

COMMITTEE REPORT

Subject: **Environment Committee Report to the
Pike County Marcellus Shale Task Force**

Date: **July 20, 2011**

Committee Chairman – Ken Ersbak

The MSTF Environment Committee met on June 9, 2011. The main topic of discussion was organizational in nature focusing on:

1. Developing a mission statement
2. Confirming the goals of mission
3. Establishing objectives to meet goals
4. Prioritizing objectives
5. Establishing an action plan to achieve objectives
6. Beginning Implementation

The Committee reached consensus on the following mission statement, goals and objectives.

MISSION STATEMENT: The purpose of the Environment Committee of the Pike County Marcellus Shale Task Force is to identify environmental impacts from the development of natural gas that threaten the natural resources of Pike County and the citizens who reside there-in, and to make recommendations to the leadership of Pike County on how to best mitigate the negative effects of natural gas development.

GOALS OF MISSION:

- Document current environmental conditions of water quality and quantity in Pike County prior to gas development in the region.
- Protect the natural resources of Pike County from development of the infrastructure associated with the extraction of gas in Pennsylvania.
- Ensure that government and citizen oversight of the industry in Pike County adequately protects the natural resources and human health of its citizens and that violation of regulations are strictly enforced by sufficient punitive actions.
- Ensure that Pike County is adequately compensated for negative impacts, both direct and indirect, to the environment and citizens of Pike County from activities associated with natural gas extraction in Pennsylvania.

OBJECTIVES OF MISSION:

1. Develop an action plan to assemble baseline water quality data on surface and subsurface water quantity and quality in regions of the County most likely to be affected by the gas industry.
Committee person as lead: Bob Engvaldsen and Pike County Conservation District Board
2. Develop an action plan specific to mitigation of infrastructure development impacts in Pike County.
Committee person as lead: John Hahn
3. Provide environmental justification for the support of legislation that provides remediation

funding to Pike County and its municipalities for direct and indirect gas industry impacts in the County.

Committee person as lead: Sally Corrigan

4. Recommend mechanisms to improve environmental oversight of the industry by PA DEP and other agencies with environmental regulatory oversight responsibilities.

Committee person as lead: Georgene Snyder

Committee members assigned to each objective task agreed to begin development of a more specific action plan for implementing the objectives.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Thursday, August 4, 2011 starting at 8:30am. The meeting will be held in the Pike County Conservation District meeting room located at 556 Route 402, Blooming Grove.