



Nat Gas Facts: New York

New York has an abundance of clean natural gas that can positively transform communities across the state. A report by former Penn State University professor Dr. Timothy Considine, of Natural Resource Economics, found the economic potential from natural gas production could bring to the state an additional total of \$11 billion in economic activity and \$2 billion in tax revenue by 2020.

According to a study by IHS Global Insight, the natural gas industry created more than 36,000 New York jobs and \$8 billion in economic activity in 2008--- local job creation that could be greatly expanded by developing this abundant, local, clean energy source.

Nationally the industry supports 2.8 million jobs and \$385 billion in economic activity. Shale gas is changing the U.S. energy landscape by offering a clean source of fuel to power our nation for generations —creating jobs, advancing our economy and cutting our dependence on foreign oil.

Hydraulic fracturing is a process that has been used successfully on more than 1 million U.S. wells over the past 60 years. It is a proven method that is routinely conducted in communities across the country.

In 2004, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued a study on hydraulic fracturing and determined it to be a safe and environmentally sound. The EPA is now in the process of doing a follow up study on hydraulic fracturing and is holding a meeting in Binghamton on August 12 to hear from the public about its planned study. In advance of this meeting, here are a few key points to consider:

NY Rules Among Strictest: "New York's environmental laws, regulations, guidance and policies are among the most stringent in the U.S." says John Conrad, a hydrogeologist from Poughkeepsie. In New York, fracturing chemicals must be sent to the New York Department of Environmental Conservation for review prior to permit issuance.

No Need to Choose between Economy & Environment: "We can reap the economic benefit while still protecting our environment," said Broome County Executive Barbara Fiala. "These two goals are not mutually exclusive, and I strongly believe that New York State can manage this industry and still do its job protecting the citizens of our state and our environment."

State Energy Security & Affordability: New York is a net importer of 95% of its natural gas and is the nation's fourth biggest natural gas consumer. We have a chance to significantly reduce this dependency by developing this abundant local resource.