/nstas-official-positions/teaching-climate-science>

³ <https://co2coalition.org/>

⁴ https://cowboystatedaily.com/2023/03/29/national-teachers-group-censors-climate-science-that-doesnt-confirm-to-disaster-agenda/?fbclid=IwAR1S_R09oObVq2zqCxGF_iPTtQaJNAXpdWNz7jILPyeN3CJvHEXgYdt hQjA

⁵ <https://co2coalition.org/publications/challenging-the-nsta-position-on-climate-change/>

⁶ <https://co2coalition.org/teammember/gordon-fulks/>

⁷ <https://co2coalition.org/teammember/thiago-hellinger-da-silva/>

⁸ <https://co2learningcenter.com/books/>

⁹ <https://co2learningcenter.com/videos/>

¹⁰ <https://co2coalition.org/publications/challenging-net-zero-with-science/>

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The EPA's plan to break the US electricity grid

Searing heat has pushed the U.S. power grid to the very limit this summer. The reliability of our power supply is hanging by a thread, with new power demand records set weekly. The nation's top power reliability experts have repeatedly warned that we're in a power supply crisis. But the Biden administration's response — if you can call it that — is a proposal to eliminate the very power plants keeping the lights on.

The administration is bungling the energy transition with potentially horrific consequences. Instead of listening to the nation's utilities, grid operators, and reliability experts on how to responsibly manage the pivot to renewable energy, the Biden team has turned the reins of the nation's energy policy over to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. What's now playing out is alarmingly dangerous and sadly predictable.

EPA is using every rulemaking and regulation it can to put pressure on power plant owners and automakers to force a lightning-fast pivot away from fossil fuels. The result is a blitz of rules that aim to wipe out the nation's coal and natural gas fleets — which provide 60% of the nation's power — while forcing an equally rapid transition to electric vehicles (EVs).

The EPA's newest proposed rule aimed at tackling carbon emissions from the power sector — the so-called Clean Power Plan 2.0 — has drawn unprecedented concern from the very people charged with keeping the lights on and air conditioners running. The rule, which gives plant owners the false choice of installing unproven and exorbitantly expensive technology — or closing their plants to meet emissions reduction targets — is more than likely unlawful. What we know for certain is the energy crisis that it will invite.

In formal comments to the EPA, the nation's utilities said the proposed rule will leave the grid short of power and should not be finalized in its current form. The nation's electric co-ops told

EPA the plan relies on “inadequately demonstrated technologies with unworkable timelines.” They added that the plan creates “direct threats to electric grid reliability.” The grid operators — who are tasked with making the entire electricity system work — told EPA the proposed rule will lead to “significant power shortages.”

This is the alarming bottom line: EPA has proposed tearing down the very foundation of the nation's electricity system before replacement capacity is even close to filling the gaps. And this is happening at the exact moment electricity demand is surging from the adoption of EVs, the rapid addition of energy-hungry data centers, and the current bout of increasingly volatile weather. The U.S. Department of Energy has estimated that we're going to need to double the nation's generation capacity by 2050 just to keep up with soaring demand.

In its crusade to slash emissions, EPA is breaking the electricity grid. For dozens of cities like Phoenix, or Austin, Texas — which has seen more than a month straight of 100-degree temperatures — a heat wave coupled with a black-out could be catastrophic.

The obvious alternative to EPA's extraordinarily dangerous plan is to focus on building and deploying new energy technologies and infrastructure before tearing down the power plants that currently underpin our system. That approach would provide reinforcements to America's energy security instead of walking us ever closer to the edge.

Should American energy policy get this transition wrong, the consequences would be calamitous. When — not if — the lights go out, no one should be surprised, least of all the architects of this debacle at the Biden EPA. ■

Matthew Kandrach is president of Consumer Action for a Strong Economy, a free-market advocacy organization.

Link to article: <https://www.pottsmmerc.com/2023/08/21/guest-column-the-epas-plan-to-break-the-us-electricity-grid/>

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JUST THE FACTS

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Consumers in the Middle with Proscribed Mandates on Energy Choice

States across the country are in the throes of determining future winners and losers in the energy marketplace, considering and enacting measures that restrict consumer choice and removing the word “free” from “free market” that most Americans take for granted. The landscape of legislative, administrative and judicial actions on these issues continues to evolve, leaving end users uncertain of how to plan the purchase of items capable of using different types of energy.

This JTF takes a look at how the pendulum is swinging right now on natural gas-fueled stoves, gasoline-powered lawn equipment and automobiles.

The Facts – The approaches or circumstances that restrict consumers’ current and future energy choices vary considerably. Some are forced involuntarily by actions such regulatory road-

blocks to new infrastructure. Consolidated Edison has had a moratorium on new natural gas connections in its Westchester County service area since 2019 due to a lack of pipeline capacity. Others are legislated by state and local government decisions, as summarized above. The long-term impacts of these actions on consumers are still to be determined, but reducing choice and competition commonly results in higher prices for end users. As the U.S. confronts solutions to adapt its energy distribution systems to reach dispersed sources, new challenges impacting reliable access could also emerge in some areas of the country. These issues make up only part of the nation’s future energy equation, and they can be best addressed with integrated solutions.

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.

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Identity Theft - Fraud and Protection

Published by Schneider Downs - September, 2023. Authored by Madeline Adamczyk and Bill Deller

Top 5 Identity Fraud Schemes of 2023

What are the most common identity fraud schemes hitting Americans in 2023?

Identity fraud losses totaled \$43 billion in 2022, affecting 40 million adults nationwide. While the list of identity fraud schemes grows longer every day, there are five common schemes you should know: credit card fraud, bank fraud, tax fraud, medical identity theft, and home title fraud. To detect these before they happen, there are a few red flags you'll want to be on the lookout for.

Credit Card Fraud - To detect credit card fraud, you'll want to keep a watchful eye on your account activity. If you spot a transaction you didn't make, happen to lose your credit card or it's confiscated, report it immediately.

Also, regularly check your credit. CreditKarma, NerdWallet, Mint and Credit Sesame are all free tools to help monitor your credit.

Additionally, once a year, you're entitled to a free report from each of the three main credit bureaus (Experian, Equifax and TransUnion).

AnnualCreditReport.com is the only website authorized by the federal government to issue free, annual credit reports from the three bureaus.

Bank Fraud - Like credit card fraud, to detect bank fraud, you'll want to regularly monitor your account activity for suspicious transactions or unauthorized access.

If you use a mobile banking app, make sure to enable two-factor authentication.

Never open the app while connected to a public Wi-Fi network or with an open Bluetooth connection.

Tax Fraud - While trickier than credit and bank fraud, tax fraud may be detected if you stay on the lookout for any unfamiliar tax documents, forms or transcripts in your physical or digital mailboxes.

Also, be aware of scammers calling you pretending to be the IRS. This should immediately raise a red flag.

Medical Identity Theft - In 2021 alone, there were 60,000 fraud reports related to healthcare. And that only includes the ones reported to the FTC. Medical identity theft is on the rise, but you can mitigate

your risk by keeping an eye on your medical bills and always reviewing your Explanation of Benefits statements to make sure they're on track with the care you received. If not, it's a telltale sign that fraud is being perpetrated against you.

If you're denied insurance coverage for a pre-existing condition you don't have or get a notice that you've reached your benefits limit when you know it's impossible, you have cause for concern.

Home Title Fraud - Home title fraud occurs when identity thieves fool your mortgage loan servicer into thinking your home title belongs to them. This type of fraud has key warning signs worth mentioning. For starters, monitor all information related to your property through your county's deeds office. Sometimes free and sometimes not, it's worth it if you spot something you don't recognize early.

Also, if you have a second home that you don't visit frequently, have someone routinely check on your house for any sale signs or unauthorized activity.

There are several other types of fraud to familiarize yourself with, but with a little research and a vigilant eye on your personal asset activity, you can successfully detect fraud before it happens.

Prevention and Detection – Key Methods to Protect Against Identity Fraud

Learn the key methods to prevent and detect identity fraud before it happens to you.

There's always a risk that identity fraud can happen to you. In fact, nearly 33% of Americans have faced some kind of it in their lives. Experts indicate that this percentage will increase significantly in the coming years.

Nevertheless, there are key steps and regular practices you can implement TODAY, to reduce your overall risk. Follow these key methods to prevent and detect identity fraud.

#1 - Freeze. Your. Credit. - Perhaps the single best thing you can do to reduce the risk of identity fraud – freeze your credit with each of the big 3 credit bureaus – Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion. A credit freeze keeps the sensitive data in your credit files from being accessed without your consent. This act is one of the very few ways to truly prevent several means of identity fraud. If your credit is frozen, the credit bureau will not

release the data to the potential creditor to approve your application.

Each time that your credit needs to be legitimately pulled, however, you'll need to "unfreeze" your credit with the bureau that needs to pull your credit. Unless you're buying a car every month, it's very likely you can set and forget your credit freezes for 99% of each year.

What's seldom talked about is that this process of freezing and unfreezing your credit would previously cost you up to \$10 for each act of freezing/unfreezing, with each bureau! That's up to \$60 just to run your credit. This practice ended with each bureau during the 2020 pandemic when it became completely free to freeze/unfreeze credit with each bureau. To this day, it's never been easier to freeze/unfreeze credit. You just need to be mindful of maintaining strong authentication controls with each credit bureau account.

#2 - Use Strong Authentication Protocols -

Strong authentication protocols aka the way in which you access your accounts – should be in place for all accounts that are important to you. This should be an absolute no-brainer for your email, financial accounts (including credit bureau accounts), healthcare accounts, social media accounts, computing devices (including laptops and phones), etc. Here are **3 easy ways** to implement strong authentication protocols: **Set a Strong Password, Set up a Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA), Use a Password Manager.**

Stay Frosty! - Detection of identity theft is a critical step to protecting your identity. Here's the punch list of items to regularly perform related to detection:

- *Be on the lookout for scams – phishing, spoofing, skimming, the methods are endless and continue to get more sophisticated each day as we get better at protection. When in doubt – trust, but verify – before providing personal information, codes, PINs, etc. to unexpected contacts or unfamiliar sources. Just like they say it's probably fake if it's too good to be true, it's probably a scam if you're not expecting it. I whitelist all phone calls so that you have to be in my contact list to call my cell phone.*

- *Check your mailbox before your mail even arrives with Informed Delivery from USPS. Stolen mail = a high impact + easy route to ID fraud.*

- *Check your credit reports regularly through AnnualCreditReport.com and subscribe to alerts through your credit card and sites like CreditKarma*

or NerdWallet.

- *Monitor financial accounts and statements – subscribe to alerts with your financial institutions and reconcile all of your transactions.*

- *Monitor healthcare statements – review your "Explanation of Benefits (EOB)" statements and reconcile your services against your insurance benefits.*

- *Subscribe to alerts with each credit bureau.*

- *Subscribe to alerts with HaveIBeenPwned.com to know when accounts associated with your email address(es) have been compromised in a breach.*

If you've made it this far and have already done or plan to do ANY of the above, then hats off to you! You and yours are safer as a result, and what feels better than that? ■

Links to full articles:

Identity Fraud Schemes: <https://www.schneiderdowns.com/our-thoughts-on/top-5-identity-fraud-schemes-of-2023>

Prevention and Detection: <https://www.schneiderdowns.com/our-thoughts-on/prevention-and-detection-key-methods-to-protect-against-identity-fraud>

The Schneider Downs IT Risk Advisory Team can advise you on how to strengthen your organization's risk management position to ensure optimal asset protection, now and in the future. Feel free to reach out to our team directly at contacts@schneiderdowns.com.

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The 2023 Babst Calland Report

Legal and Regulatory Challenges and Opportunities for the Energy Industry

October 2, 2023 – Law firm Babst Calland today published its 13th annual energy industry report: The 2023 Babst Calland Report – Legal & Regulatory Perspectives for the Energy Industry. The Report provides insights on some of the most critical issues facing the industry.

This edition of The Babst Calland Report also features a special video briefing from U.S. Senator Barrasso (R-WY), ranking member of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, who is at the forefront on federal energy policy.

Joseph K. Reinhart, shareholder and co-chair of Babst Calland's Energy and Natural Resources Group, said, "The U.S. energy sector remains as dynamic as ever. New energy policies and legislation are changing the regulatory landscape and affecting all parts of the energy value chain. It is more important than ever for energy executives and their counsel to stay on top of federal, state, and local regulatory developments, legal risks, and the related business implications."

This year's Report highlights various challenges and opportunities in the energy sector, including:

- Hydrogen and Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) are getting a boost as tools for reducing carbon emissions. The 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) provided billions in funding in the form of tax credits, grants, and loans for hydrogen and CCS technologies.
- Climate policy and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)-related practices may trigger new reporting requirements imposed by federal and state regulatory agencies. With increased focus on reducing greenhouse gas, particularly methane emissions from the energy industry, several proposed federal agency rules could make ESG reporting mandatory for certain sectors.
- Environmental Justice (EJ) efforts continue

to expand as a priority for federal and state agencies following directives from the Biden Administration. The IRA made about \$3 billion in funding available for EJ grants. While adoption of the EPA's proposed budget for 2024 is far from guaranteed, it demonstrates the current administration's commitment to funding EJ efforts.

- Despite the federal government's policy drive for growth in the low carbon energy sector, practical issues remain. Grid interconnection and project permitting are driving substantial costs and delays. And many of these problems aren't limited to just renewables, with permitting headwinds facing all types of energy projects, including CCS, pipelines and oil and gas development. Absent significant reforms to reduce permitting timelines and serial litigation, many of these unprecedented federal incentives may go untapped.

- The Appalachian Basin, like most of the energy producing regions of the U.S., continues to see a variety of novel litigation. The influx of "new" entrants to the energy litigation field has resulted in many new suits asserting variations on traditional energy litigation themes.

- Pennsylvania's Amended Breach of Personal Information Notification Act (BPINA) went into effect on May 2, 2023. Any companies that do business in Pennsylvania, maintain data belonging to Pennsylvania residents, or do business with the Commonwealth or its agencies, should become familiar with these new data requirements, and review their security-related policies, practices, and incident response plans to ensure compliance with the Amended BPINA.

A few excerpts from the report are on the following page, followed by the link to request a copy of The 2023 Babst Calland Report.

Climate Policy and Environment, Social, and Governance

Authored by: Jean M. Mosites (Shareholder), Varun Shekhar (Shareholder), Gina Falaschi Buchmn (Associate), and Susanna Bagdasarova (Associate).

In the past few years, climate policy and environment, social, and governance (ESG) issues have transformed from “the hot new topic” to an underlying business and regulatory consideration for almost every company. A complex and rapidly changing legal landscape is emerging. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to focus on reducing greenhouse gas, particularly methane, emissions from high-emitting sectors such as the power and oil and gas industries. Most states, like Pennsylvania, have their own climate and ESG initiatives. Some important examples of such initiatives are discussed below.

Within companies, both public and private, climate policy is central to the emerging focus on ESG, which 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 decisions, and regulatory agencies are beginning to take actions aimed at increasing the transparency of regulated companies’ ESG efforts through required disclosures. A number of proposed federal agency rules discussed below could make ESG reporting mandatory for certain sectors. Whether through exposure to consumer, insurer, lender or investor demand, or to new ESG reporting requirements imposed by regulatory agencies, companies will continue to face increased scrutiny over ESG-related practices that may impose costly operational changes.

Climate updates discussed in this section of the report: *Methane Fees Under the Inflation Reduction Act; Greenhouse Gas Standards and Guidelines for Electricity Generating Units; EPA Proposes Revisions to Subpart W; NSPS Subpart OOOOb; and Pennsylvania “Existing Source” Rule.*

ESG updates discussed in this section of the report: *SEC Proposed ESG Rule; Proposed ESG Rule for Government Contracts; and ESG Concerns for Insurance Companies.*

Litigation Trends

Authored by: Timothy M. Miller (Shareholder) and Jennifer J. Hicks (Shareholder).

Energy Litigation Trends in the Basin

The Appalachian Basin (the Basin), like most of the energy producing regions, continues to see a variety of novel litigation cases being filed. Many law firms that traditionally focused on personal injury and tort claims have seen the impact of tort reform on their bottom line, and some defense firms are now taking more plaintiff cases for the same reason. The influx of “new” entrants to the energy litigation field, coupled with the perceived greener pastures in energy litigation, has resulted in many new suits asserting variations on traditional energy litigation themes. The following trends demonstrate a need for vigilance in lease drafting and contract administration and awareness of the new litigation risks.

Variations on Trespass Claims

The typical title and lease instruments in the Basin were created before the shale revolution. Recent cases in Ohio and West Virginia have been based on the absence of broad grants of all minerals to claim drilling in formations that were not specifically leased constitutes a willful trespass. Claims like these need to be identified in the leasing and pre-drilling process and where possible corrective instruments or ratifications should be obtained.

Other topics of discussion in this section of the report: *Variations on Royalty Claims; Variations on Challenges to the Lessee’s Method of Operations; Variations on Infrastructure Challenges; and Variations on Private Suits to Bypass Regulatory Authorities.*

To request a copy of (full) The 2023 Babst Calland Report, click here. (<https://reports.babst-calland.com/energy2023-2/>)

The Babst Calland Report is provided for informational purposes for our clients and friends and does not constitute legal advice.

Shapiro isn't sold on a key climate program, and his working group isn't either. What's next for RGGI?

From almost the beginning of the Shapiro administration, top aides to the Democratic governor were looking for "RGGI alternatives," emails show.

RGGI refers to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a multistate effort to fight climate change that Josh Shapiro faced numerous questions about during his campaign.

While he promised to steeply cut carbon emissions, Shapiro wouldn't commit to keeping Pennsylvania in the program, citing concerns about losing jobs to other states, and higher energy prices.

Emails obtained by Spotlight PA through a public records request show Mike Vereb, a top Shapiro aide who recently resigned amid sexual harassment allegations, discussed this conundrum in April with an oil and gas lobbyist.

Delay, the lobbyist advised, until more neighboring states commit to cap-and-trade programs and level the playing field.

A working group convened by Shapiro made essentially the same recommendation in a four-page memo released last month. What the group didn't deliver to the governor was an elusive silver bullet, punting the question of whether Shapiro will support RGGI further into the future.

As the state waits for critical court rulings, the commonwealth's disparate energy, labor, and environmental interests are discussing what comes next.

No 'consensus' on RGGI - The RGGI Working Group was tasked with measuring RGGI or an alternative against a three-part test: "protect and create energy jobs"; "take real action to address climate change"; and "ensure reliable, affordable power for consumers in the long-term." Its members included lobbyists for the energy and labor industries, and consumer and environmental advocates.

There was "consensus" that a cap-and-trade regulation would meet those goals, the memo said, though the entire group did not agree that RGGI is the correct program to accomplish that. While the working group did not specify why some of its members oppose RGGI, it did catalog wider concerns regarding increased energy costs and job loss.

Environmentalists who broadly support the initiative were pleased with the findings despite the memo not quite endorsing RGGI.

"This is a historic level of consensus," said Robert Routh, an attorney with the National Resources Defense Council who studies decarbonization efforts in Pennsylvania. "This has been productive and moved the ball forward, not just on RGGI, which is a key pillar, but thinking about a broader energy policy portfolio."

Not all members of the working group agreed with the memo's

findings.

"I wouldn't say there was a consensus on cap and trade or RGGI," said Rob Bair, who heads the Pennsylvania Building & Construction Trades Council. "I would say the door was left open from the energy sector and even labor that a [federal program that includes neighboring states] ... which leveled the playing field for everybody would be an option."

Bair added that the memo emphasizes that any further policy on energy and the environment should be decided by lawmakers.

Republicans in the state legislature have made that same argument since former Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf unilaterally had Pennsylvania join RGGI. GOP leaders eventually filed a lawsuit against the state, claiming executive overreach.

State Sen. Gene Yaw (R., Lycoming), who chairs the GOP-controlled state Senate's Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, called the memo "lacking." He said that he would prefer for an independent office to provide energy policy guidance, and would like the legislature to be tasked with balancing energy and environmental policy.

"Clearly, despite the good intentions of the RGGI working group, there remains significant disagreement over the structure of a cap-and-tax program and need for legislative enactment," Yaw said in a press release.

Cap-and-trade programs limit the amount of carbon dioxide emissions that companies can produce. If companies and other entities want to emit more than their cap, they can buy and sell allowances, and the revenue from those sales can be reinvested into the state.

RGGI creates such a market for a dozen states in the northeast, including Maryland and New Jersey. Wolf signed an executive order in 2019 directing Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection to join.

While the state officially joined the consortium in 2022, it has been unable to participate in carbon credit auctions due to an injunction from Commonwealth Court. That case is currently before the state Supreme Court, while two other legal challenges are pending in a lower court.

Critics of RGGI argue that it puts Pennsylvania at risk of losing jobs to energy-producing neighbors like Ohio or West Virginia, who aren't members and would allow companies to emit greenhouse gasses without cost. They also argue that the additional costs companies will pay to release more carbon dioxide will be transferred to consumers via utility rate hikes.

Economic and environmental studies examining the impact of RGGI on utility costs have had mixed results. Some reports have found that costs would go up for consumers, while others

have concluded that costs would remain the same.

While Wolf's administration staunchly defended the program, Shapiro has taken a more neutral stance. Emails obtained by Spotlight PA through a Right-to-Know request show that the new administration began looking for "RGGI alternatives" as early as February.

In an April email to a Shapiro aide, oil, gas, and coal lobbyist Peter Gleason wrote that he would "attempt to ferret out the RGGI 'alternative'" they had discussed that day. (Gleason, whose clients include GE Energy and Olympus Power, helped state lawmakers draft a letter opposing RGGI in 2021, emails obtained by the Energy and Policy Institute show.)

He told the aide, Mike Vereb, that an alternative would require at least two conditions. One, the legislature would need to delay the date that Pennsylvania began participating in RGGI carbon credit auctions.

Two, it would need to make sure that all states that draw on the energy grid maintained by PJM Interconnection had joined RGGI, or at a minimum had adopted an equal carbon tax.

A possible — but unlikely — alternative - The working group echoed that recommendation.

It suggested the Shapiro administration explore a cap-and-trade program that includes Washington, D.C., and the 13 states whose electric grids are run by PJM Interconnection, and encourage each PJM state to "reach a consensus on regional carbon trading."

More than half of the states served by PJM are not a part of RGGI, including Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia.

While a cap-and-trade agreement with all PJM states might assuage concerns about jobs and market competition, the working group wrote that such an agreement "would take significant time to pursue," and "the adoption of such an approach is far from certain."

PJM could implement its own carbon pricing scheme across its network, although such a plan would need approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and each participating state's government, according to a spokesperson.

Though PJM has studied the impact of carbon pricing, it has never recommended such a policy. When asked if PJM would ever implement such a program on its own accord, a representative told Spotlight PA, "We stand ready to work with Gov. Shapiro to help facilitate Pennsylvania policy while maintaining a reliable and cost effective grid."

Others are hesitant that a PJM-wide cap is possible because it would require the cooperation of over a dozen states, some of which have indicated they do not support carbon pricing and which lack emission reduction goals.

Yaw called the idea "unrealistic."

Climate advocates echoed Yaw, saying that they were not against the idea but wanted to see more immediate action.

"We know we need to act now and doing something PJM-wide isn't something that can happen tomorrow," said Katie

Blume, the legislative director of Conservation Voters of PA. "I think we have an opportunity immediately to capitalize on the proceeds of RGGI auctions while we are still talking about other things."

What's next - During his campaign, Shapiro said his climate goals include reaching net-zero emissions by 2050 and increasing state clean energy production from 8% to 30% by 2030. Environmental advocates say that these goals go hand in hand.

Energy generation, transportation, and industry are Pennsylvania's largest sources of emissions — largely from the combustion of fossil fuels.

There are many policy options for cutting emissions, from tax credits for people who purchase electric vehicles to funding for community solar programs. But supporters of RGGI argue it offers some additional benefits.

RGGI not only limits the amount of emissions that energy producers are able to generate; it also brings in revenue from the sale of carbon credits, which advocates say can be used to further fund emission-reduction projects.

The initiative's future in Pennsylvania depends in part on the state Commonwealth and Supreme Courts, which have yet to rule on a number of challenges to the program.

If the courts rule in favor of Wolf's action, Shapiro could move forward with credit auctions or choose to pull Pennsylvania out of RGGI.

In a statement, a Shapiro spokesperson said the governor had delivered on his promise to bring disparate groups together for a "constructive dialogue."

"Our Administration will review the working group's full set of recommendations as we await the Commonwealth Court decision on Pennsylvania's participation in RGGI," the spokesperson said.

Should the courts rule against the administration, Pennsylvania would no longer be part of RGGI, and any kind of carbon pricing in the future would require legislative approval.

Finding enough common ground to pass a bill would be difficult in the divided legislature.

Following the release of the working group's memo, state Senate Majority Leader Joe Pittman (R., Indiana) called on Shapiro to pull out of RGGI.

"Touting his achievement of putting together this group is noted, but the question remains: What will Gov. Shapiro do now that his working group has completed their task?" Pittman said in a statement. "If the governor is so eager to accept their recommendations, he should immediately withdraw our commonwealth from RGGI and look for a legislative solution which respects the need for family sustaining jobs, and positively impacts Pennsylvania's economy." ■

Link to article: <https://www.spotlightpa.org/news/2023/10/pennsylvania-climate-change-josh-shapiro-regional-greenhouse-gas-initiative/>

PIOGA's Online Buyers' Guide

Secure your listing or advertisement soon!

PIOGA is pleased to partner again with Strategic Value Media - a leading nationwide provider of print and digital media solutions for national, state and local trade and membership associations - to produce the **2023 edition of PIOGA Buyers' Guide**, the premier resource of relevant products and services for oil & gas professionals.

"For nine years now PIOGA's Buyers' Guide has served as a one-stop-shop for purchasing needed oil and gas products and services," said PIOGA's President & Executive Director Dan Weaver. "We get feedback from members often that they appreciate having this online resource that helps them link up to the products and services they need."

We encourage PIOGA members to utilize the services or products of our member companies.

All PIOGA Allies & Provider members get a complimentary basic listing in the guide with the PIOGA logo to indicate your company is a member! Contact **Strategic Value Media** to discuss other options of getting your business more visibility in the Guide.

Like the 2022 version, the 2023 edition of the Buyers' Guide will feature updated and expanded company and product listings, in addition to other valuable information relating to the oil & gas industry. The Buyers' Guide provides users with an efficient way to browse for goods and services and offers oil & gas suppliers and companies exceptional visibility by showcasing their products and services to a targeted, industry-specific buyer group.

The Buyers' Guide is accessible through the PIOGA website at www.pioga.org and will be updated soon with new advertisements and updated information.

To view the Buyers' Guide - click here. (<http://www.paoilgas-buyersguide.com/>)

We encourage you to take advantage of this exceptional opportunity to highlight your products and services in the Buyers' Guide.

Contact Strategic Value Media

To learn more about advertising your products or services in the Buyers' Guide, please email pioga-advertise@svmmmedia.com.

PIOGATech - Subsurface Technical Training- Pressure Barrier Policies, Gas Migration and Legal Issues.

October 24th (9 am - 3 pm) at Ferrante's Lakeview - Greensburg, Pa.

PIOGA's Environmental Committee is pleased to host this training in conjunction with our partners Diversified Energy Company, Moody & Associates and Snyder Brothers.

This course will cover:

- *DEP's update to the Pressure Barrier published in May 2023 for Unconventional Wells*
- *The various pressure barriers and methods used in drilling, hydraulic fracturing, workover, and plugging.*
- *Wild Well Control's services and offerings to our industry to help mitigate risk*
- *Well Control Case Histories from Appalachia*
- *Stray gas migration, preparedness, and incident response*

To Register/Additional Information:

<https://pioga.org/event/piogatech-subsurface-technical-training/>

PIOGATech - Air Quality Compliance Training

December 6th (9 am - 4 pm) at The Chadwick - Wexford, Pa.

*Stay after the PIOGATech for **PIOGA's Mix, Mingle and Jingle Holiday Party!***

For more information - check for updates at:
<https://pioga.org/event/piogatech-air-quality-compliance-training/>



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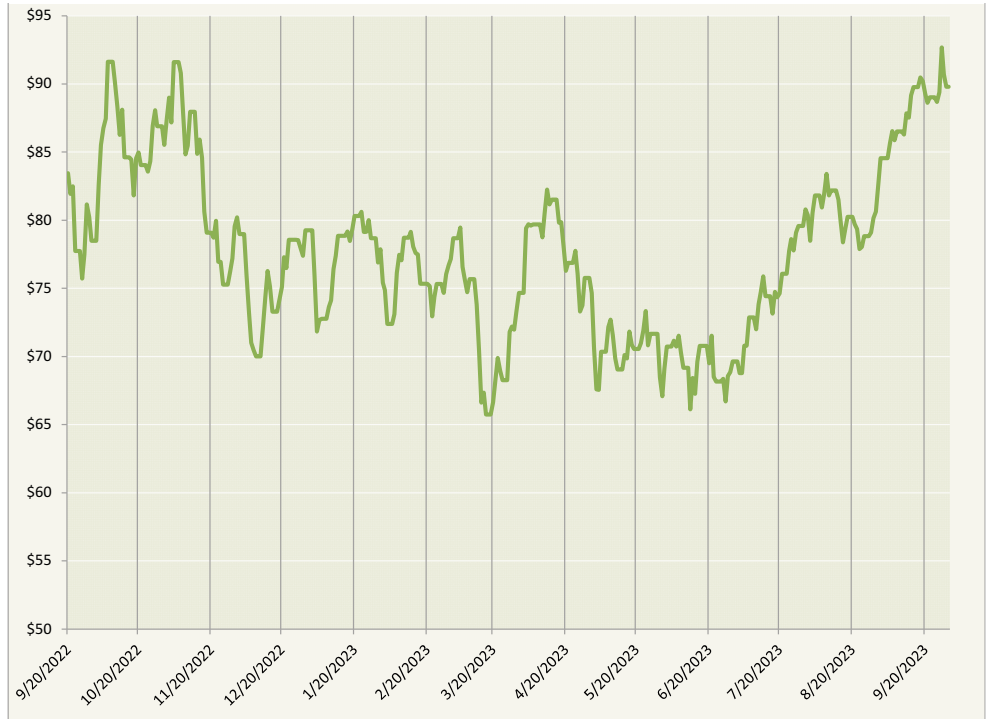


Oil & Gas Dashboard

Sources

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 Gas futures: quotes.ino.com/exchanges/?r=NYMEX_NG
 Baker Hughes rig count: bakerhughesrig-count.gcs-web.com/na-rig-count
 NYMEX strip chart: Mid American Natural Resources
 Basis futures values: BHE Eastern Energy Field Services

Penn Grade Crude Oil Prices

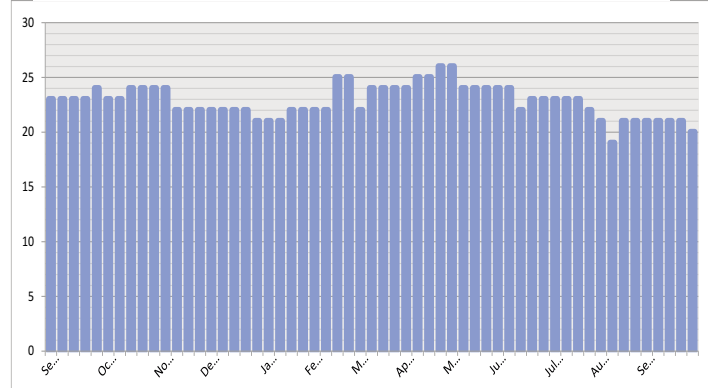


Natural Gas Futures Closing Prices

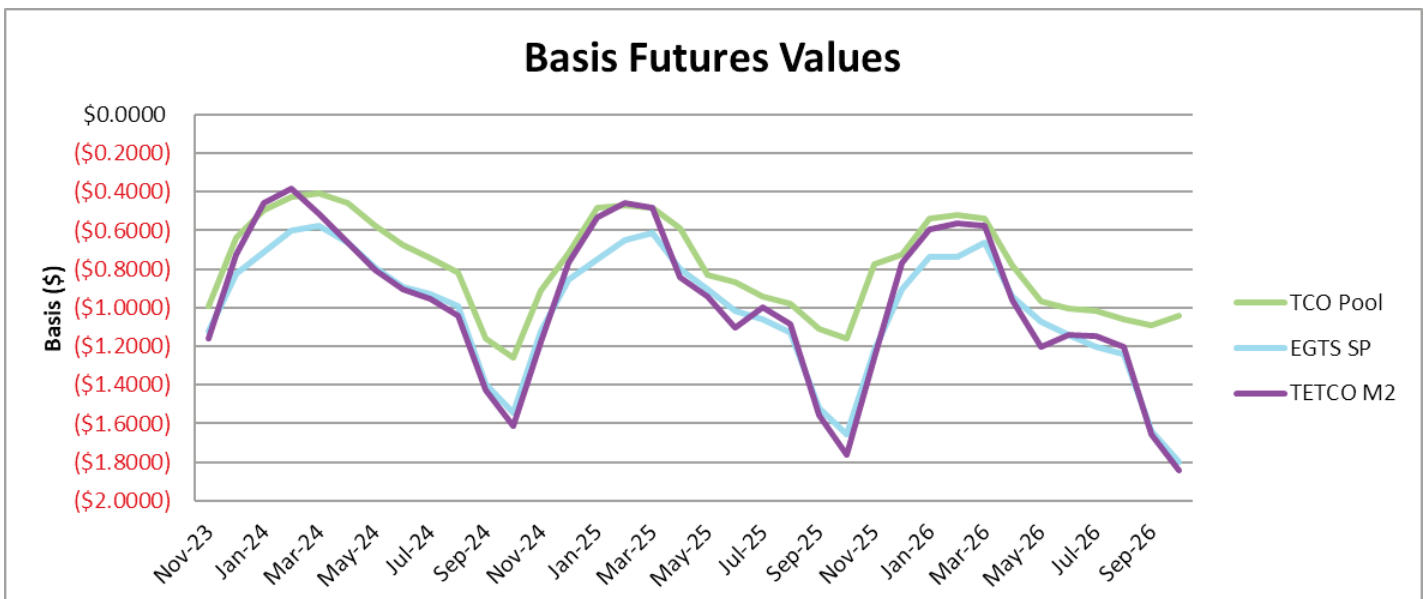
October 2023	2.656
November	2.958
December	3.326
January 2024	3.565
February	3.488
March	3.216
April	2.977
May	3.011
June	3.123
July	3.262

Prices as of Oct. 3, 2023

Pennsylvania Rig Count



Basis Futures Values



Northeast Pricing Report — September 2023

Last week's market action showed some bullish patterns, despite short-term declines. Gas futures for November reached a seven-week high of \$2.997 per MMBtu, breaking above the 200-day moving average. The market volatility index is also at its lowest level since April 2022, indicating a somewhat stabilized trading environment. The Appalachian area has had a minor bullish run. Front month contracts increased between \$0.07 per MMBtu for Dominion South to the largest increase of \$0.20 per MMBtu for Transco Leidy. The rolling one-year trading period was not as consistent. Algonquin increased the most at \$0.11 per MMBtu followed by Dominion South which improved by \$0.07 per MMBtu. Algonquin and TETCO M3 were flat. The full term trading period was mildly bullish. Transco Z6 and Algonquin rose the most at \$0.13 and \$0.08 per MMBtu while TETCO M3 increased the least at \$0.03 per MMBtu.

Transportation routes' values were mixed. Transportation value from Dominion South to TETCO M3 and Algonquin were the only routes to increase in value. Going to TETCO M3 improved \$0.11 per MMBtu and going to Algonquin increased \$0.09 per MMBtu. All routes leading from Transco Leidy decreased in value. Flowing from Transco Leidy to Transco Z6 declined the most by \$0.14 per MMBtu. Transco Leidy to Algonquin dropped the least by \$0.05 per MMBtu.

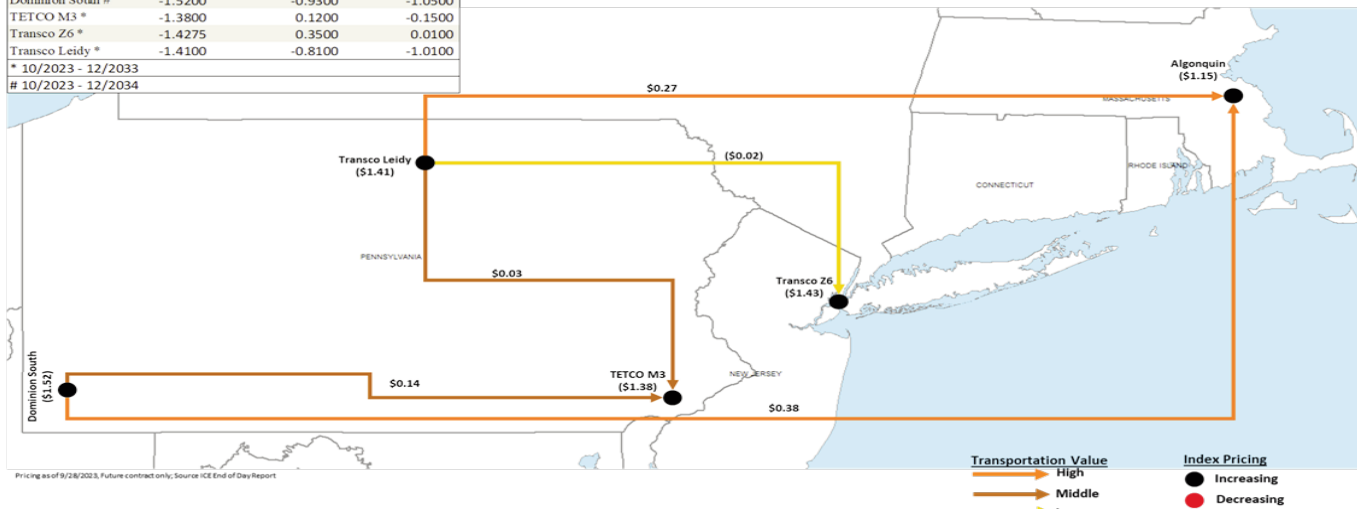
Transportation Value Market Indicator



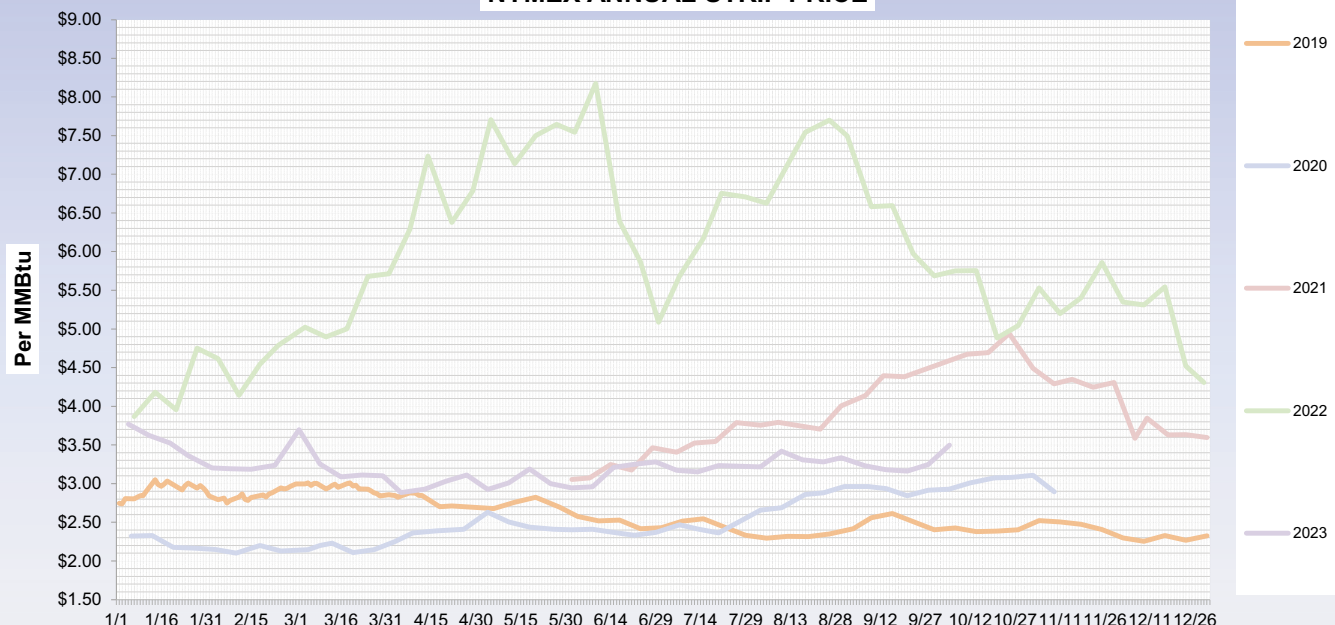
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Natural Gas Basis Future Pricing (\$/MMBtu)			
Location	Pricing Term		
	10/2023	10/2023-9/2024	10/2023-12/2028
Algonquin	-1.1450	2.8600	2.9500
Dominion South #	-1.5200	-0.9300	-1.0500
TETCO M3 *	-1.3800	0.1200	-0.1500
Transco Z6 *	-1.4275	0.3500	0.0100
Transco Leidy *	-1.4100	-0.8100	-1.0100
* 10/2023 - 12/2033			
# 10/2023 - 12/2034			



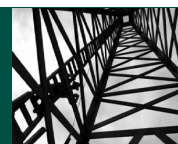
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The information in this report was obtained from reliable sources but is not guaranteed for accuracy.

The views and opinions set forth are solely those of the author(s), and are subject to change without notice.

Spud Report: September



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 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 Operator indicates a conventional well. A double-asterick (**) after the operator indicates Coalbed Methane.

Operator	Wells	Date	API#	County	Municipality																																				
Beech Resources LLC	9/18/23	081-21955	Lycoming	Lycoming Twp																																					
Cameron Energy Co *	2	9/7/23	053-31064	Forest	Howe Twp																																				
		9/26/23	053-31056	Forest	Kingsley Twp																																				
Chesapeake Appalachia	3	9/18/23	015-23853	Bradford	Rome Twp																																				
		9/18/23	015-23855	Bradford	Rome Twp																																				
		9/18/23	015-23854	Bradford	Rome Twp																																				
CNX Gas Co LLC	5	9/29/23	125-29039	Washington	West Finley																																				
		9/29/23	125-29074	Washington	West Finley																																				
		9/29/23	125-29075	Washington	West Finley																																				
		9/29/23	125-29076	Washington	West Finley																																				
		9/29/23	125-29077	Washington	West Finley																																				
Coterra Energy Inc.	7	9/5/23	115-23086	Susquehanna	Jessup Twp																																				
		9/6/23	115-23087	Susquehanna	Jessup Twp																																				
		9/7/23	115-23088	Susquehanna	Jessup Twp																																				
		9/8/23	115-23090	Susquehanna	Jessup Twp																																				
		9/9/23	115-23091	Susquehanna	Jessup Twp																																				
		9/10/23	115-23092	Susquehanna	Jessup Twp																																				
		9/11/23	115-23093	Susquehanna	Jessup Twp																																				
Curtis & Son Oil Inc. *	2	9/12/23	123-48833	Warren	Farmington																																				
		9/13/23	123-48831	Warren	Farmington																																				
EQT Prod Co.	6	9/14/23	059-28329	Greene	Wayne Twp																																				
		9/15/23	059-28330	Greene	Wayne Twp																																				
		9/16/23	059-28327	Greene	Wayne Twp																																				
		9/17/23	059-28261	Greene	Wayne Twp																																				
		9/18/23	059-28328	Greene	Wayne Twp																																				
		9/19/23	059-28331	Greene	Wayne Twp																																				
Iron Pennsylvania Land **	2	9/20/23	059-28272	Greene	Jackson Twp																																				
		9/21/23	059-28271	Greene	Jackson Twp																																				
Jett Oil Inc. *		9/22/23	123-48825	Warren	Pleasant Twp																																				
Mead Oil LLC *	3	9/23/23	123-48817	Warren	Sheffield Twp																																				
		9/24/23	123-48819	Warren	Sheffield Twp																																				
		9/25/23	123-48820	Warren	Cherry Grove																																				
Olympus Energy, LLC	6	9/26/23	003-22633	Allegheny	Elizabeth Twp																																				
		9/27/23	003-22632	Allegheny	Elizabeth Twp																																				
		9/28/23	003-22637	Allegheny	Elizabeth Twp																																				
		9/29/23	003-22636	Allegheny	Elizabeth Twp																																				
		9/30/23	003-22635	Allegheny	Elizabeth Twp																																				
		10/1/23	003-22634	Allegheny	Elizabeth Twp																																				
Pennhills Resources LLC	11	10/2/23	053-31071	Forest	Howe Twp																																				
		10/3/23	053-31027	Forest	Howe Twp																																				
		10/4/23	053-31072	Forest	Howe Twp																																				
		10/5/23	053-31029	Forest	Howe Twp																																				
		10/6/23	053-31049	Forest	Howe Twp																																				
		10/7/23	053-31073	Forest	Howe Twp																																				
		10/8/23	053-31053	Forest	Howe Twp																																				
		10/9/23	053-31074	Forest	Howe Twp																																				
		10/10/23	053-31082	Forest	Howe Twp																																				
		10/11/23	053-31051	Forest	Howe Twp																																				
		10/12/23	053-31054	Forest	Howe Twp																																				
Range Resources	3	10/13/23	125-29080	Washington	Jefferson Twp																																				
		10/14/23	125-29078	Washington	Jefferson Twp																																				
		10/15/23	125-29079	Washington	Jefferson Twp																																				
Respol Oil & Gas USA	5	10/16/23	115-23121	Susquehanna	Middletown																																				
		10/17/23	115-23098	Susquehanna	Middletown																																				
		10/18/23	115-23122	Susquehanna	Middletown																																				
		10/19/23	115-23123	Susquehanna	Middletown																																				
		10/20/23	115-23124	Susquehanna	Middletown																																				
Snyder Bros Inc.		10/21/23	005-31474	Armstrong	Boggs Twp																																				
<table> <tr> <th></th><th>Sept</th><th>August</th><th>July</th><th>June</th><th>May</th></tr> <tr> <td>Total Wells</td><td>58</td><td>55</td><td>46</td><td>68</td><td>40</td></tr> <tr> <td>Unconventional Gas</td><td>37</td><td>37</td><td>26</td><td>45</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr> <td>Conventional Gas</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr> <td>Oil</td><td>8</td><td>11</td><td>13</td><td>17</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr> <td>Combination Oil/Gas</td><td>11</td><td>7</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>							Sept	August	July	June	May	Total Wells	58	55	46	68	40	Unconventional Gas	37	37	26	45	19	Conventional Gas	0	0	0	1	0	Oil	8	11	13	17	14	Combination Oil/Gas	11	7	7	5	0
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Calendar

PIOGA events

Information: www.pioga.org > PIOGA Events

PIOGA's Annual Membership Meeting & Reception

October 18. Bella Sera - Canonsburg, PA.

PIOGATech - Subsurface Technical Training. Pressure Barrier Policies, Gas Migration and Legal Issues.

October 24. Ferrante's Lakeview. Greensburg, PA.

PIOGA Oil & Gas Tax Accounting Seminar (Virtual).

November 7.

PIOGATech - Air Quality Compliance Training

December 6. The Chadwick. Wexford, Pa.

PIOGA Mix, Mingle & Jingle Holiday Party

December 6. The Chadwick. Wexford, Pa.

PIOGA's Spring Meeting 2024

April 18. Rivers Casino. Pittsburgh, Pa.

Other events

IOGCC Annual Conference

October 16-18. Park Cit, Utah (iogcc.ok.gov)

CNRAC's Below and Above: Storing Carbon in the Pennsylvania Landscape Webinar - Part II

October 17. (Virtual) (pioga.org/events/industry-events-training/)

IPAA Annual Meeting

November 6-8. San Antonio, TX (ipaa.org)

The Appalachian STEPS Network 4th Qtr. Meeting

November 16. Range Resources. Canonsburg, Pa. (pioga.org/events/industry-events-training/)

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