



YATES COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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Yates County Marcellus Shale Task Force- MINUTES

Agenda- Friday, October 16, 2009- 10 a.m.

Process for County Endorsement? The group discussed the need for the Legislature to review the Task Force Report in order to get their support and endorsement. Because the comments for the DGEIS need to be submitted no later than November 30, 2009, we need to move quickly as they meet on November 9th. Shawna will need to provide the comments via Finance Committee before the Legislature meeting and the comment deadline is Thursday, October 29th at noon. It was stated that there are a number of issues that we could discuss at length today but we need to focus our efforts on some of the more significant concerns that can be identified.

Once we develop the list, Shawna will e-mail it out on Monday. We are asking each sub-committee member to review the issues below and make further comments were they feel necessary. Comments should be e-mailed to the sub-committee Chairs before 10/23. We will meet again on Friday, October 23rd at 10 a.m. in the County Auditorium. The Committees will meet individually for the first hour and then the Task Force will come together for the last half hour and finalize their suggestion for the Legislature.

Developed list of specific issues/action items for Task Force to comment on;

1. Environmental Committee

Water Issues:

Quantity-

a. GOAL- *to minimize w/drawl impacts-* **Action-** develop centralized withdrawal locations along Seneca and Keuka Lakes- possibly two to three locations where water can be piped out to waiting trucks. In Barrington, perhaps there could be a pumping location at the Highway Barns from a pipe leading up to the location.

Quality-

b. GOAL- *preserve water quality-* **Action-** strict testing requirements pre-drilling activity, significant separation distance to the lake (2000+ feet) running parallel to lake, closed system for flow-back water (confirm no pits will be used).

Agricultural Mitigation:

a. GOAL- *to include mitigation measures in the DGEIS in order to protect prime agricultural land-* **Action-** need to include Ag & Markets as a coordinating agency, include measures for soil/site reclamation, utilization of Ag inspectors for remediation/mitigation measures, Ag&Markets Law needs to be followed and recognized in the DGEIS.

- b. FUTURE TASK- research ways to include Ag & Markets specifications as a requirement for the issuance of a road/driveway permit.

Inspections:

- a. GOAL- *ensure proper staffing w/in DEC*- **Action**- intense amount of inspections will be needed in order for all of the regulations set for the in the DGEIS to be met therefore, how will the DEC solve their staffing problems thus increasing the number of inspectors during the budget crisis? Will they allow third-party inspectors?
- b. FUTURE TASK- research municipal “inspector” paid for by gas companies to act as a liaison with the municipalities.

Noise:

- a. GOAL- *minimize noise impacts on surrounding properties*- Action- request the DGEIS expand on the requirements for noise impact remediation

2. Roads/Infrastructure- * Because the DGEIS suggests the municipalities work out Road Use Agreements with the gas companies, the following items are the initial suggestions associated with the Committees model legislation development/enhanced private road ordinances;

- Model Legislation requirements- Road inventory (pre and post) detailing all pre-existing conditions, road core samples, video, maintenance plans, tonnage limits (what to do w/ local deliveries).
- Driveway Permits- site plan requirements, setback requirements, controls on access, fees
- Issues- how to decommission roads, who will do remediation if there is a problem, what about gas line installation under access roads, who will/how to enforce?
- Need for enforcement; as with inspections for stormwater, etc, how will the roads be inspected- could the “inspector” or “project manager” do this?
- Letters of Credit v/s bonding
- Check w/ Bradford and Campbell, PA.

3. Economic-Socio-Demographic * Although the DGEIS does not identify many specific “non” environmental impacts, it is still imperative that we, as a Task Force, work through the following issues/questions and identify, to the Legislature, potential issues that may affect the municipalities.

- If there is a surge in drilling and a transient population moves in, there will be a problem w/ rental properties; they will be overwhelmed with transient workers who can afford to pay rents for a long period which could drive up rental prices as well as contribute to homelessness due to a lack of affordable places for the permanent population.
- Changes in zoning to accommodate “man camps?”
- School impacts- increased budgets for ESL teachers
- Decrease in occupancy tax due to rental properties uses for semi-permanent housing
- Impacts on tourism- lack of rental property access
- Need for internet access- “cafes”