Centre County Natural Gas Task Force
Meeting Notes

March 10, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.
Location: Central PA Institute of Science and Technology – Transportation Training Center, Multipurpose Classroom
540 North Harrison Road, Pleasant Gap, PA  16823

Present: Susan Benedict, John Ferguson, Steve Greer, Bob McDaniel, Dan Fisher and Stan LaFuria.
Absent: Jeff Kern, Tim Ziegler, Greg Myers, Ken Hall, and Mike Savage.

Sub-Committee Members Present: Art Dangel, John Rodgers, Jack Mulfinger, and Todd Taylor.
Sub-Committee Members Absent: Mike Schaul, John Spychalski, Joe Urbanick, Steve Lyncha, Matt Blymire, Mary Carol Frier, Bruce Snyder, Colleen Williams, Mike Welch, Joe Hart, Andrew Sicree, Butch Davey, Dick Mulfinger, Jamie Walker, Alison Amaismeier, Emily Gette-Doyle, Louis Glantz, Lynn Herman, Dean Lawrence and Rob Balsamo.

Liaison Members Present: Doug D’Amore
Liaison Members Absent: Dan Vilello, Paula Ballaron and Rick Lamkie

Ex Officio Members Present: None Present

County Resource Persons: Sue Hannegan

Centre County Commissioners: None Present

Guests: Eric Cowden – Marcellus Shale Coalition; Mary Wolf, Matt Lock, Pat Powers and Pat Marty – Anadarko; Marianne Hazel and Guy Woodard – CPI; and Bill Hall and John Siggins – Shale Innovation and Commercialization Center.

Total Number Present: 21

The meeting was opened by Chairman Susan Benedict at 4:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

Welcome and Introductions: All meeting attendees provided a short introduction of themselves.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest and Ex Parte Communication: In order to remove any doubt of impropriety, the following task force and/or sub-committee members have declared interests. Bob McDaniel – Business Development Coordinator, G.O. Hawbaker, Inc. supplying contract work for drilling companies; Susan Shoemaker Benedict -- property owner with natural gas lease; Steve Greer – Senior Project Manager with Arm Group, Inc., sub-contractor/consultant to various companies involved with the gas drilling industry; Ken Hall – actively involved with property lease management; Greg Myers -- Senior Engineer/Senior Geologist, DMS Environmental Services, providing services to the oil and gas industry; Joe Hart – employed by HRT, Inc. & PA Brine, who serve as sub-contractors to the natural gas industry; John Ferguson – employed by Columbia Gas of PA; Dean Lawrence – realtor with commercial real estate activity of interest to the natural gas companies; John Rodgers – banker with Fulton Bank providing financial services to the gas industry; Steve Lyncha – engineer with HRG providing consulting and engineering services to the industry; Colleen Williams working in business development for HRG resulting in frequent consultations with the industry; and Emily Gette-Doyle – employed by Christoff.
Mitchell Petroleum as Vice President of Business Development and working on the development of CNG fueling stations. No additional declarations were provided.

**Election of Officers:** Sue Hannegan conducted the annual election of officers on behalf of the task force.

**On a motion by Dan Fisher, seconded by Stan LaFuria, Article 11.2 of the Bylaws was suspended for an additional one-year term, to permit officers to succeed themselves beyond the two-year consecutive year of service provision, established in the bylaws; AND retain the present officers: Susan Benedict as chairman, John Ferguson as vice chairman, and Tim Ziegler as secretary. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**Approval of Prior Meeting Notes: January 13, 2014:**

Bob McDaniel made a motion to approve the January minutes as distributed; Steve Greer seconded the motion and the task force approved the January 13, 2014 minutes with no changes.

**Announcements:**

- Eric Cowden distributed copies of the Marcellus Shale Coalition Quarterly Magazine.
- Sue Hannegan announced that Clean Cities and the Eastern PA Alliance for Clean Transportation were partnering for the “Alternative Fuels, Vehicles and Technology Workshop” to be held on Wednesday, March 26th at Penn College of Technology from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Citizen Comment Period:** None offered.

**Presentation:** “Update on Shale Gas Innovations and the $750,000 D2PA Grant” by Bill Hall and John Siggins, Shale Gas Innovation and Commercialization Center (SGICC).

Bill Hall opened the program with a presentation about the Ben Franklin Technology Partnership, which has representatives in 32 of the Commonwealth’s 67 counties. This program provides early stage economic development programs between the business owner(s)’ private capital and bank financing. Market research has shown that for every $1 invested by the Ben Franklin Technology Partnership, $3.6 pays back.

The Shale Gas Innovation and Commercialization Center facilitates a statewide innovation contest for new products and technologies related to the shale gas industry. In 2014, nearly 80 applications were received with approximately 25 percent of the projects related to waste water and another 25 percent related to gas production. Twelve finalists will be identified by mid-April and the award winners announced on May 15th.

John Siggins explained the two-year, $750,000 D2PA grant recently awarded to SGICC for distribution to shale gas service industries that develop, test, and commercialize new products. The PA Department of Community and Economic Development is the grantor for this project, “Discovered in PA, Developed in PA”. Studies that identify key issues that slow the growth of the shale gas industry in PA are also eligible participants and four, $50,000 awards will be given as part of this program. Other companies, such as KCF Technologies, who has developed a sensor to diagnose equipment problems before they occur; and HalenHardy, who has developed a mobile air shower system to remove silica dust particles from workers clothing prior to leaving the drill site will receive larger sums of money to complete the testing and marketing of their products. The recipient company must match the grant with their own 1-to-1 matching investment.

The Shale Gas Innovation and Commercialization Center has all of their program materials on the internet at [www.sgicc.org](http://www.sgicc.org)

**Committee Reports:**

- **Economic Development:** Sue Hannegan reported that the committee recently met with Vern Squier to discuss economic development issues.
- **Education:** Todd Taylor mentioned that CPI held their first Open House at the new CPI Transportation Training Center for the Marcellus Shale/ Natural Gas Related industries.
Environment / Infrastructure: No Report.
Public Policy, Planning and Legal Issues: No Report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Meeting topics were discussed for future consideration with extensive interest expressed in developing a panel discussion related to natural gas pipeline expansion. Several entities were mentioned as possible participants: American Natural Gas Alliance (ANGA), Susquehanna Economic Development Association (SEDA-COG), Chamber of Business and Industry of Centre County (CBICC), PA Public Utility Commission (PUC), Columbia Gas, UGI Corporation, and the Marcellus Shale Coalition. A second topic of interest was “pricing forecast analysis”.

Meeting Schedule:

- CCNGTF: May 12th at 4 p.m. – CPI, 540 North Harrison Rd, Pleasant Gap, PA
- Economic Development Sub-Committee: April 10th at 8:00 a.m. – Willowbank Bldg. 3rd Floor
- Environmental Sub-Committee: April 15th at 9:00 a.m. – Willowbank Bldg. 3rd Floor

Meeting Adjourned: With no further business, the March meeting of the Centre County Natural Gas Task Force was adjourned at 5:15 p.m. following a motion by Bob McDaniel; seconded by Stan LaFuria.