



THE SHALE PLAY TODAY



News & Insights from the Marcellus & Utica Shales

Contact Our Marcellus & Utica Shale Practice Group

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Paradigm Shift: Hydraulic Fracturing, Shale Development and Energy Abundance

As is commonly held by energy sector experts, the game-changing development of the shales and the resurgence of natural gas as a virtually new, huge, versatile, long-term fuel, with a shrinking environmental footprint, is based upon the synergistic deployment of several key technologies. These key synergizing technologies include horizontal drilling, multi-well pad drilling, steerable drills and, foremost in the public's mind, high-volume hydraulic fracturing, with the latter reduced in the public's mind to "fracking" and then errantly applied to represent the entire shale development process. Therefore, in order to preserve this abundance, industry professionals and well-informed stakeholders, must persist in talking about hydraulic fracturing properly and insist upon it being accorded the respect it deserves.

Hydraulic fracturing, in tandem with other entrepreneurially driven disruptive technologies, has helped create a true paradigm shift, from energy scarcity to energy abundance in the United

In The News



West Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania to Coordinate Efforts to Attract Shale Business

Leaders from the three states agreed to join forces and attract more shale gas business to the Marcellus and Utica Shales area - which happens to be the most productive basin in the country.

Click [here](#) to get the details.



Another \$1.1 Billion Gas Powered Power Plant Planned for the Utica Shale

South Field Energy LLC has announced the \$1.1 billion power plant will be located in Columbiana County. It will be the sixth new gas-fired power plant being built in Ohio - due to the abundance of the Utica Shale's natural gas.

Click [here](#) to read about the announcement.



The Heart of Shale Country: Wheeling, W.Va. - The Nation's Fifth Fastest Growing Economy

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Wheeling has profited from the natural gas boom. Wheeling's GDP grew by 9.5 percent from 2013 to 2014. The other top four fastest growing

States. This newly found, technologically propelled abundance has been further fostered by the nexus of innovation, entrepreneurship and available capital. In order to optimize and extend this newly found energy abundance from domestic oil and natural shale development, it is imperative that hydraulic fracturing, with its ever-increasing efficiencies, be allowed to continue.

[Click here to read our take on this topic.](#)

economies? All located in strong shale gas regions.

Click [here](#) to read more.



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Featured Shale Team Member



[R. P. Duranti, Jr.](#) (Morgantown, W.Va.)

A leading West Virginia attorney in shale gas and energy law, Mr. Duranti assists our clients with a variety of energy-related corporate and transactional issues. He has more than 30 years of experience assisting clients in the incorporation of natural gas, oil and coal business entities and advising such clients on a wide variety of legal and business matters. Mr. Duranti earned both his undergraduate and law degrees from West Virginia University. He is admitted to practice law in West Virginia, and he is a member of the American Association of Petroleum Landmen, the West Virginia Association of Petroleum Landmen, and the Energy and Mineral Law Foundation.

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