



















## Countdown to DECision Day

*As Dec. 31 comment deadline approaches, NY'ers decide whether to leverage homegrown energy into jobs, revenue, security*

**WASHINGTON** – In just two days, New York's [Department of Environmental Conservation](#) (DEC) will formally close the comment period on the draft framework it released in September governing the safe exploration of natural gas from the Marcellus. The 804-page document carves out an [aggressive regulatory path](#) for overseeing the development of shale gas in the Empire State, which [studies suggest](#) could create hundreds of thousands of jobs for New York, and billions in annual revenue.

With two days remaining in the comment period, [Energy In Depth's New York petition](#) page has already generated several hundred individual comments; our goal is to generate several hundred more before time runs out. Click [HERE](#) to access the page, or [HERE](#) to submit your comments through our friends at [IOGA NY](#). The stakes, as laid out below, are enormous.

	Pennsylvania	New York
<b>Legal framework for ensuring safe, responsible development of Marcellus shale</b>	 <p><b>PA DEP:</b> "Oil and gas exploration is regulated under the state's oil and gas laws (Oil and Gas Act, Coal and Gas Resource Coordination Act, and Oil and Gas Conservation Law), and the environmental protection laws that include the Clean Streams Law, the Dam Safety and Encroachments Act, the Solid Waste Management Act, and the Water Resources Planning Act."</p>	 <p><b>NY DEC:</b> "The draft SGEIS supplements the existing Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) and analyzes the range of potential impacts of shale gas development using horizontal drilling and high-volume hydraulic fracturing. The draft SGEIS outlines safety measures, protection standards and mitigation strategies that operators would have to follow to obtain permits."</p>
<b>Marcellus jobs created, previous 24 months</b>	 <p><b>2008: 29,000 jobs</b> <b>2009: 48,000 jobs</b> <small>(Source: <a href="#">Penn State</a>)</small></p>	 <p><b>ZERO</b></p>
<b>Marcellus jobs expected to be created</b>	 <p><b>2010: 98,000 jobs</b> <b>2020: 176,000 jobs</b> <small>(Source: <a href="#">Penn State</a>)</small></p>	 <p><b>Broome County Alone: 16,000</b> <small>(Source: <a href="#">Preliminary Report for Broome Co. Legislators</a>)</small></p>
<b>Individual revenues, GDP generated by responsible shale gas development</b>	 <p><b>2008: \$240 million in state and local tax revenue</b> <b>2008: \$2.3 billion total value added</b> <small>(Source: <a href="#">Penn State</a>)</small></p>	 <p><b>ZERO</b> <b>ZERO</b></p>
<b>Regulatory agencies equipped to effectively regulate shale gas production</b>	 <p><b>PA DEP</b> <b>Operating budget: \$719 million/yr.</b> <b>Staff: 2,760</b></p>	 <p><b>NY DEC</b> <b>Operating budget: Nearly \$1 billion/yr.</b> <b>Staff: 3,675</b></p>
<b>Marcellus wells permitted, drilled in 2008</b>	 <p><b>Shale Gas Permits Issued: 476</b> <b>Shale Gas Wells Drilled: 195</b></p>  <p><small>(Source: <a href="#">PA DEP</a>)</small></p>	 <p><b>Shale Gas Permits Issued: ZERO</b> <b>Shale Gas Wells Drilled: ZERO</b> <small>(Source: <a href="#">NY DEC</a>)</small></p>
<b>Marcellus wells permitted, drilled in 2009</b>	 <p><b>Shale Gas Permits Issued: 1,742</b> <b>Shale Gas Wells Drilled: 594</b></p> 	 <p><b>Shale Gas Permits Issued: ZERO</b> <b>Shale Gas Wells Drilled: ZERO</b> <small>(Source: <a href="#">NY DEC</a>)</small></p>

## READ MORE

- **IOGANY Release/Letter** (12/29): [Groups to Governor: Stay Committed to Natural Gas Exploration](#);  
\*\*Click [HERE](#) to view the letter on-line
- **Study:** [Potential Economic and Fiscal Impacts from Natural Gas Production in Broome County, NY](#)
- **Issue Alert:** [Gangs of New York](#)
- **IOGANY's Brad Gill in the Buffalo News:** ["Gas exploration could bolster New York's economy"](#)
- **Issue Alert:** [Sign of the Times](#)
- **Browner Memo:** [Letter of Support for Hydraulic Fracturing from Carol Browner, Fmr. EPA Administrator](#)
- **Graphic:** [What's In Frac Fluids?](#)