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# THE SHALE PLAY TODAY

News & Insights from the Marcellus and Utica Shales



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## Climate Action Plan Breathes New Life into Oil & Gas Air Regulations

On March 28, 2014, the White House released its Climate Action Plan Strategy to Reduce Methane Emissions. The oil and natural gas sectors are clearly in the cross-hairs for reductions.

The report indicates the oil and natural gas sector was responsible for 28 percent of man-made methane emissions in 2012 - second only to the agricultural sector, which accounts for 36 percent of emissions.

According to the report, "[t]here are cost-effective technologies and best management practices to capture methane from venting and leaks across the entire oil and natural gas value chain."

With such a conclusion, federal regulations mandating methane controls for the oil and natural gas industry seem almost inevitable.

The only question remaining is this: How pervasively will the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") regulate methane emissions from the oil and natural gas sector?

Click [here](#) for the entire article.

## In The News



### Major Natural Gas Power Plant Announcement Indicates Different Uses for Marcellus & Utica Shale Gas

Spilman recently provided legal and environmental counsel for a \$615 million natural gas combined-cycle power plant to be built in Moundsville, W.Va. The 37-acre site will be home to Moundsville Power's 549 megawatt facility. The plant will utilize \$105 million of natural gas annually sourced from W.Va. producers and processors - proving that Marcellus and Utica Shale gas has broad reach in terms of economic development.

Read the entire announcement [here](#).



### Natural Gas Expanding as a Major Player in Transportation Fuels

The National Research Council recommends expanding the use of natural gas as transportation fuel along with a greater use of aerodynamic devices on trailers to reduce fuel consumption.

Read the entire article [here](#).



### Pennsylvania's Act 13 Impact Fee Revenues Rise

Act 13's Impact Fee revenues are expected to

surpass \$630 million through 2014.

The majority of the funds are distributed to counties and municipalities across the Commonwealth for a variety of uses including environmental, public safety, infrastructure, emergency response and conservation programs.

Read the entire article [here](#).



### PA DEP Releases 2012 Natural Gas Emissions Data for 8,800 Natural Gas Wells and 400 Compressor Stations

Since 2008, when unconventional drilling across Pennsylvania rapidly increased, cumulative air contaminant emissions have continued to decline.

Read the entire article [here](#).



#### Featured Shale Team Member



#### James A. Baldwin (Pittsburgh)

Mr. Baldwin joins Team Spilman with an extensive background in mergers and acquisitions and a variety of financial transaction dealings. In addition, his involvement in energy related finance matters across the globe give him a unique perspective - helping our clients as we all

navigate this rapidly changing industry.

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