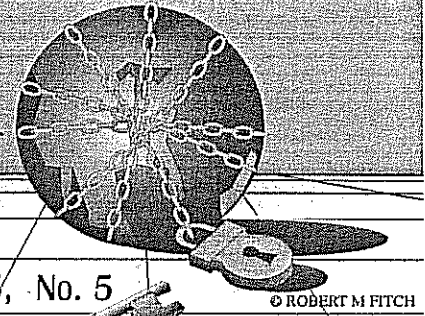


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MARCELLUS SHALE (Hydraulic Fracturing for Natural Gas Extraction in Pennsylvania)

(The following presentations were made at the Council of Geor-
gist Organizations conference in Harrisburg, PA on August 1,
2011. The presentations are reported here from an audio tape
and notes by GroundSwell editor Nadine Stoner.)



[Pictured above are Jan Jarrett, Michael Wood, and Alanna Hart-
zok.]

About the presenters:

Moderator and presenter Alanna Hartzok, Scotland, PA,
is the co-director of Earth Rights Institute, [http://
www.earthrights.net/](http://www.earthrights.net/), and a past president of the Council of
Georgist Organizations. She is the General Secretary of the In-
ternational Union for LVT; Internal Outreach Coordinator, R.
Schalkenbach Fndn.; and recipient of the International Earth Day
Award.

Jan Jarrett, Harrisburg, PA, has a 25 year career in pub-
lic interest, environmental and clean energy advocacy in Penn.
She currently is an environmental policy and outreach consultant.
She works on policies and environmental issues. She worked for
10 years for the Penn. Chesapeake Bay Foundation where she
was the Penn. grass roots coordinator. For two years she coordi-
nated a coalition of consumers and environmental organizations
in the Penn. Campaign for Clean and Affordable Energy which
sought to gain consumer protection and clean energy. She
worked for 13 years for Penn. Future where she helped develop a
successful campaign by creating policies for renewable energy
and energy efficient industries. The Pittsburgh Post Gazette
named her one of the 10 most influential people for her work on
Marcellus Shale gas.

Michael Wood, Harrisburg, PA, is the Research Direc-
tor of the Penn. Budget and Policy Center. The Budget and Poli-
cy Center is a non-profit, non-partisan progressive research think

tank in Harrisburg that works on tax and budget issues primarily
at the state level. He has authored several research and policy
briefs for the PBPC. Before joining that in 2007 he was the
Budget Manager for the city of Harrisburg. He also spent a
number of years with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a
Revenue Forecasting Analyst at the Dept. of Revenue.

JAN JARRETT: You may know a lot about fracking
but what might be useful for you to understand is how the issue
really came to Pennsylvania in such a sudden and disruptive
way. And how the state and advocates wrestled with the issues
that swirl around fracking and all the turbulence and the changes
in that context and the options we were faced with in the politi-
cal sense within a fairly brief period of time. The story of the
Marcellus Shale really starts 400 million years ago with an in-
land sea that was created as continents crashed into each other
and then separated from each other. It was a time even before
the dinosaurs. In the inland lake where the Marcellus Shale for-
mation is, algae and other simple forms of life forms settled to
the bottom of the lake and created this shale gas and enriched the
compound trapping it in rock. That is well known that we have
this deposit under much of Pennsylvania. It is usually found
about 1,000 feet underground, and even though it was known
that that deposit was there it was not able to be accessed with the
technology over the 20th century. Some innovations in the late
20th century and into the early 21st century changed that. Shale
gas and unconventional gas extraction was pioneered in Texas
through a series of events. There was a company based in Hou-
ston, TX, Range Resources, and they had operations already in
Pennsylvania in drilling shallow wells. Gas drilling has been
done for about 100 years with vertical drilling. They also had
some of the same kinds of problems and issues that hydraulic
fracturing in the shale has lots of times. But nevertheless here
in Pennsylvania it was well established with infrastructure to
transport that.

That was already here to get our gas out and also the
pipelines that ran across Pennsylvania getting gas from other
areas south from the Gulf and Louisiana and Texas up to the
market in the East. A geologist who worked with Range Re-
sources was kind at the end of his career and with financial is-
sues convinced the president of Range Resources to take a
chance on using this hydraulic fracturing technique on the Mar-
cellus Shale to see what they might get. These shale deposits
typically are extremely productive right away though they level
out after a few years. (continued on page 12)