

The PIOGA Press

The monthly newsletter of the
Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association
December 2024 • Issue 176



MIX, MINGLE AND JINGLE

PIOGA held its annual Holiday Party December 11th, at the Chadwick in Wexford. PIOGA staff, members, friends and family Mixed, Mingled & Jingled the evening away! It was a jolly, good time. A BIG THANK YOU to all the event Sponsors!



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The PIOGA Team wants to wish you and your family a holiday season filled with love and happiness! 2024 has been great and we can't wait to see what happens in 2025!

Our office will be closed Tuesday December 24th; Wednesday December 25th; Tuesday December 31st; and Wednesday January 1st.



No Drill Zone: New Efforts to Limit Where Drilling Can Occur

Todd Pappasergi, Esq. General Counsel and Vice President of Governmental Affairs

Since the beginning days of the Marcellus Shale drilling era just over twenty years ago, Northern Washington County has been the epicenter of turning Pennsylvania and the United States from net-energy importer to a leader on the path to energy independence. The Renz #1 Well, the first Marcellus Shale well to be drilled, was located in Mt. Pleasant Township. Range Resources, the company responsible for Renz #1 and dozens of other wells in Southwestern Pennsylvania, made neighboring Cecil Township its corporate home, bringing jobs, tax revenue, and financial benefit to the entire area. Now, however, Cecil Township has taken a big bite out of the hand that feeds it; and, the Clean Air Council and other non-governmental organizations have filed a petition with the Pennsylvania Environmental Quality Board to bring similar measures into effect statewide.

Cecil Township Enacts Severe Zoning Restrictions on New Well Development

On November 4, 2024, Cecil Township supervisors, in a 3-0 vote with two abstentions, voted to increase the setbacks for new well developments from 500 feet around protected structures to 2,500 feet. The supervisors went even further, by also approving a 5,000 foot setback from any school or medical facility in the township. While much of Cecil Township is farmland, increasing residential development and three schools exist in the township. Accordingly, with the new ordinance, Cecil Township has essentially banned new drilling development and permits within the township, outside of a few scattered, small pockets. One estimate indicates that approximately 98% of the township will now be excluded from new wells.

The ability for local municipalities to make their own zoning rules, including where unconventional wells can be drilled, can be traced back to the PA Supreme Court's finding in 2013 that portions of the Unconventional Well Impact Fee Act, commonly known as Act 13, were unconstitutional. Specifically, Act 13 attempted to create statewide, uniform standards for where and how drilling could occur. The state's High Court found that unconstitutional on various different grounds; however, minimum requirements such as a 500-foot setback from structures were allowed to remain in place.

Since the Court's decision in 2013, many municipalities

where drilling occurs, especially those in more rural areas such as Cecil and Mount Pleasant Townships, have been able to strike a balance with unconventional producers such as Range Resources. That cooperation seems to have ended. For the past year, meetings of the board of supervisors in Cecil Township have become raucous, hours long affairs. That all culminated in on November 4 when the Cecil Township board enacted the new ordinance.

As the Cecil Township ordinance process was reaching its conclusion, though, State Senators Camera Bartolotta (who represents Cecil Township and its surrounding areas) and Gene Yaw, introduced legislation that would prohibit impact fee monies from being distributed to municipalities like Cecil Township that are openly hostile to the oil and gas industry. In introducing this legislation, the senators correctly noted that impact fees were placed into state law through, coincidentally, Act 13 to monetarily compensate municipalities that hosted or were in close proximity to oil and gas operations. For its part, Range Resources paid over \$22 million in impact fees in 2023, and Cecil Township received close to \$400,000 in impact fees, making up almost 3% of the township's annual budget. The positive impact to the community increases significantly when business taxes, payment for police coverage by producers, and other economic benefits are added.

Environmental NGOs Double Down with a Statewide Effort

As the Cecil Township ordinance was pending, a group of non-governmental organizations calling themselves the Protective Buffers PA Coalition initiated a statewide effort to bring similar "no-drill zones" to the entirety of the Commonwealth. The Coalition is petitioning the Environmental Quality Board to institute similar restrictions to what Cecil Township just enacted, including: 3,281 feet from any building and from any drinking water well; 5,280 feet from any building serving vulnerable populations (e.g., schools, hospitals); and 750 feet from any surface water of the Commonwealth. Like the overly restrictive Cecil Township ordinance, new regulations in line with the Coalition's proposal would ban new well sites in approximately 95% of the Commonwealth.

Continues on page 4

Zoning *Continued from page 3*

The first step in this process is to have the DEP complete an initial review to examine whether the rulemaking process should continue. On November 21, DEP finished that review and is permitting the process to go forward. Importantly, this initial progress achieved by the Coalition is an extremely preliminary step in what could be a process that takes a year or more. PIOGA fully expects our industry to respond and fight these draconian and highly restrictive proposed setbacks; and PIOGA will be at the forefront of those efforts.

To that end, for the very reasons that the PA Supreme Court in 2013 invalidated portions of Act 13, the Protective Buffers PA Coalition will have a steep climb to make these severe restrictions a reality. By trying to have DEP promulgate regulations to restrict where oil and gas development may occur, the Coalition is overtly thumbing their collective nose at the General Assembly, the municipalities that the Coalition claims to want to help, and the statutory law of the Commonwealth.

Will the Results of the 2024 General Election Have Any Impact?

With a second Trump Administration taking office in January, the oil and gas industry is cautiously optimistic that, at least at the federal level, regulations and policy will continue to move the United States even more into the net-positive side of energy exports and independence. At the state level, however, not much changed for Pennsylvanians. Governor Shapiro is only two years into his first term, and his administration continues to direct and control the executive branch agencies. Similarly, control of the General Assembly remained exactly the same, with Democrats holding a one-vote advantage in the House of Representatives (102-101) and Republicans keeping a six-vote majority in the Senate (28-22). Municipal government will not see any changes until after the 2025 municipal elections.

Accordingly, while relief may be on the horizon for the industry on federal matters, we expect legislative efforts to be very slow moving in state government for the next two years. PIOGA will continue to be working hard in Harrisburg, Washington, D.C., and elsewhere to ensure that Pennsylvania's role in the country's energy dominance remains in the months and years to come. ■

Court Blocks Enforcement of the Corporate Transparency Act Nationwide

Babst Calland- Firm Alert.12.5.24. *Christian Farmakis, Kate Cooper, Susanna Bagdasarova and W. Dane Fennell*

On December 3, 2024, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas granted a nationwide preliminary injunction temporarily halting enforcement of the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA). With less than a month to go before the January 1, 2025 compliance deadline for entities formed prior to 2024, this ruling blocks the U.S. Department of Treasury from enforcing the requirements of the Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting Rule (the "Rule") issued by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN).

The Court's opinion in *Texas Top Cop Shop, Inc., et al. v. Garland, et al.* raises significant questions about the constitutionality of the CTA and its potential negative impact on small businesses. The CTA, part of broader anti-money laundering efforts, requires companies to disclose personal information about their "beneficial owners" (individuals who ultimately own or control a company) to a federal database maintained by FinCEN. In his Memorandum Opinion and Order, United States District Judge Amos L. Mazzant concluded that the CTA and Rule are likely unconstitutional as they exceed the scope of Congress's power. The Court held that CTA does not regulate interstate commerce and that it is further not authorized by the Necessary and Proper clause of the Constitution.

The nationwide injunction affects most business entities in the U.S., as the CTA and Rule apply to approximately 32.6 million companies. Per the Court's order, "reporting companies need not comply with the CTA's January 1, 2025, BOI reporting deadline pending further order of the Court."

While businesses are temporarily relieved of compliance obligations, the final resolution of the matter remains uncertain. Although no announcement has been made as of the time of this publication, the U.S. Department of Justice is likely to appeal the preliminary injunction to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Companies should stay informed and be prepared for potential changes to enforcement. ■

Babst Calland will continue to closely monitor developments on this matter. Please reach out to fincenassist@babstcalland.com or your Babst Calland client relationship lawyer if you have any questions.



Supply, Demand and Infrastructure: A Wake-Up Call for U.S. Energy Future

PIOGA's year-end **Reality Check** takes a hard look at the emerging forces that make 2025 critical to the development of U.S. energy policy. Data centers and artificial intelligence technology are consuming huge amounts of increasingly scarce electricity. President-elect Trump's pledge to jump-start additional domestic oil and natural gas production has the potential to glut the market, keeping prices low. Infrastructure bottlenecks, especially in the Appalachian Basin, will not be resolved quickly or easily. A thoughtful and balanced approach to address supply, demand and price factors can put the country on a path to a more secure energy future.

Click [HERE](https://pioga.org/publication_file/PIOGA_Reality_Check_December_2024.pdf) to download/print – **Supply, Demand and Infrastructure - A Wake-Up Call for U.S. Energy Future**
(https://pioga.org/publication_file/PIOGA_Reality_Check_December_2024.pdf)



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.

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!

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2024 PIOGA Events



PIOGA Year Wrap-Up

Dan Weaver, PIOGA President and Executive Director

This year has been a year of changes for PIOGA.

We started the year off settling into a new office space in Warrendale. It took time and effort, but now we could not see ourselves anywhere else. Our biggest change came in August - Kevin Moody retired, ending his decades long career fighting for the oil and gas industry. Before his retirement, Kevin helped to welcome and prepare PIOGA's new general council, Todd Pappasergi. Todd has settled into the new role and is continuing Kevin's fight to preserve the industry.

From the start of 2024, PIOGA knew that membership was going to be a key focus. The Membership Committee put together two Membership Mixers, The Producer's Golf Outing, and the Clarion Member Happy Hour Mixer. The golf outing was held in July in Bradford, we welcomed ten (10) producing companies who had not previously been PIOGA members. In November, we hosted the Happy Hour Mixer at Clarion River Brewing. There were thirty (30) members in attendance who had not traditionally attended PIOGA events.

"What's nice is there aren't a lot of faces here that I recognize, it's nice to meet these members" – **JB from Kriebel Energy.** The highlight of the Clarion Happy Hour Mixer was welcoming and meeting the new Representative for Clarion County, Josh Bashline.

In October of 2024, we saw the reauthorization of PA One Call. While PIOGA did not get exactly what we wanted, we were able to keep the bill tethered to the US Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration standards. This means that conventional gathering lines remain exempt from registering with One Call.

The political gridlock we experienced this year was historic, whether it be from cancelled sessions or tied numbers. PIOGA hopes that 2025 reveals a different outcome, but with House numbers remaining the same, we are not holding our breath.

With 2024 behind us, PIOGA is looking forward to what 2025 will bring and we are excited to tackle it head on in a way that only we can. ■



Don't Forget to Renew your PIOGA Membership for 2025!

For most PIOGA members, now is the time to renew your membership for the coming year. The 2025 dues renewal invoices will be sent via email beginning the week of December 16th and will be directed to the main contact of your company membership.

Your PIOGA membership has always been a great value, worth far more than the amount you pay in dues. For more than a century, PIOGA and our predecessor associations have prided ourselves on our role of bringing together a widely diverse range of companies, individuals and interests to collaborate for the benefit of the entire industry. As stated on our website's homepage, 'Working together, we help members accomplish that which they cannot achieve alone. What you can be sure of is that PIOGA is working harder than ever to advocate for Pennsylvania's oil and gas industry. Understanding the interconnectedness of all facets

of the industry is crucial to the success of our industry. Coming together to work on today's challenges is imperative and effectively communicating to our stakeholders is paramount.

If you would like to know more about how we are working together on behalf of the entire Pennsylvania oil and gas industry, please take a few minutes to review our website. You'll find suggestions about how to increase the value of your membership, such as participating in PIOGA committees and taking advantage of member discounts.

Thank you in advance for continuing to be a PIOGA member in 2025 and beyond.

Questions about your membership? Contact Debbie Oyler, Director of Member Services, at debbie@pioga.org or 724-933-7306 ext.22

Become a 2025 PIOGA Partner



2025 PIOGA PARTNERS SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM



KEYSTONE PARTNER = \$10,000

Company logo will be recognized as an official PIOGA Partner at all PIOGA events, in the monthly PIOGA Press, PIOGA eWeekly and your logo will be added to our rotating slider section of the pioga.org homepage. Plus, (2) tickets to ALL PIOGA Meetings, golf/clay events and PIOTech's. In addition, you will be eligible to submit an article highlighting your company in the PIOGA Press and you will receive a 30% discount on advertising rates in the PIOGA Press and eWeekly for one year. **Over 10,000 monthly impressions**

EXECUTIVE PARTNER = \$ 7,500

Company logo will be recognized as an official PIOGA Partner at PIOGA events, in the monthly PIOGA Press, PIOGA eWeekly and your logo will be added to our rotating slider section of the pioga.org homepage. Plus, (2) tickets to all PIOGA Meetings and PIOTech's. In addition, you will be eligible to submit an article highlighting your company in the PIOGA Press and you will receive a 20% discount on advertising rates in the PIOGA Press and eWeekly for one year. **Up to 8,000 monthly impressions**

MEETINGS PARTNER = \$ 5,000

Company logo will be recognized as an official PIOGA Partner at all PIOGA events, in the monthly PIOGA Press, PIOGA eWeekly and your logo will be added to our rotating banner section of the pioga.org homepage. Plus, (4) tickets to PIOGA Meetings. In addition, you will be eligible to submit an article highlighting your company in the PIOGA Press and receive a 10% discount on advertising rates in the PIOGA Press and eWeekly for one year. **Up to 7,000 monthly impressions.**

SPORTING EVENT PARTNER = \$ 4,000

Company logo will be recognized as an official PIOGA Partner at all PIOGA events, in the monthly PIOGA Press, and the PIOGA eWeekly and your logo will be added to our rotating slider section of pioga.org homepage. You will receive (8) tickets with your Sporting Partnership. Tickets can be split between our golf event and our clay shoot event this year however you wish to use them, but only (8) tickets total between the 2 events. **Up to 6,000 monthly impressions.**

COMMITTEE/PIOTech PARTNER = \$ 3,500

Company logo will be recognized as an official PIOGA Partner at PIOGA committee meetings, in the monthly PIOGA Press, PIOGA eWeekly and all PIOGA initiated committee correspondence. Plus (2) tickets to all PIOTech Seminars. **Up to 6,250 - 7,500 monthly impressions**

INDUSTRY PARTNER = \$ 2,500

Company logo will be recognized as an official PIOGA Partner at PIOGA Meetings, in the monthly PIOGA Press and PIOGA eWeekly. Plus (1) ticket to the PIOGA Spring Meeting. **Over 5,000 monthly impressions.**

We are pleased to announce the 2025 PIOGA Partners Program. The program was launched seven years ago in response to member requests for a "one stop" yearlong event sponsorship option for budgetary purposes.

We also continue to offer traditional event-by event sponsorships.

The various Partner levels and their benefits are shown in the table (left). If you have any questions or are ready to sign on now, contact Debbie Oyler at: debbie@pioga.org or 724-933 7306 ext. 22.

And finally, a big thank-you to the members who were 2024 PIOGA Partners. They can be found on page 15 of this issue. We greatly appreciate your support!



PIOGA's Membership Incentive Program

Purpose: To actively promote membership growth and participation in PIOGA while rewarding active members for their consistent efforts toward these goals.

To learn more about this program:

https://pioga.org/publication_file/2025_Incentive_Program_flyer.pdf

PIOGA's Online Buyers' Guide

Someone from Strategic Value Media may be contacting you soon via email or phone!

Secure your listing or advertisement!

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 2024-2025 edition of PIOGA Buyers' Guide, the premier resource of relevant products and services for oil & gas professionals.

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

The 2024-2025 version of the Buyers' Guide features updated and expanded company and product listings, in addition to other valuable information relating to the oil & gas industry. PIOGA members and other industry professionals now have an easy way to browse for goods and services.

"For the past 10 years, the PIOGA Buyers' Guide has become a great online purchasing resource and is a "one-stop-shop" for our members looking for products and services needed for oil and gas operations," said Dan Weaver, PIOGA's President and Executive Director. "We encourage you to look for the PIOGA logo on the listings and use the products and services of our PIOGA members. They support us and we should support them!"

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.

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

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

PIOGA Profits too!

A portion of the proceeds from the Buyers' Guide comes back to PIOGA to help sustain our association. An investment in the Buyers' Guide is not only an investment for your company, but an investment in PIOGA too. **We thank you!**

To learn more, please email pioga-advertise@svmmedia.com.



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Lawmakers make new bid to end PA ties to RGGI

Two regional lawmakers are asking for support from their colleagues for legislation that would eliminate the regulation tying Pennsylvania to the Northeast Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

“Our legislation will eliminate the RGGI regulation and prevent future similar proposals from proceeding without legislative approval, which will protect Pennsylvania energy consumers and save the Commonwealth significant funds in ongoing litigation fees,” according to the memorandum being circulated for the 2025-26 legislative term by Reps. Jim Struzzi, R-Indiana, and Dallas Kephart, R-Clearfield County. “When Gov. (Tom) Wolf chose to proceed with promulgating his regulation forcing Pennsylvania to join (RGGI),” Struzzi and Kephart wrote, “his action put at risk thousands of family-sustaining jobs in our Commonwealth which may be lost due to the closure of coal-fired electric generating units and natural gas plants.”

They said Wolf’s action “also risked serious economic repercussions to our state, in the form of a potential loss of millions of dollars in local and state tax revenue. We have already seen the start of this come to pass as some coal-fired plants have closed in our state, costing our communities dearly.”

Likely included in their estimation is the Homer City Generation LLC plant, now being reorganized, possibly as a gas-fired power plant, by Homer City Redevelopment LLC.

Struzzi and Kephart insist that Pennsylvania “participation in RGGI risks increasing electric bills on our constituents who are already feeling the impact of high prices.” ■

Link to full article: https://www.indianagazette.com/news/lawmakers-make-new-bid-to-end-pa-ties-to-rggi/article_065978e4-b722-11ef-9909-4fc43f74a218.html

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 and scrolling to the list of member benefits.

Hillebrand Announced as the New IPAA Chairman

PIOGA’s Board of Directors Chairman, Michel Hillebrand, has been elected IPAA Chairman - effective January 1, 2025.

The Independent Petroleum Association of America announced the new appointments to their Board of Directors in November. *Below is a press release from IPAA on the announcement.*

WASHINGTON — Last week, the Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA) – advocating for thousands of oil and natural gas producers that develop 90 percent of wells nationwide – held its fall Board of Directors meeting as part of its 95th Annual Meeting and announced the following board appointments.

Current IPAA Regional Director for Pennsylvania, Michael Hillebrand was announced as the new IPAA Chairman effective January 1, 2025. Hillebrand is President and CEO of Huntley & Huntley, LLC; Founder, Principal, and BOM of Olympus Energy, and current Chairman of the Pennsylvania Independent Oil and Gas Association (PIOGA).

Justin Cope, President & CEO of Flywheel Energy, LLC will remain in his role as Vice Chairman of IPAA.

Jonny Heins, Senior Director of Corporate Affairs, Permian Resources was named an At-Large Director.

Cye Cooper Wagner, Executive Vice President of Exploration, Cooper Oil & Gas, Inc. was named an At-Large Director.

Matthew White, Vice President of Accounting and Commercial, Burk Royalty Co., Ltd. was named Regional Director – North Texas.

Kate Farr, Senior Director of Government Affairs, Occidental Petroleum was named Chair of the IPAA Land & Royalty Committee.

Andrew Vecera, Director of Advocacy Services, Ryan LLC was named Chair of the IPAA Tax Committee.

View all IPAA board members here.

Jeff Eshelman, IPAA President and CEO: “The organizations these industry leaders are a part of show the breadth of our industry and IPAA, from small to large independent producers with operations in basins across the country providing energy to Americans. The IPAA team is grateful to have these men and women contribute their expertise and talent to our association.” ■

<https://www.ipaa.org/independent-petroleum-association-of-america-announces-new-appointments-to-board-of-directors/>

DEP Sees 'Very Significant Budget Gap' In Funding Oil & Gas Regulation Program Due To Reduced Permit Fee Revenue

On December 5, DEP told the Oil and Gas Technical Advisory Board there is a "very significant budget gap" in the funding needed for the Oil and Gas Regulatory Program again this year and that how to fund the program will be a serious topic of discussion in 2025.

DEP pointed out, as of November 22, DEP received 469 shale gas permit applications in the first 47 weeks of 2024.

In August of 2020 when the last permit fee increase was put in place, DEP estimated it would need the revenue from 2,000 unconventional shale gas permits a year to adequately support the regulatory program for both conventional and unconventional oil and gas drilling.

DEP is potentially looking at permit application fees covering only 25% of what's needed to fund the program for a year.

"You don't have to do very hard arithmetic to be able to figure out that that leaves us with a very significant budget gap," said Kurt Klappowski, DEP Deputy Secretary for Oil and Gas Management. "I would say that we're pretty close to the bone in terms of staffing and other things that we've been able to cut."

Klappowski noted conventional oil and gas well owners contribute very little to support the program.

The conventional oil and gas industry permit application fees rarely generate more than \$46,000 a year to support a program that costs taxpayers \$10.6 million to ensure conventional well compliance with state environmental laws and regulations.

He said DEP is getting fewer shale gas permits because the price of natural gas is low; well drillers are getting better at submitting permits only for the wells they plan to drill - no extra ones; and horizontal well bore lengths are increasing so fewer wells have to be drilled to drain gas from a larger area.

[Note: DEP's Oil and Gas Program regulates 88,516 active conventional oil and gas wells, but a total of 191,442 permits are held by owners, along with some of the related gas infrastructure.

[There are 13,316 active shale gas wells, but a total of

23,954 permits are held by well owners, along with some of the related gas infrastructure regulated by DEP.]

"The way that that got resolved last year was that there was a general fund appropriation of \$11 million to the oil and gas program," said Klappowski.

"One of the things that we need to try to figure out, and we're starting to have these conversations internally around the budget, is what is the long-term solution here?" said Klappowski. "What is the responsible funding mechanism that allows us to get to a point where we're not chasing these rulemakings [to raise permit fees]?"

"The principle that I've had through my career at the agency has been that the regulated industry should pay for that oversight if at all possible," said Klappowski. "I'm not sure general fund appropriations are really the best way to go, but that's kind of where we are at this point in time" ■

Visit the DEP Oil and Gas Technical Advisory Board webpage for more information on this meeting. Questions should be directed to: Todd Wallace at twallace@pa.gov or by telephone at 717-783-6395.

Link to article:

<https://paenvironmentdaily.blogspot.com/2024/12/dep-sees-very-significant-budget-gap-in.html>

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 and click on Careers.



Supreme Court: Rule's Implementation Can Proceed During Lawsuit

The U.S. Supreme Court has denied a petition filed by numerous producing-state attorneys general and oil and gas representatives to halt implementation of the federal methane rule until the regulation is upheld or struck down in court.

The Texas Alliance of Energy Producers, which is among the plaintiffs that sought a stay, indicates that the court's decision not to freeze the rule - which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency finalized in March - during litigation forces the regulated community to bear the costs of compliance regardless of the legal outcome. According to the association, denying a stay clashes with the high court's move to pull back on the executive branch's regulatory discretion when it overturned *Chevron v. Natural Resources Defense Council* this summer.

"No reason was given for the denial, but suffice it to say this represents a significant disappointment that the elimination of the Chevron deference as legal precedent for rulemaking did not result in halting of the implementation of this rule while the legal challenges are ongoing," the Alliance states. "If and when the rule should be set aside by any court, most of the damage will have been done at that point."

Nevertheless, the group assures the litigation will continue, as will a petition for reconsideration that calls on EPA to modify or repeal aspects of the rule. "Both actions will continue regardless of the outcome of the presidential election," the group adds. "Efforts to repeal or modify the rules will be a slow and arduous one - which, since they are codified in federal regulation (a legal threshold one step before law) - thus requiring a series of legally mandated steps to set them aside that will likely take months, assuming opponents don't sure to force a supportive administration to keep them in place, which could add more time."¹

U.S. Supreme Court will hear Uinta oil train case that could limit bedrock environmental law (December 10, 2024)

A controversial railway expansion that would start in Utah and send waxy crude oil through Colorado is taking a detour in Washington, D.C.

The Supreme Court of the United States will hear oral arguments in the Uinta oil train dispute, which centers around a plan to add 88 miles of new rail line to connect crude oil deposits in eastern Utah to existing rail freight lines that can carry the oil to refineries.

But the case is not just about the permits necessary to lay down new tracks. The high court's decision could fundamentally alter a bedrock environmental law known as the National Environmental Policy Act, which authorizes agencies to carry out environmental reviews on projects that have some "major federal action," according to the law.

At the center of the case is an argument over whether federal agencies must evaluate a project's environmental effects that are outside of their authority to regulate. A ruling that limits the scope of environmental reviews could speed up federal permits for a wide range of projects, ranging from mines to solar farms.¹

¹ CPR News. 12.10.24. Ishan Thakore.

<https://www.cpr.org/2024/12/10/today-scotus-to-hear-uinta-oil-train-case/>

Attention PIOGA

Members! We would like to offer our members the opportunity to introduce

yourself/your company to other members via our monthly newsletter, **The PIOGA Press**. The PIOGA Profile section of the newsletter gives members a chance to share information about their company and the products and services they offer to others in Pennsylvania's oil and natural gas industry. We encourage you to take advantage of this free member service!

Interested in submitting a PIOGA Profile or any other article/news release for **The PIOGA Press**? Contact Meghan Keely – meghan@pioga.org.



¹ The American Oil and Gas Reporter - November 2024



PIOGA's Membership Mixer

On November 13, PIOGA held a Membership Drive Happy Hour at Clarion River Brewing Company. The happy hour was a great opportunity for existing PIOGA members and prospective new members to socialize and discover ways to get further involved in this great organization!

Thanks to event sponsors - Moody and Associates, Inc. and American Refining Group, Inc.



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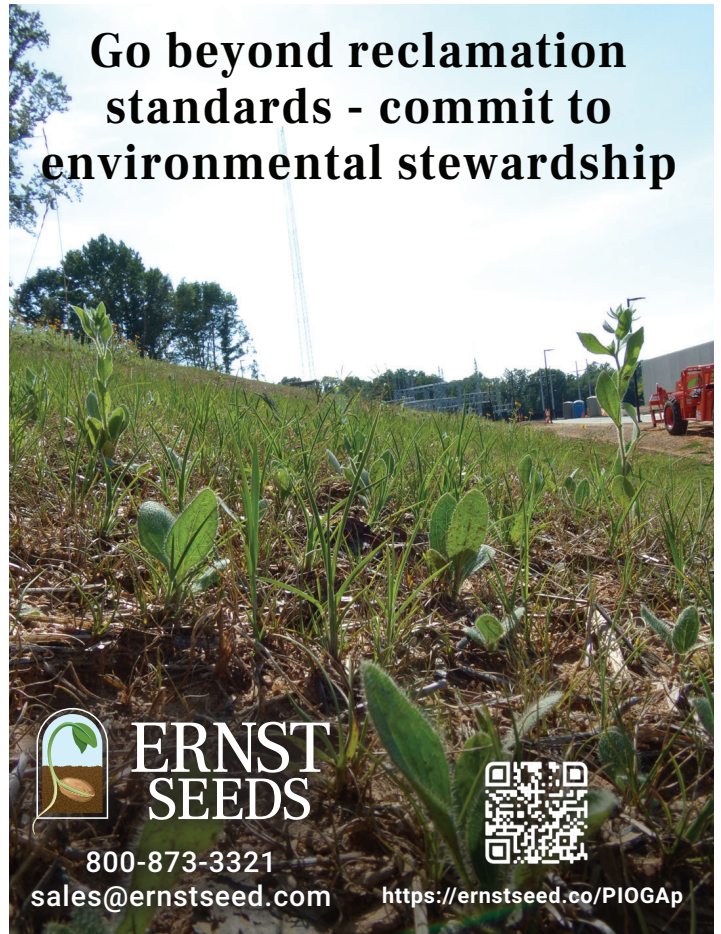


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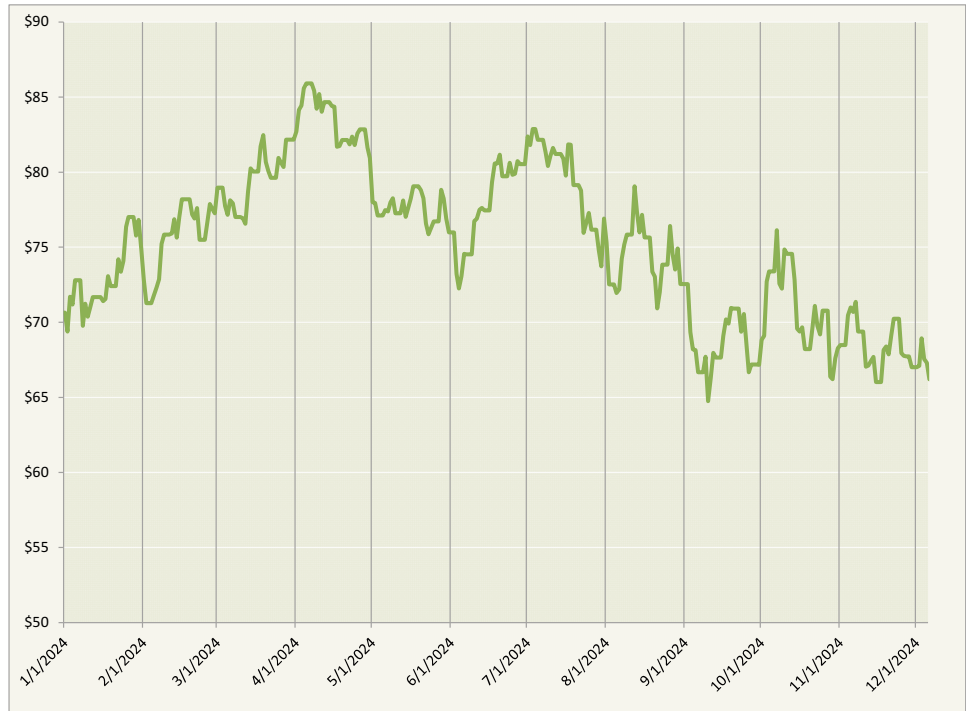


Oil & Gas Dashboard

Sources

American Refining Group:
www.amref.com/Crude-Prices-New.aspx
 Ergon Oil Purchasing: www.ergon.com/crudeoil
 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: IGS Energy, Inc.

Penn Grade Crude Oil Prices

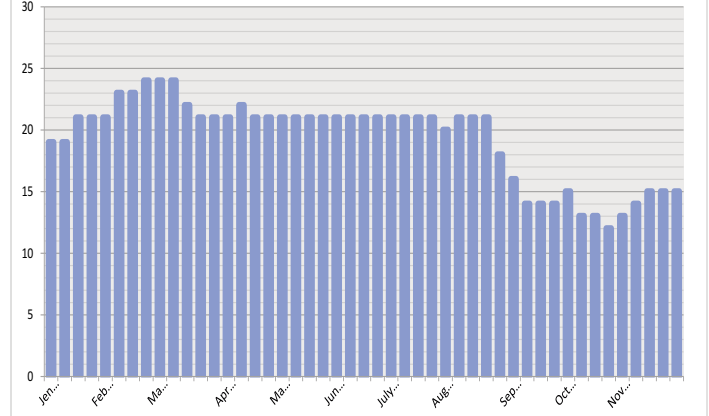


Natural Gas Futures Closing Prices

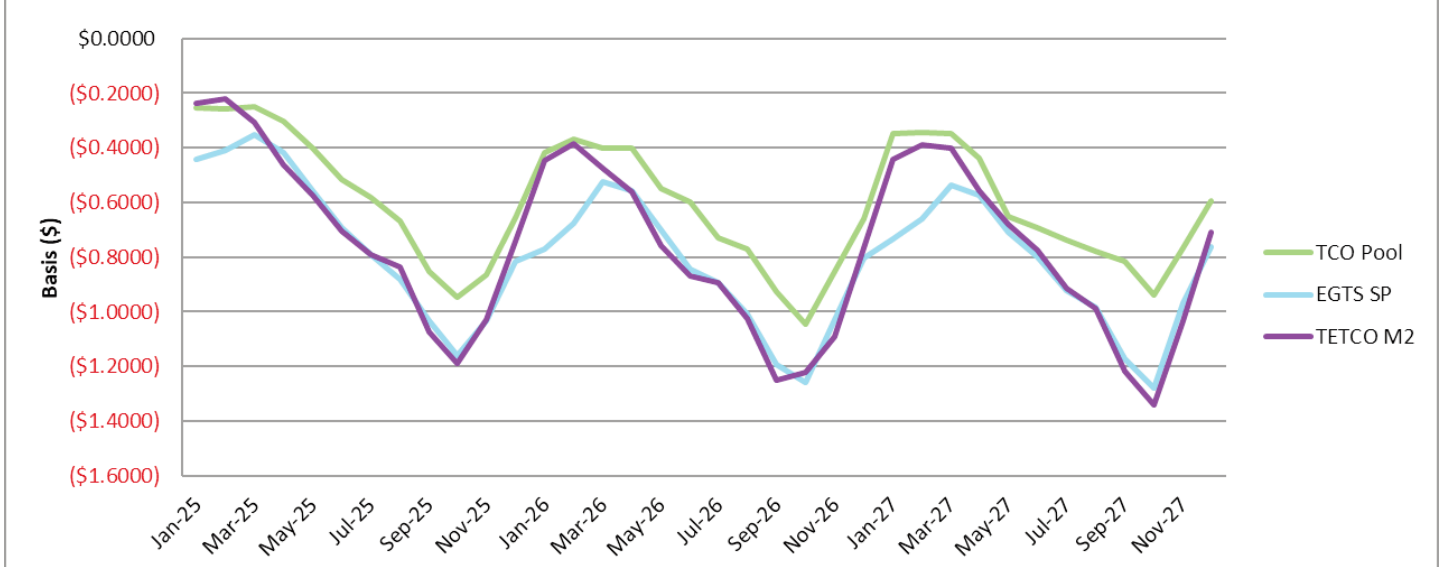
January 2025	3.378
February	3.158
March	2.785
April	2.808
May	2.909
June	3.097
July	3.289
August	3.344
September	3.335
October	3.407

Prices as of Dec. 12, 2024

Pennsylvania Rig Count



Basis Futures Values



Northeast Pricing Report — December 2024

The natural gas market has seen significant fluctuations recently. As of late November 2024, the Henry Hub spot price for natural gas in the United States has risen to approximately \$3.30 per MMBtu. This increase is driven by colder weather forecasts and lower production levels, which have prompted utilities to expedite the start of the storage withdrawal season. Additionally, supply concerns in Europe, particularly due to uncertainties surrounding Russian gas supplies, have increased demand for liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports from the U.S., further lifting prices. Despite these upward pressures, the market remains cautious, with traders closely monitoring weather patterns and inventory levels to gauge future price movements. In the Northeast winter has definitely impacted prices across the board. Algonquin had the greatest increase of \$5.10 per MMBtu.

Transportation routes all increased from November. Dominion South and Transco Leidy to Algonquin increased by \$4.89 and \$4.78 per MMBtu. Transco Leidy to TETCO Z6 increased \$1.09 per MMBtu. All the other transportation routes increased slightly.

Transportation Value Market Indicator

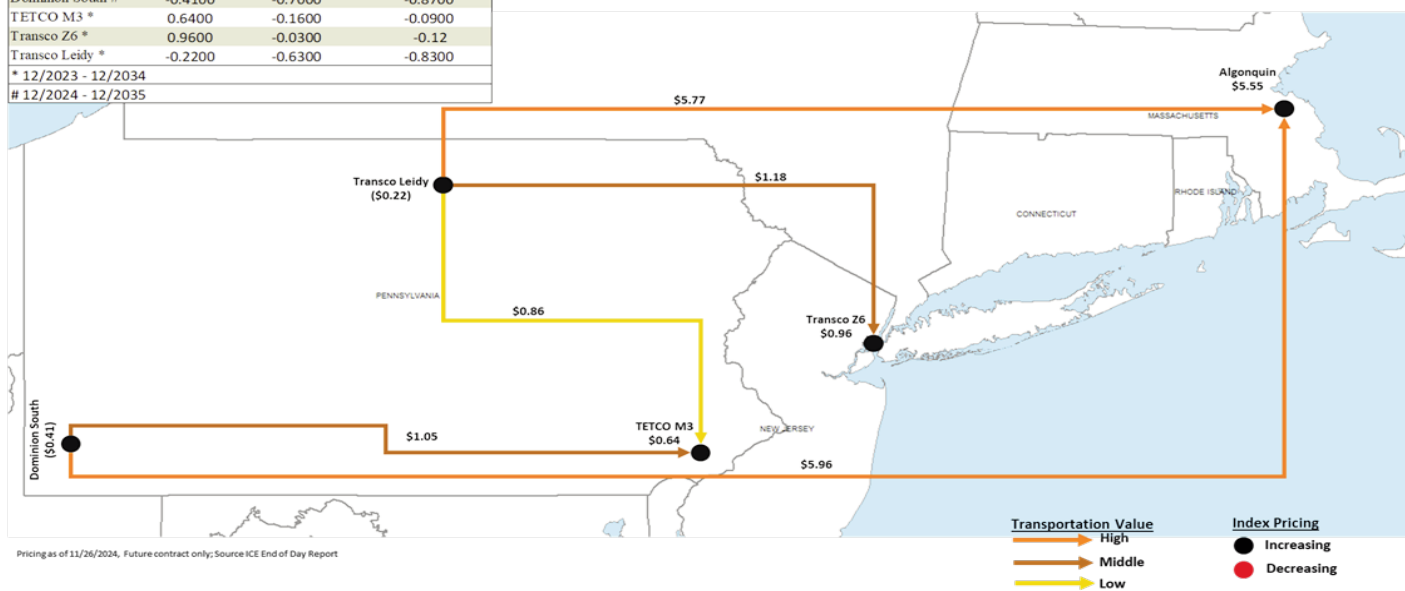


Provided by Bertison-George, LLC

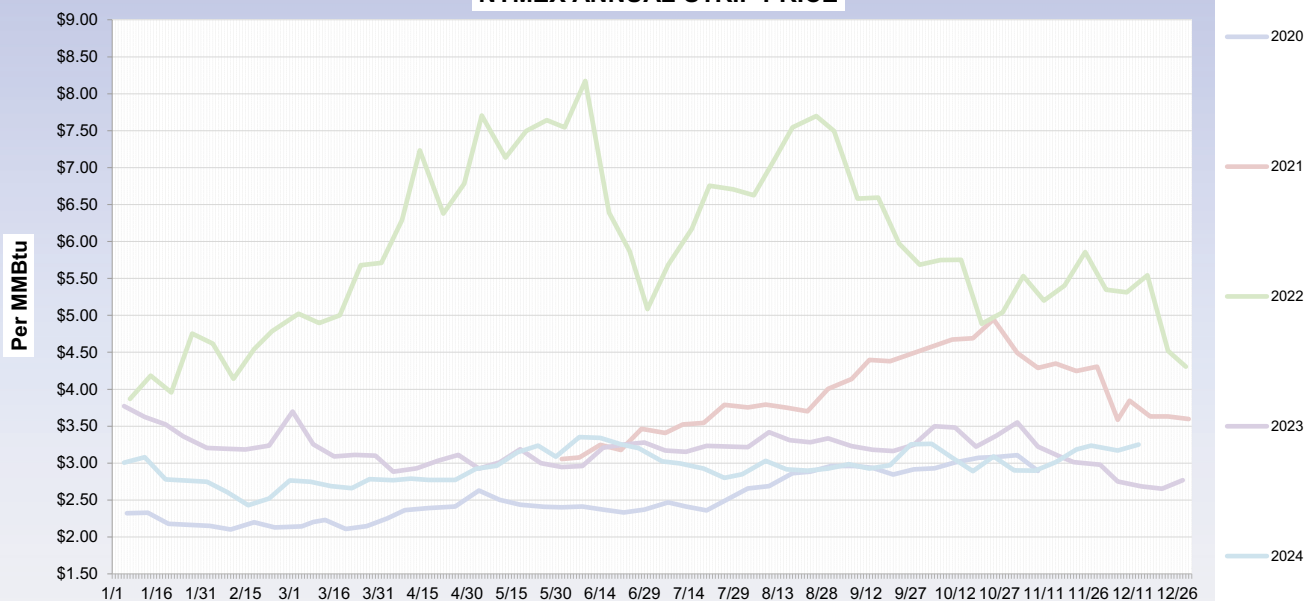
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Natural Gas Basis Future Pricing (\$/MMBtu)			
Location	Pricing Term		
	12/2024	12/2024-11/2025	12/2024-12/2029
Algonquin	5.5500	2.0300	1.9700
Dominion South #	-0.4100	-0.7000	-0.8700
TETCO M3 *	0.6400	-0.1600	-0.0900
Transco Z6 *	0.9600	-0.0300	-0.12
Transco Leidy *	-0.2200	-0.6300	-0.8300

* 12/2023 - 12/2034
12/2024 - 12/2035



NYMEX ANNUAL STRIP PRICE



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: November



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.

Operator	Wells	Date	API#	County	Municipality	Operator	Wells	Date	API#	County	Municipality
Bearcat Oil Co *	3	11/4/24	123-48882	Warren	Mead Twp	Rice Drilling	4	11/5/24	059-28405	Greene	Franklin Twp
		11/13/24	123-48881	Warren	Mead Twp			11/5/24	059-28406	Greene	Franklin Twp
		11/22/24	123-48880	Warren	Mead Twp			11/5/24	059-28407	Greene	Franklin Twp
Cameron Energy *	2	11/19/24	123-48922	Warren	Sheffield Twp	Russ Holden Well *		11/5/24	059-28408	Greene	Franklin Twp
		11/27/24	123-48921	Warren	Sheffield Twp			11/20/24	123-48918	Warren	Watson Twp
Laurel Mountain Prod.		11/5/24	019-22969	Butler	Parker Twp	Seneca Resources		11/26/24	117-22258	Tioga	Delmar Twp
Penn Energy	2	11/4/24	007-20665	Beaver	Economy						
		11/4/24	007-20666	Beaver	Economy						
Pennhills Resources		11/8/24	083-57723	McKean	Sergeant						
Range Resources	6	11/7/24	125-29164	Washington	Donegal Twp						
		11/7/24	125-29165	Washington	Donegal Twp						
		11/7/24	125-29166	Washington	Donegal Twp						
		11/7/24	125-29161	Washington	Donegal Twp						
		11/7/24	125-29162	Washington	Donegal Twp						
		11/7/24	125-29163	Washington	Donegal Twp						

	Nov	Oct	Sept	August	July
Total Wells	21	61	30	48	39
Unconventional Gas	14	41	13	29	21
Conventional Gas	0	1	1	0	0
Oil	6	17	15	17	15
Combination Oil/Gas	1	1	1	2	3

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Jeff Wilson
227 Jefferson Ave. Tyrone, Pa. 16686
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Calendar

PIOGA events

Information: www.pioga.org > **PIOGA Events**

PIOGA's 2025 Event Calendar Coming Out Soon!
Check out the January Newsletter for the 2025 Calendar

Other events

2025 NAPE Summit

February 5

(<https://pioga.org/event/2025-nape-summit/>)

6th American LNG Forum

February 10-11

(<https://pioga.org/event/6th-american-lng-forum/>)

GO-WV Winter Meeting

February 19-20

(<https://pioga.org/event/go-wv-winter-meeting/>)

NISTM's 27th Annual International Aboveground Storage Tank Conference

April 23 -25

(<https://pioga.org/event/nistms-27th-annual-international-aboveground-storage-tank-conference-trade-show/>)

Full Calendar - PIOGA Event & Meeting Schedule -
<https://pioga.org/event/pioga-event-and-meeting-schedule-2024/>

PIOGA's 2025 Calendar will be coming out soon!

PIOGA Members and Industry Partners - Please email meghan@pioga.org to advertise upcoming events.



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