

Providing information on powering Ohio's economy, job growth and energy security

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Oil and Gas Industry Forms Ohio Energy Resource Alliance

Columbus, Ohio -- In an effort to answer Ohioans' questions about the economic development, job growth and energy security opportunities presented by the vast oil and natural gas reserves that underlie Ohio, several Ohio oil and gas industry associations have formed a new organization, the Ohio Energy Resource Alliance.

The Ohio Energy Resource Alliance is comprised of Ohio Petroleum Council (OPC), a division of the American Petroleum Institute (API); the Ohio Oil & Gas Association (OOGA); the Ohio Oil & Gas Energy Education Program (OOGEEP); Energy In Depth – Ohio (EID OHIO), and the Buckeye Energy Forum.

"Shale exploration, drilling and production have the potential to recharge Ohio's economy, get Ohioans back to work, and help ensure Ohio's and our country's energy security," said Rebecca Heimlich, director of the Ohio Energy Resource Alliance. "We understand that many of our state's community leaders and citizens have questions and concerns about oil and gas development, and we want to make sure they get the answers they need."

Ohio's natural gas and oil landscape is rapidly evolving with the recent interest in oil and gas development in the Marcellus and Utica Shale found in many areas of Ohio. Though the natural gas and oil has been trapped in hard dense deposits of shale formed from ancient sea basins many years ago, only recent innovations combining hydraulic fracturing with horizontal drilling in shale formations make it economical for exploration and development.

In September, OOGEEP <u>released a study</u> detailing the economic impact of Ohio's abundant oil and natural gas resources that indicated how the oil and natural gas industry could create more than 200,000 new jobs.

The Ohio Energy Resource Alliance will hold a series of forums and events across the state to address questions Ohioans may have about oil and gas exploration and production and the impact it will have on Ohio's economy. In early 2012, the Alliance will hold events and

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forums in partnership with the Marietta Chamber of Commerce, We the People Ohio Valley, Empower U Ohio and other groups. Details will be announced in the upcoming weeks.

To schedule a forum please contact Rebecca Heimlich at heimlichr@api.org.

A website for the Ohio Energy Resource Alliance is under construction. In the meantime, more information on oil and gas development in the Marcellus and Utica Shale and the potential to power Ohio's economy, job growth and energy security can be found on these websites:

Ohio Petroleum Council/American Petroleum Institute <u>www.energyfromshale.org</u>, <u>www.api.org</u>

Ohio Oil & Gas Association www.ooga.org

Ohio Oil & Gas Energy Education Program www.oogeep.org

Energy In Depth Ohio www.eidohio.org

Buckeye Energy Forum www.buckeyeenergyforum.com

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