

SHALE PROVIDES SAVINGS FOR AMERICAN CONSUMERS

While it is no secret that shale development is bringing prosperity to the state of Ohio — from the influx of billions of dollars in investment to creating tens of thousands of high-paying jobs — you may not know that the abundant supply of natural gas thanks to shale development is also providing tangible savings for Ohio consumers.

- **Toledo Blade:** “Had it not been for the current fracking boom, Ohioans might have been looking at 65 to 129 percent higher heating bills this January. Columbia Gas of Ohio said this January’s average residential heating bill will be \$142.19 to \$146.19 for the 1.4 million households it serves, many of them in northwest Ohio.” ([1/27/14](#))
 - “Columbia’s price for natural gas is among the lowest it’s been in years, which industry experts attribute to a regional abundance of natural gas generated by the modern era of fracking.” ([1/27/14](#))
- **Continental Economics:** “The results of our analysis demonstrate that shale gas production has significantly reduced U.S. wellhead natural gas prices and reduced Ohio consumers’ natural gas bills. The estimated savings of \$1.5 billion on natural gas bills alone in 2010 affect all sectors of the Ohio economy. As Ohio’s Utica Shale gas resource is developed, Ohio businesses and consumers are likely to benefit even more in the future.” ([2/2012](#))
 - “The average commercial customer used 562 Mcf and saved \$1,366, while the average industrial customer used over 35,000 Mcf and saved almost \$87,000. In addition, electric generators reduced their costs because of lower wellhead gas prices. This translated into lower fuel charges levied by electric utilities with fuel cost recovery mechanisms, such as Columbus Southern Power and Ohio Power Company, and also contributed to lower wholesale electric prices paid by retail electric suppliers.” ([2/2012](#))
- **Cleveland State University:** “Since shale production took off in Ohio during the third quarter of 2011, average prices for natural gas have remained below the national average. Between 2011 and 2012 the average Citygate price in Ohio fell from \$5.46 to \$4.62. In 2013, this pricing trend accelerated and the gap in prices widened; Ohio’s Citygate prices were 85 cents lower than the national average and \$1.12 lower for commercial consumers.” ([1/10/14](#))
- **Columbia Gas of Ohio:** “A sharp decrease in natural gas costs over the past decade due to increased supply from the Marcellus and Utica shale deposits, along with aggressive energy conservation programs have helped drive down bills for consumers. These factors have led to Ohioans having some of the lowest natural gas bills in the country.” ([link](#))
- **John Wells, Action for Boston Community Development:** “About six years ago, when natural-gas prices were high, it was a real crisis. Low natural-gas prices have been a godsend to low-income families.” ([12/2/13](#))
- **Confluence Investment Management:** “If we had a winter like this between 1998 and 2008, we’d be looking at \$20 gas right now. But this energy revolution is real.” ([1/3/14](#))