

# The PIOGA Press

The monthly newsletter of the  
Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association  
January 2026 • Issue 189

## TOP NEWS

- PIOGA Holiday Recap
- Industry Updates
- 2026 PIOGA Membership Notices
- ..... and much more!

## Wrapping Up the Year with Holiday Cheer

On Wednesday, December 17, PIOGA wrapped up a full day of activity with one of the season's most anticipated events—the PIOGA Holiday Jingle Ball. After a busy day that also included an Air Quality PIOGATech and the PIOGA Board of Directors Meeting, all held at the same location, members and guests gathered in the evening to celebrate the holidays together.

The Holiday Jingle Ball was filled with festive décor, great conversation, and plenty of holiday spirit. It was a welcome opportunity for members to relax, reconnect, and enjoy time together in a fun, informal setting—highlighting the strong sense of community that defines PIOGA.

The evening also offered attendees the chance to give back through the Baskets of Cheer Raffle, adding a meaningful touch to the celebration and reinforcing PIOGA's commitment to supporting worthy causes during the holiday season.

PIOGA extends a heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the Jingle Ball such a success. We are also incredibly grateful to our event sponsors, whose generous support made the day's events and the evening celebration possible.

With laughter, connections, and holiday cheer filling the room, the PIOGA Holiday Jingle Ball was the perfect way to close out a busy and productive day—and a joyful way to celebrate the season with our members.



Continued on page 3



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## Did You Know? Oil & Gas Edition

1) *Accidental Origins:* The first oil strike in the U.S. came from a salt well in Venango County before Drake's Titusville well in 1859.

2) *Boomtown Pithole:* Pithole, PA, grew to 20,000 residents in just two years and had over 50 hotels, yet nearly disappeared by 1866.

3) *Largest Historic Oilfield:* The Venango oilfield produced more than 23 million barrels by 1871, supplying the majority of U.S. oil at the time.

4) *Oil Tank Innovation:* Early PA operators stored crude in wooden tanks lined with coal tar, a method prone to leaks but innovative for the 1860s.

5) *Oil's Global Impact:* PA oil was exported internationally in the 1860s, reaching Europe and the Caribbean, fueling lamps before kerosene became standard worldwide.

6) *The "Oil King" of PA:* John D. Rockefeller's first major oil acquisition was in Pennsylvania, buying several small producers in the 1860s to secure pipelines and rail access—before Standard Oil dominated nationally.

7) *Oldest Producing Well:* A well drilled in Clarion County in 1880 was reportedly still producing minor quantities of oil as late as 2010—a production lifespan of 130 years.

8) *PA Oil in Space:* The kerosene refined from PA crude in the late 1800s was later used in early rocket fuels for experiments in the 1920s and 30s.

9) *Drilling Speed Record:* Cable-tool rigs in PA in the 1870s could drill up to 40 feet per day, an impressive feat considering they were powered by horses and steam engines.

10) *Early Fracturing Innovation:* Hydraulic fracturing was patented in Pennsylvania in 1949, using gelled gasoline decades before modern shale development.

## Spreading Holiday Cheer Through Toys for Tots

The holiday spirit was in full swing this season at PIOGA! Thanks to the generosity of our members and staff, we proudly collected toys for Toys for Tots, bringing smiles and joy to children and families across Pennsylvania.

**A Big Thank You to Everyone Who Donated!** From small toys to larger gifts, every donation made a difference. Your support helped ensure that countless children experienced the magic of the holidays—a true reflection of the caring spirit in our industry.

**Making a Real Impact:** The contributions collected didn't just fill boxes—they created smiles, laughter, and lasting memories. For many families, these gifts provided a reminder that their communities care, and that the season can truly be special for everyone.

**PIOGA Staff and Members Shine:** We couldn't have done it without our amazing PIOGA team and dedicated members. Your generosity, time, and enthusiasm helped make this year's campaign a tremendous success.

"Seeing our community come together to support Toys for Tots is inspiring," said PIOGA President and Executive Director Dan Weaver. "It's a reminder that our industry is about more than energy—it's about people, families, and communities."



## Holiday Giving Shines at PIOGA's Jingle Ball

This holiday season, PIOGA members and guests came together to celebrate and give back at our annual Jingle Ball! One of the evening's highlights was the Baskets of Cheer Raffle, where attendees had the chance to win festive baskets filled with fun gifts and donated items—adding extra excitement to the celebration.

Thanks to everyone's generosity, the raffle raised approximately \$2,000 for VetPets of Southwestern Pennsylvania, a Washington County-based nonprofit dedicated to helping veterans heal. VetPets pairs rescued dogs with veterans as service, therapy, and emotional support animals, offering comfort, companionship, and a new lease on life. Founded by combat veteran Omar Brooks and his wife, the organization was inspired by Brooks' own journey navigating life after service.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who donated baskets, purchased raffle tickets, and helped make the event such a success. Your support not only brought joy to our Jingle Ball but also made a real difference for veterans and the heroes they serve.





## Pennsylvania Supreme Court Drives the Final Nail into RGGI

On January 6, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania officially brought an end to any remaining efforts to impose the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) on the Commonwealth. With a series of decisive orders, the Court dismissed all pending appeals that sought to keep RGGI alive, closing the door on a policy that posed serious risks to Pennsylvania's energy affordability, reliability, and economic competitiveness.

Although the 2025–26 Pennsylvania budget included provisions terminating regulations that committed the Commonwealth to RGGI, the issue was far from settled. Appeals filed by the Department of Environmental Protection and several environmental nonprofit organizations prolonged the legal fight, keeping RGGI on life support despite clear legislative intent. The Supreme Court's January 6 rulings put an unequivocal end to those efforts, concluding years of litigation and regulatory uncertainty.

Throughout this process, PIOGA remained a steadfast advocate for Pennsylvania's energy producers, workers, and consumers. Through General Counsel Todd Pappasergi, PIOGA filed a strong amicus curiae brief with the Supreme Court, highlighting the fundamental failures of the former Wolf Administration's approach to RGGI. Chief among them was the failure to adequately consider the real-world consequences RGGI would have imposed—namely higher energy costs, reduced reliability, and significant threats to jobs and private investment across the Commonwealth.

PIOGA's brief emphasized a critical reality: energy policy cannot be developed in isolation from its economic and societal impacts. For families, small businesses, manufacturers, and rural communities, energy affordability and availability are not theoretical concerns—they are essential to daily life and long-term economic stability.

In response to the Court's decision, PIOGA President and Executive Director Dan Weaver praised the ruling, stating: "PIOGA continues to fight for energy affordability for all Pennsylvanians. With RGGI now completely gone, Pennsylvania can once again put the 'open for business' sign up so that our energy infrastructure and production can remain world class."

The January 6 decision represents a major victory for Pennsylvania's energy industry and for consumers who

depend on reliable, affordable power. It reinforces the principle that sweeping energy policies must align with both the law and the practical needs of the Commonwealth's citizens and employers.

While this chapter has closed, significant challenges remain. Federal regulatory threats—such as Subpart OOOOc and its expansive methane emissions requirements—continue to loom large, posing serious risks to Pennsylvania's conventional oil and natural gas operators. These policies threaten to burden the very producers that have long supported energy security, local economies, and family-sustaining jobs.

The Court's decision also sends an important signal to policymakers, regulators, and investors alike. By affirming that major energy policy shifts must follow proper statutory authority and legislative oversight, the ruling restores a measure of predictability to Pennsylvania's regulatory environment. That certainty is critical for long-term planning, capital investment, and infrastructure development—particularly in an energy-producing state where decisions made today can have impacts that last decades.

Still, on January 6, Pennsylvania's energy industry secured a hard-fought and meaningful win. With RGGI fully behind us, the Commonwealth remains positioned as a leader in energy production for the Northeast and beyond, while PIOGA continues to advocate for practical, balanced energy policies that protect both consumers and producers alike. ■

### Recruit a New Member

**Refer a new member to PIOGA and earn a 10% credit on their dues!**

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# Appalachian STEPS Network

## 1st Quarter 2026 In-Person Meeting

PIOGA is partnering with GO-WV and OOGA to host the Appalachian STEPS Network 1st Quarter 2026 Meeting, an in-person event focused on Hidden Industry Hazards. This meeting will bring together health, safety, and environmental (HSE) professionals from across the Appalachian Basin for a valuable day of education, collaboration, and networking.

**Date:** Thursday, February 12

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Location:** Range Resources | Canonsburg, PA

Registration is required and must be completed by February 5.

**Meeting Topics:** Attendees will hear from industry professionals on key safety and operational topics, including: *Air Monitoring; Energy Isolation; Industrial Hygiene; and Pipeline Hazards.*

**New for 2026: Continuing Education Opportunities:** This year's meeting will offer continuing education credits for attendees:

- 3 Professional Development Hours (PDHs) per class
- 0.3 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) per class

**About the Appalachian STEPS Network:** The Appalachian STEPS Network is a chapter of the National STEPS Network and represents more than 900 HSE professionals across Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. The organization is dedicated to improving health, safety, and environmental performance throughout the Appalachian Basin while promoting open communication, collaboration, and trust within the industry.


**Host Facility:** Range Resources Corporation in Canonsburg, Pa. PIOGA thanks Range Resources for hosting this event.

**Sponsorship Opportunities:** The meeting is free to attend, and sponsorships help offset event costs. Opportunities include:

- **Gold Sponsor** – \$2,000: Logo recognition, a two-minute speaking opportunity during a break or lunch, and enhanced recognition on signage and during breaks
- **Silver Sponsor** – \$1,000: Logo recognition with special recognition during breaks, lunch, and on all signage
- **Bronze Sponsor** – \$500: Logo recognition on all signage
- **Exhibitor** – \$500: Limited to five exhibitors; includes logo recognition, one 6' table, and chair


For questions, contact [appalachiansteps@outlook.com](mailto:appalachiansteps@outlook.com) or reach out to Deana McMahan at [deana@pioga.org](mailto:deana@pioga.org).





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## PIOGATech - Air Quality



**Final 2025 PIOGATech Focuses on Air Quality Compliance** - On December 17th, PIOGA's Environmental Committee wrapped up the 2025 PIOGATech series with a full-day training on Air Quality Compliance. This marked the 11th technical session dedicated to helping the oil and gas industry navigate ever-changing air quality regulations—a topic that remains a major focus at both the federal and state levels.

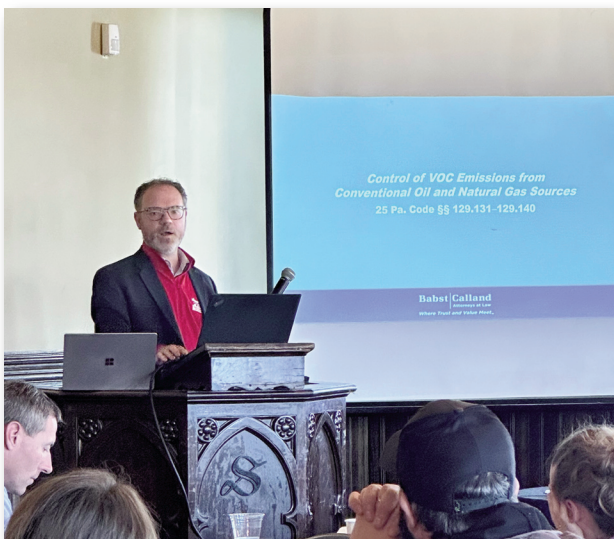
This year, the training moved to a new venue: the Windsor Room at Shakespeare's Restaurant and Pub in Olde Stonewall Golf Course. The session sold out, filling every seat with industry professionals eager to stay informed on critical air quality topics.

Attendees received a comprehensive overview of the air quality regulations affecting the oil and gas sector. Topics included air permitting, methane slip monitoring, Subpart W, methane regulations, and the impact of compressor mechanical integrity on emissions. Participants also heard from experts on the Appalachian Methane Initiative, and our final session on existing source rule implementations was delivered by Todd Pappasergi of PIOGA, filling in for Christna Puhnaty (Babst Calland) who was unable to attend. Laura King of SLR International Corp gave a sneak peek at the next PIOGATech session, which will focus on Data Centers for the Natural Gas Industry.

No PIOGATech would be complete without hands-on demonstrations. Attendees had the opportunity to see methane monitoring in action with CleanAir Engineering and a compressor rod packing emission quantification demo from Mark Sommer of Sommer Energy Technologies.

***PIOGA extends a sincere thank-you to our partners, speakers, and planning committee for putting together such a relevant and informative program. Special recognition goes to: Babst Calland, Civil and Environmental Consultants, Inc., CleanAir Engineering, SLR Consulting, Sommer Energy Technologies and Spilman, Thomas & Battle.***

Your expertise and dedication helped make this year's final PIOGATech a resounding success, providing our members with the tools and knowledge they need to stay compliant in an evolving regulatory landscape.





## Advertise with PIOGA

### Looking Ahead in 2026: Advertise Where the Industry Is



As we look ahead to 2026, PIOGA continues to be the trusted voice and central hub for Pennsylvania's oil and natural gas industry. Advertising with PIOGA offers a unique opportunity to place your company directly

in front of an engaged audience of operators, service providers, suppliers, and industry decision-makers across Pennsylvania and the Appalachian Basin.

PIOGA's advertising platforms are designed to deliver meaningful visibility where it matters most—through our digital communications, publications, events, and member-focused outreach. Whether your goal is to build brand awareness, promote specific services, or strengthen relationships within the industry, PIOGA offers flexible advertising options that can be tailored to meet your business objectives and budget.

From year-round advertising packages to targeted, campaign-based opportunities, PIOGA works closely with advertisers to create customized solutions that maximize exposure and impact. Our members value trusted industry partners, making PIOGA advertising an effective way to connect with the people who keep the industry moving forward.

If you're interested in advertising with PIOGA in 2026, now is the time to start the conversation. To explore available opportunities and build an advertising plan that works for your business, please contact Meghan Keely at [meghan@pioga.org](mailto:meghan@pioga.org).

**Advertise where the industry is—advertise with PIOGA.**



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**P**IOGA's Environmental Committee is currently seeking a dedicated member to serve as the Sub-Committee Leader for Water & Waste. This is a great opportunity to get more involved and help guide important environmental initiatives within the organization.



If you are interested or would like to learn more, please contact **Deana McMahan** at [deana@pioga.org](mailto:deana@pioga.org).



## 2025 - A Year in Photos





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## Historical Figure in Oil & Gas

### Samuel M. Kier

#### *Forgotten father of the American petroleum industry*

Samuel M. Kier (1813–1874) is often called the “*forgotten father of the American petroleum industry*,” yet his pioneering work helped spark the very industry that powers America today. A pharmacist and inventor based in Pittsburgh, Kier was also a salt well owner in western Pennsylvania during the mid-1800s. When oil began seeping into and contaminating his salt wells, most producers dismissed it as a costly nuisance—but Kier recognized its potential and began experimenting. Drawing on his pharmaceutical background, Kier was among the first Americans to refine crude oil into a usable consumer product. Years before Edwin Drake drilled his famous 1859 oil well in Titusville, Kier was distilling petroleum into lamp fuel, which he marketed as “Carbon Oil.” At a time when whale oil dominated the lighting market, Kier’s refined petroleum offered a promising, more affordable alternative. In the early 1850s, he constructed one of the nation’s first commercial oil refineries in downtown Pittsburgh, proving that

crude oil could be refined, packaged, and sold at scale. Kier’s work demonstrated that petroleum had practical, commercial value beyond curiosity or waste. His refining methods helped establish the concept of oil as an energy source and consumer product—an idea that would

soon drive exploration, investment, and innovation across Pennsylvania and beyond. When Drake’s well struck oil, the groundwork Kier laid helped the industry rapidly transition from experimentation to expansion. Today, Kier’s legacy is preserved for all to see. His original five-barrel still is on display at the Drake Well Museum in Titusville, Pennsylvania—a tangible reminder of the ingenuity and forward thinking that helped ignite America’s oil boom. Despite his foundational contributions, Kier is rarely mentioned outside of industry history circles, largely because he was not the one who drilled the first commercial oil well. Yet without his early refining breakthroughs and willingness to see value where others saw waste, the oil industry’s rapid growth may not have been possible. PIOGA is proud to spotlight Samuel M. Kier, a Pittsburgh entrepreneur whose vision, innovation, and determination helped create the first commercial petroleum products and laid the foundation for the modern oil and natural gas industry. ■



*Kier with his Five Barrel Still — A reproduction of a vintage photograph showing Kier (or a representative figure) next to the five barrel still he used to refine petroleum. The original still is preserved at the Drake Well Museum in Titusville, Pa.*



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## PA Annual Corporate Reporting Opens for 2026

Pennsylvania's annual corporate reporting requirement is now in effect for 2026, marking an important compliance obligation for businesses operating within the Commonwealth. Under legislation enacted last year, nearly all business entities registered to do business in Pennsylvania must now file an Annual Report every year with the Department of State's Bureau of Corporations and Charitable Organizations. This represents a significant change from prior law, which required most entities to file only once every ten years.

The Annual Report is intended to ensure that the Commonwealth maintains accurate and up-to-date records on active business entities. All entities registered to operate in Pennsylvania are subject to this requirement, regardless of where they were originally incorporated or formed.

### Filing Deadlines and Fees

Annual filing deadlines and associated fees vary by business type:

**For-Profit Corporations:** June 30 | \$7 filing fee

**Non-Profit Corporations:** June 30 | No filing fee

**Limited Liability Companies:** Sept 30 | \$7 filing fee

**All Other Business Entities** (*including partnerships, business trusts, and professional associations*): December 31 | \$7 filing fee (no fee for not-for-profit entities)

Failure to submit an Annual Report by the applicable deadline may result in penalties, including administrative consequences such as the loss of good standing, revocation of business registration, or the loss of exclusive rights to use a registered business name.

### Filing Requirements

Annual Reports must be filed online and require only basic business information, including the entity's legal name, registered and principal office addresses, state or jurisdiction of formation, and the names and titles of officers, directors, managers, or other governing individuals. Businesses are encouraged to review their records and file early to avoid last-minute issues or potential penalties.

**To file your Annual Report or learn more visit:**

<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dos/programs/business/types-of-filings-and-registrations/annual-reports>

## Standing Together for Our Oil and Gas Industry

Pennsylvania's oil and natural gas industry plays an essential role in supporting local jobs, family-owned businesses, and reliable, affordable energy. Protecting this legacy industry requires informed voices, strong partnerships, and active engagement at both the state and federal levels.

PIOGA members continue to lead these efforts by working with legislators, educating the public, and sharing fact-based information about the industry's economic and community impacts. Member involvement is critical to ensuring policymakers understand how proposed regulations affect real businesses, workers, and communities. Members interested in getting more involved are encouraged to connect with PIOGA staff or participate in one of the association's committees.

### Advocacy and Legal Support

**Advocacy – Subparts 0000b and 0000c** - PIOGA remains on the front lines in the fight against the burdensome mandates of EPA Subparts 0000b and 0000c,

which pose serious challenges to operators. Member outreach is essential. PIOGA urges members to contact their state representatives and senators to explain how these rules impact their businesses, employees, and local economies.

### Legal Support

PIOGA also actively supports members through legal advocacy, including considering amicus curiae briefs or intervention in cases involving energy, environmental, or regulatory issues.

Members involved in—or anticipating—litigation are encouraged to contact **General Counsel Todd Pappasergi** at [todd@pioga.org](mailto:todd@pioga.org) to discuss potential PIOGA involvement.

Together, through advocacy, legal engagement, and collaboration, PIOGA and its members will continue working to strengthen and protect the industry.



## Don't Forget to Renew Your PIOGA Membership for 2026!

For most PIOGA members, now is the time to renew your membership for the coming year. The 2026 dues renewal invoices will be sent via email beginning the week of December 15th 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 2026 and beyond.

### Questions about your membership?

Contact Debbie Oyler, Director of Member Services, at [debbie@pioga.org](mailto:debbie@pioga.org) or 724-933 7306 ext.22

## PIOGA's Online Buyers' Guide

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

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 **2026 edition of the PIOGA Buyers' Guide**, the premier resource of relevant products and services for oil and gas professionals.

We encourage PIOGA members to utilize the products and services of our member companies. The **2026 Buyers' Guide** features updated and expanded company and product listings, along with valuable industry information, making it easier than ever for members and other professionals to browse for goods and services.

"For the past 10 years, the PIOGA Buyers' Guide has become a go-to online resource—a "one-stop-shop" for our members looking for products and services needed in oil and gas operations," said Dan Weaver, PIOGA President and Executive Director. "Look for the PIOGA logo on the listings and support the products and services of our member companies. They support us, and we should support them!"

**All PIOGA Allies & Provider members receive a complimentary basic listing** in the guide with the PIOGA logo to highlight membership. Strategic Value Media can help you explore additional options to increase your visibility in the Guide.

We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to showcase your products and services in the **2026 Buyers' Guide**. The guide is accessible through the PIOGA website at [www.pioga.org](http://www.pioga.org) and will be updated soon with new advertisements and information.

### PIOGA Profits Too!

A portion of the proceeds from the Buyers' Guide supports PIOGA, helping sustain our association. An investment in the Buyers' Guide is not only an investment in your company but also in PIOGA's mission. Thank you for your support!

**For more information, please email:** [pioga-advertise@svmmedia.com](mailto:pioga-advertise@svmmedia.com)



## 2026 PIOGA Partners Program

We are excited to introduce the **2026 PIOGA Partners Program**. Now entering its eighth year, the program was created in response to member requests for a convenient, year-round sponsorship option to help streamline budgeting and planning.

As always, PIOGA will continue to offer traditional event-by-event sponsorships as well.

The Partner levels and their associated benefits are outlined in the chart (left). If you have questions or are ready to reserve your spot for 2026, please contact Debbie Oyler at [debbie@pioga.org](mailto:debbie@pioga.org) or 724-933-7306 ext. 22.

### 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](http://pioga.org) homepage. Plus, (2) tickets to **ALL** PIOGA Meetings, golf/clay events and PIOGATech'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

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### 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](http://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

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### COMMITTEE/PIOGATech 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 PIOGATech 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.**

## PIOGA's 2026 Membership Incentive Program

**Purpose:** The 2026 Membership Incentive Program is designed to actively promote growth within the PIOGA community and encourage meaningful participation among our members. This program rewards members who consistently contribute to the organization's mission, whether by engaging in events, referring new members, or supporting initiatives that strengthen our industry network.

By participating, members not only help expand and energize PIOGA but also have the opportunity to be recognized and rewarded for their efforts.

**Learn more about the program and how to get involved:**

[https://pioga.org/publication\\_file/2026-PIOGA-Incentive-Program.pdf](https://pioga.org/publication_file/2026-PIOGA-Incentive-Program.pdf)

**PIOGA**  
**2026**  
**INCENTIVE**  
**PROGRAM**

## Harrisburg Update - PA Legislative and Political Report

The 2026 Regular Session of the Pennsylvania General Assembly is officially underway, marking the beginning of the Commonwealth's 210th legislative session. On January 6, both the House of Representatives and Senate convened in Harrisburg for organizational sessions, as required by the Pennsylvania Constitution. These initial meetings focused on administrative matters, including the referral of legislation to committees, acceptance of required reports from state agencies and quasi-agencies, and formal preparations for the year ahead.

### Legislative Overview

The 2025 legislative year was notable for producing the lowest number of enacted bills in recent history, reflecting ongoing partisan divides and procedural challenges. As lawmakers turn their attention to 2026, budget deliberations are already front and center. Governor Josh Shapiro has formally called for a joint session of the General Assembly on February 3, during which he will present his proposed Fiscal Year 2026–2027 state spending plan. Following the address, House and Senate Appropriations Committees will conduct public hearings from February 23 through March 12 to examine the proposal and its impact on state agencies and programs.

Leadership in the General Assembly remains stable. In the Senate, Senator Kim Ward (R-Westmoreland) was unanimously re-elected as President Pro Tempore. The partisan balance in both chambers is expected to remain unchanged heading into the session, though control of each chamber remains competitive.

Several House vacancies were formally addressed during the January 6 session. Special elections have been scheduled to fill the remainder of the current two-year terms in the following districts:

- *February 24* – 22nd District (Lehigh County) and 42nd District (Allegheny County)
- *March 17* – 79th District (Blair County) and 193rd District (Adams/Cumberland Counties)

Both the House and Senate will return to Harrisburg on January 26 for a three-day session week, marking the first voting days of the 2026 legislative session.

### Energy and Industry Updates

PIOGA remains actively engaged in Harrisburg, advocating

for policies that support the continued growth, competitiveness, and sustainability of Pennsylvania's oil and natural gas industry. Key areas of focus include:

- **Energy Affordability:** Promoting policies that ensure Pennsylvanians have access to safe, reliable, and affordable energy while supporting ongoing infrastructure development.
- **Oil and Gas Regulation:** Working to ensure regulatory decisions are science-based, balanced, and practical, including engagement on setbacks, well-plugging standards, and related rulemakings.
- **Legislative Advocacy:** Maintaining regular dialogue with lawmakers and collaborating with allied industry groups to educate policymakers on the impacts of proposed legislation affecting both conventional and unconventional operators.
- **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Leveraging relationships with state associations and supportive legislators to protect jobs, tax revenue, and energy development across the Commonwealth.
- **Budget Priorities:** Advocating for fiscal policies that promote economic growth, preserve a competitive business climate, and recognize the critical role energy production plays in Pennsylvania's economy.

### Political Developments

On the political front, State Treasurer Stacy Garrity recently addressed the Pennsylvania Press Club, outlining her case for Governor and contrasting her background in military service, the private sector, and state government with Governor Shapiro's record. Garrity emphasized infrastructure investment, education reform, energy development, artificial intelligence, property tax relief, and government efficiency as central pillars of her policy agenda.

Meanwhile, Governor Shapiro and Lieutenant Governor Austin Davis have officially launched their 2026 reelection campaign, highlighting what they describe as their adminis-





tration's "Getting Stuff Done" record. The Shapiro/Davis campaign reports more than \$30 million cash on hand heading into the election cycle. With Republican Senator Doug Mastriano announcing he will not seek the governorship, Treasurer Garrity remains unopposed for the Republican nomination at this time.

In addition to the gubernatorial race, all 203 House seats and 25 Senate seats will be on the ballot in 2026, setting the stage for competitive contests that could shift control of either chamber by a narrow margin.

### Looking Ahead

Energy policy will remain a major focus in Harrisburg throughout 2026. With Pennsylvania holding the second-largest natural gas reserves in the nation, legislative and regulatory decisions made this year will have long-term implications for energy affordability, economic development, and grid reliability. PIOGA will continue to monitor developments closely, engage with policymakers on both sides of the aisle, and advocate for balanced, practical solutions that support producers, consumers, and communities across the Commonwealth. ■

## Choose how you get your news

If you now receive a printed copy of The PIOGA Press in the mail each month but prefer to read it online only, please email Deana McMahan at [deana@pioga.org](mailto:deana@pioga.org) to opt out of the hard-copy version.

Current and past issues are always available by clicking on the News & Resources tab at [pioga.org](http://pioga.org).

## Members in the Community

### PIOGA Wants Your Community Stories!

Are you a PIOGA member making a positive impact through education, volunteering, outreach, or donations? We want to hear from you! Your story could be featured on PIOGA's social media and marketing materials. Help us highlight the good in the oil & gas industry.

Send your story to: [meghan@pioga.org](mailto:meghan@pioga.org).

**Let's celebrate the positive side of Oil & Gas!**

## Thank You to Our 2025 PIOGA Advertisers

PIOGA extends a heartfelt thank-you to all the companies and organizations that advertised with us in 2025. Your support helps us connect members, share vital industry information, and advance the safe and responsible development of Pennsylvania's oil and gas resources.

A special thank-you goes to those advertisers featured in the PIOGA Press. Your commitment not only supports the association but also provides visibility for your organization among industry peers. We are proud to highlight your partnership, and we're excited to display your logos as a testament to your support.

We are grateful for the dedication and innovation of all our 2025 advertisers. Your support ensures that PIOGA can continue serving our members and promoting excellence in the energy community.

Thank you for being a valued partner — we look forward to working with you in 2026!

For any members or non-members interested in advertising with PIOGA, please visit <https://pioga.org/contact/advertising-with-pioga/> or reach out directly to Meghan Keely at [meghan@pioga.org](mailto:meghan@pioga.org).

Advertising with PIOGA is a powerful way to connect with our industry community, showcase your products or services, and support the programs and initiatives that keep our organization strong and effective. Your partnership helps us continue advocating for the energy industry and providing valuable resources to our members.

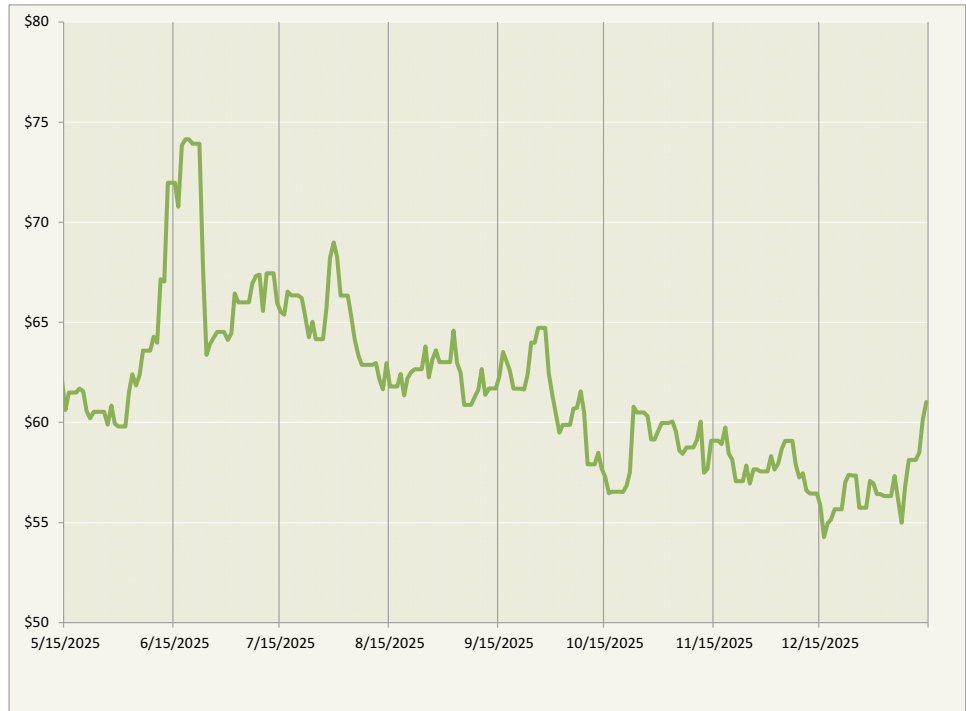


## Oil & Gas Dashboard

### Sources

American Refining Group:  
[www.amref.com/Crude-Prices-New.aspx](http://www.amref.com/Crude-Prices-New.aspx)  
 Ergon Oil Purchasing: [www.ergon.com/crudeoil](http://www.ergon.com/crudeoil)  
 Gas futures: [quotes.ino.com/exchanges/?r=NYMEX\\_NG](http://quotes.ino.com/exchanges/?r=NYMEX_NG)  
 Baker Hughes rig count:  
[bakerhughesrigcount.gcs-web.com/na-rig-count](http://bakerhughesrigcount.gcs-web.com/na-rig-count)  
 NYMEX strip chart: Mid American Natural Resources  
 Basis futures values: IGS Energy, Inc.

### Penn Grade Crude Oil Prices

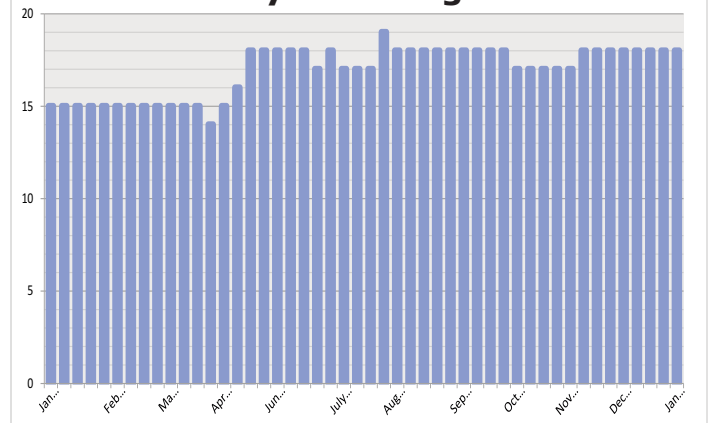


### Natural Gas Futures Closing Prices

February 2026	\$3.120
March	\$2.719
April	\$2.739
May	\$2.792
June	\$3.009
July	\$3.303
August	\$3.369
September	\$3.344
October	\$3.396
November	\$3.634

Prices as of Jan. 14, 2026

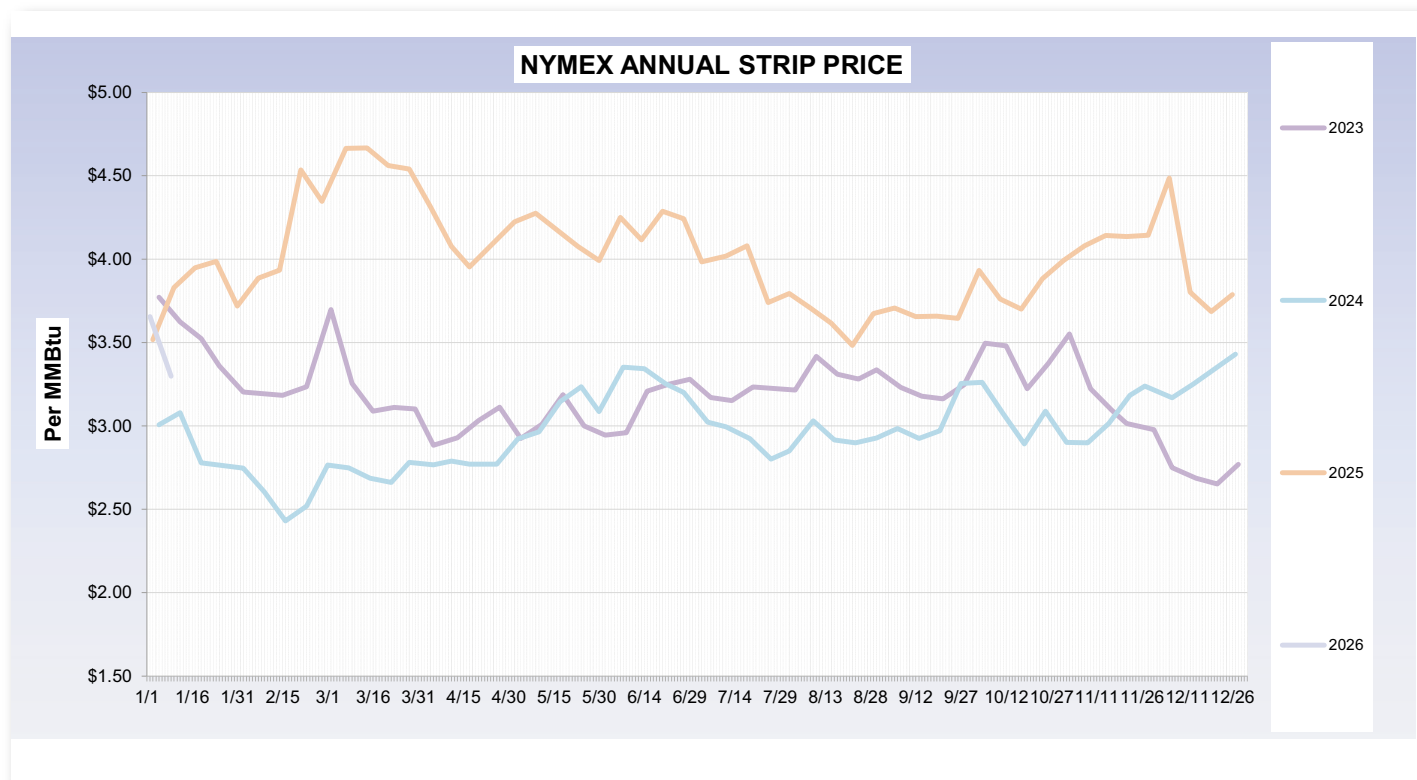
### Pennsylvania Rig Count



### Basis Futures Values







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## Spud Report: December



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

Operator	Wells	Date	API#	County	Municipality	Operator	Wells	Date	API#	County	Municipality
Beech Resources	7	12/8/25	081-22085	Lycoming	Anthony Twp			12/13/25	081-22081	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk
		12/8/25	081-22086	Lycoming	Anthony Twp			12/15/25	081-22082	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk
		12/8/25	081-22087	Lycoming	Anthony Twp	Pennhills Res	2	12/19/25	053-31189	Forest	Howe Twp
		12/8/25	081-22079	Lycoming	Anthony Twp			12/29/25	053-31190	Forest	Howe Twp
		12/8/25	081-22088	Lycoming	Anthony Twp	Range Resources	2	12/17/25	003-22722	Allegheny	Frazer Twp
		12/8/25	081-22089	Lycoming	Anthony Twp			12/18/25	003-22721	Allegheny	Frazer Twp
		12/8/25	081-22090	Lycoming	Anthony Twp	Respol Oil & Gas	5	12/1/25	015-23994	Bradford	Pike Twp
Cameron Energy *	2	12/10/25	053-31135	Forest	Howe Twp			12/1/25	015-23995	Bradford	Pike Twp
		12/19/25	053-31134	Forest	Howe Twp			12/1/25	015-23996	Bradford	Pike Twp
Expand Oper	6	12/2/25	015-24004	Bradford	Wyalusing			12/1/25	015-23997	Bradford	Pike Twp
		12/2/25	015-24005	Bradford	Wyalusing			12/1/25	015-23998	Bradford	Pike Twp
		12/2/25	015-24006	Bradford	Wyalusing	Snyder Bros	10	12/1/25	005-31548	Armstrong	Manor Twp
		12/2/25	015-24007	Bradford	Wyalusing			12/1/25	005-31538	Armstrong	Manor Twp
		12/10/25	015-24009	Bradford	Wyalusing			12/2/25	005-31549	Armstrong	Manor Twp
		12/10/25	015-24008	Bradford	Wyalusing			12/2/25	005-31550	Armstrong	Manor Twp
Greylock Prod.	3	12/15/25	105-21977	Potter	Hector Twp			12/3/25	005-31551	Armstrong	Manor Twp
		12/15/25	105-21979	Potter	Hector Twp			12/6/25	005-31553	Armstrong	Manor Twp
		12/15/25	105-21980	Potter	Hector Twp			12/6/25	005-31552	Armstrong	Manor Twp
Howard Drilling *	2	12/18/25	083-57686	McKean	Wetmore Twp			12/7/25	005-31554	Armstrong	Manor Twp
		12/24/25	083-57683	McKean	Wetmore Twp			12/7/25	005-31555	Armstrong	Manor Twp
INR Opr.	3	12/29/25	063-37581	Indiana	Armstrong			12/7/25	005-31556	Armstrong	Manor Twp
		12/29/25	063-37579	Indiana	Armstrong						
		12/29/25	063-37580	Indiana	Armstrong						
PA Gen Energy	6	12/13/25	081-22083	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk						
		12/15/25	081-22093	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk						
		12/10/25	081-21981	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk						
		12/12/25	081-22080	Lycoming	Plunketts Crk						

	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sept
<b>Total Wells</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>58</b>
Unconventional Gas	42	27	63	40
Conventional Gas	0	0	0	0
Oil	4	4	12	15
Combination Oil/Gas	2	2	5	3

## New PIOGA members

### Sentry Wellhead

Frank Fowler, Jr.

100 Beta Dr. Canonsburg, Pa 15317

### Allies & Providers



## Follow PIOGA on





## Calendar

### **PIOGA events**

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

#### **PIOGA 2025/2026 Events**

**PIOGA Safety - STEPS Meeting**  
February 12th

**PIOGA - Spring Meeting**  
April 8-9th

**PIOGA - Cinco de Mayo Clay Shoot**  
May 5th

**PIOGA - Fore the Love of Golf Outing**  
September 10th

**PIOGA - Annual Membership Meeting**  
October 15th

### **Other events**

**GO-WV Winter Meeting**  
January 21-22  
(<https://pioga.org/event/go-wv-winter-meeting/>)

**NAPE Expo**  
February 18-20  
(<https://pioga.org/event/nape-expo/>)

**OOGA Annual Meeting**  
March 4-6  
(<https://pioga.org/event/ooga-annual-meeting/>)

**LDC Gas Forum - Northeast**  
June 8-10  
(<https://pioga.org/event/ldc-gas-forum-northeast/>)

**Full Calendar - 2026 PIOGA Event & Meeting Schedule -**  
[https://pioga.org/publication\\_file/2026-PIOGA-Calendar.pdf](https://pioga.org/publication_file/2026-PIOGA-Calendar.pdf)

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



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