

ASCE

**SHALE ENERGY
ENGINEERING
CONFERENCE**

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania | July 21 – 23, 2014



Technical Challenges, Environmental Issues and Public Policy

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WELCOME



In recent years, new technologies that utilize horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing techniques have led to a rapid expansion of the shale oil and gas industry, offering access to new sources of hydrocarbon fuels that hold the promise of energy independence for the United States. At the same time, there has been public concern about the potential environmental effects of these new technologies, with varying environmental regulations being implemented at the state and federal level in response to their rapid deployment. Consequently, some areas of the country are witnessing a rapid growth in the number of wells for exploration, while other areas have delayed this development pending further environmental studies. Moving forwards, the challenge for our society is to develop a holistic approach to shale oil and gas exploitation that does not impede useful economic growth and prosperity, while developing solutions that minimize negative environmental impacts and disturbances to the socio-economic fabric of our communities.



Civil and Environmental Engineers have as their core mission the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare. The goal of this

conference will be to provide a forum for: (1) discussing the technical challenges associated with shale oil and gas development, (2) exploring the critical environmental issues that exist in this area, and (3) presenting balanced public policy solutions that can be used to safely develop our shale oil and gas resources. The conference will focus on the challenges that lie ahead with developing the means and methods to carefully monitor all aspects of shale oil and gas production, and will encourage and promote the development of technologies that allow for cost effective shale oil and gas exploration, while minimizing the impact on water resources, geological stability of impacted areas, air quality, and infrastructure assets such as roads,