

From: Jim Hoyt <jim@cacapongroup.com>
Subject: Fwd: Joint Statement on New Martinsville City Council's Decision to Overturn the Municipal Ban on Natural Gas Development
Date: August 26, 2011 4:46:44 PM EDT
To: Jim Hoyt <jim@cacapongroup.com>, Brenda Hutchinson <bhutchinson13@gmail.com>
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Begin forwarded message:

From: ANGA Info <info@anga.us>
Date: August 17, 2011 3:50:03 PM EDT
To: ANGA Info <info@anga.us>
Subject: Joint Statement on New Martinsville City Council's Decision to Overturn the Municipal Ban on Natural Gas Development



For Immediate Release: August 17, 2011

Contacts:

Maribeth Anderson, ANGA | Phone: (304) 353 5015 | E-Mail: maribeth.anderson@chk.com

Corky Demarco, WVONGA | Phone: (304) 343-1609 | E-Mail: DeMarco@wvonga.com

Kim Lawrence, EnergizeWV | Phone: (304) 546-1681 | E-Mail: klawrence@energizewv.com

Joint Statement on New Martinsville City Council's Decision to Overturn the Municipal Ban on Natural Gas Development

Background: *America's Natural Gas Alliance (ANGA), WVONGA, and EnergizeWV issued the following statement on the New Martinsville City Council's decision today to overturn the ordinance that bans horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing within New Martinsville city limits.*

We are encouraged by the city council's vote to reverse this ban. This decision, together with a judge's ruling last week overturning a similar ban in Morgantown, provides a level of clarity as we continue to work with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection to develop this clean, abundant energy source in a safe and responsible manner. The New Martinsville council listened to their constituents and understood the importance of natural gas development.

West Virginia's natural gas community has been working with WVDEP and the Governor's office to ensure additional oversight and regulation of the natural gas production process in our state. We also believe these decisions are a result of ongoing efforts to correct misinformation and highlight the rigorous practices employed by natural gas producers to safeguard local air, land and water. These practices are coupled with federal and state regulations that help ensure that natural gas development occurs in harmony with the environment and the needs of local communities where we do our work.

Natural gas has been a part of West Virginia's history for more than a century, and we are blessed with abundant supplies of this clean-burning fuel. Whether it's used in power generation, for transportation or for industrial purposes, natural gas results in fewer emissions of air pollutants, can promote our state's economic prosperity, and boosts our national energy security.

Natural gas supports thousands of jobs in the Mountain State and provides \$1.1 billion in employee compensation, according

to the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at WVU. Thousands more jobs can be created and substantial revenue can be generated for our state from the continuing safe and development of this resource.

Maribeth Anderson
ANGA-WV State Lead &
Director of Corporate
Development
Chesapeake Energy

Corky DeMarco
Executive Director
West Virginia Oil and Gas
Association (WVONGA)

Kim Lawrence
Executive Director
EnergizeWV

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ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND

America's Natural Gas Alliance (ANGA) represents 30 of North America's leading independent natural gas exploration and production companies. ANGA members are dedicated to increasing the appreciation of the environmental, economic and national security benefits of clean, abundant, American natural gas. Learn more about ANGA at www.anga.us.

Energize West Virginia is a non-profit organization established in 2006 to gain statewide understanding of the natural gas industry in West Virginia. The organization focuses specifically on educational programs that allow students at all grade levels to learn more about the importance and significance of the natural gas industry. Learn more at www.energizewv.com.

WVONGA members operate in virtually every county in West Virginia. Our members employ thousands of people across the state, having payrolls totaling hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Still holding true to its mission for more than 90 years, WVONGA is a recognized leader on state legislative issues, regulatory affairs and environmental matters. WVONGA serves its membership by staying involved in a broad range of economic, environmental, legal and regulatory issues by providing a variety of services and programs. Find out more at www.wvonga.com.