



NTRPDC update



SERVING BRADFORD, SULLIVAN, SUSQUEHANNA, TIOGA, AND WYOMING COUNTIES

Over 200 Attend Natural Gas Summit



Dr. Terry Engelder addresses the audience.

The Northern Tier Natural Gas Summit for Municipal Officials was held on October 6 at the Wysox Volunteer Fire Hall.

The all day summit focused on municipal issues associated with the development of the Marcellus Shale in the Northern Tier Region.

Featured Keynote Speaker was Dr. Terry Engelder, Professor of Geosciences, Penn State University. He is the leading authority on the Marcellus Shale gas play and is credited with starting the "gas rush" to Pennsylvania with a press release he wrote about the potential of the play through horizontal drilling through natural gas fractures. Dr. Engelder talked about what has happened since that press release including the development of the industry, economic impact, and the use of natural gas versus other types of energy.

Panel discussions included Water Issues, Roads and Maintenance, Planning Issues for Municipalities, and Gas Company Perspective. Mike Brownell from the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, Bryan Swistock from Penn State University, and Jennifer Means from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection discussed water quality monitoring, wetlands impact, and the use of water in hydraulic fracturing. Ed Sumski from PennDOT district 4.0 and *cont. on page 4...*

Upcoming Events

- NTRPDC County Outreach Meeting**
Wyoming County—Dec 4
- Local Loan Review Committee Meetings**
December 11
January 8
February 12
NTRPDC Conference Room, 9a.m.
- Regional Transportation Advisory Committee Meetings**
December 14
January 15
February 8
NTRPDC Conference Room,
10:30a.m.
- NTRPDC Executive Committee Meetings**
January 15
February 19
NTRPDC Conference Room,
10:30 a.m.

Call **1-888-868-8800** or e-mail info@northerntier.org for more information

September Unemployment Rates

Bradford County:	8.4%	Tioga County:	9.0%
Sullivan County:	8.9%	Wyoming County:	7.7%
Susquehanna County:	8.7%	Pennsylvania:	8.8%

Quarterly Full Commission Meeting

Marcellus Shale Workforce Needs Assessment Presented



Front Row L-R: Betty Reibson, Sullivan Co. Commissioner; Senator Lisa Baker; Sandy Major, PA State Representative; Tom Murphy, Penn State Cooperative Extension; Ed Zygmunt, representing Congressman Carney; Kevin Abrams, Executive Director; Larry Michael, Pennsylvania College of Technology; Frank Thompson, Deputy Director.

NTRPDC's Quarterly Full Commission meeting was held on October 16 at the Triton Volunteer Fire Hall in Tunkhannock.

Guest speakers were Larry Michael, Executive Director, Workforce & Economic Development with the Pennsylvania College of Technology and Tom Murphy, Extension Educator with Penn State Cooperative Extension. They presented the report conducted by the Marcellus Shale Education & Training Center regarding the projected workforce needs of the natural gas industry in the Northern Tier and Central Workforce Investment Regions, both of

which are the center of activity for Marcellus Shale exploration and development. The report can be accessed by following this link— [Marcellus Shale Workforce Needs Assessment](#) or through our website at www.northerntier.org.

“They presented a report conducted by the Marcellus Shale Education & Training Center”

Loans and Grants Awarded

One loan closed totaling \$200,000 and nine grants were awarded totaling \$4,524

Business Loans Closed:

- \$200,000 First Industries fund loan to Drew and Lisa Remley in Roaring Branch to help construct a swine barn.

This loan helped to retain two jobs and leveraged \$550,000 in private investment. NTRPDC currently services 123

active loans totaling \$10,916,092.

Municipal Hardware and Software Incentive Grants awarded:

- \$750 to Sheshequin Township
- \$120 to Cherry Township
- \$375 to Great Bend

Borough

- \$750 to Middletown Township
- \$403 to Lawrenceville Borough
- \$558 to Tioga Township
- \$750 to Richmond Township

Internet Business Grants

Career Opportunity Grant Awarded

\$250,000 grant will help fund roustabout training

NTRPDC was approved for a \$250,000 Career Opportunity Grant to fund a pre-employment program to train local workers for an entry-level roustabout position in the natural gas industry. The application was submitted with the Central Workforce Investment Board and is based on a program the Pennsylvania College of Technology operated for the manufactured housing industry.

The nearly four-week program, facilitated by the Pennsylvania College of Technology in the Northern Tier and Central Workforce Investment Board regions, includes soft-skill and work readiness classes, safety training, forklift operation, heavy equipment basics, and the basics in hydraulics, pneumatics, fracing, and materials handling.

Those who successfully complete the program will have an opportunity to meet with gas industry representatives from the Marcellus Shale Industry.

The program is projected to start with the calendar year. Any Northern Tier Resident interested in the program is urged to contact the PA CareerLink office located in their county.



“Those who successfully complete the program will have and opportunity to meet with gas industry representatives”

Loans and Grants Awarded

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Awarded:

- \$318 to Fred’s Creative Woodturning
- \$500 to L.D. Guide Service

Small Business Training Grants Awarded

- \$373 to Deer Park Lumber
- \$372 to Clear Path

Healing Arts Center

- \$1,000 to Arari Investments Inc.
- \$1,000 to Keystone Truck Caps
- \$415 to Triumph Personal and Professional Coaching
- \$352 to Carroll & Carroll P.C.

- \$421 to Almost Amish Quilts

These grant programs help municipalities and businesses by providing funding to purchase necessary technology and training to foster streamlined operations, web marketing, and necessary training to enhance business operations. Each grant must be matched dollar for dollar by the recipient

Natural Gas Summit

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Mark Hood from Pennoni and Associates discussed the impact on roads and posting and bonding versus maintenance agreements. Peter Wulfhorst and Neil Fogle from the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education institute and Penn State Cooperative Extension talked about Planning Issues for Municipalities including planning for impact on our communities rather than reacting after change inevitably occurs. Gas companies were also represented by Michael Narcavage from Chesapeake Energy, Janice Lobdell from Fortuna Energy, and Daria Fish and Richard Adams from Chief Oil and Gas. Each discussed their community outreach efforts and their commitment to being responsible to landowners, municipalities, and the environment.

Each of the presentations from the summit are available on our website at www.northerntier.org. Click on the link located in the bar information menu on the left side of the page.



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