

THE **WILDCATTER**  
MICHAEL LATE BENEDUM CHAPTER

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL LANDMEN



Ben McKinney, John Catsonis and Kevin Pierson present Ben Becze, Senior Director of Development at WVU Children's Hospital, with a check for \$5,000 from the NAPE Expo Charities Fund.

**INSIDE THE ISSUE:**

**5K FAMILY FUN RUN AND FEBRUARY EDUCATIONAL LUNCHEON**



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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

MLBC PRESIDENT, JOHN CATSONIS



## Looking Back, Moving Forward, and Embracing Today in Our Maturing Shale Play

April 20, 2020, was a historic day for the oil and gas industry and the commodities markets. On that day, the West Texas Intermediate (WTI) May crude futures contract settled at negative \$37.63 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX). On that same day, according to the US Energy Information Administration, the Henry Hub natural gas spot price was reported at \$1.78 per MMBtu. I remember watching CNBC that evening thinking about the historical significance of what was unfolding. It was a moment that underscored just how volatile and unpredictable our industry and commodities markets can be.

Fast forward two years and four months to August 22, 2022, on that day, oil was priced at \$93.42 per barrel based on the Cushing, OK WTI spot price, while natural gas was priced at \$9.85 per MMBtu according to the Henry Hub Natural Gas spot price. Both figures were sourced from the U.S. Energy Information Administration and the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Economic Data. Although I do not recall that day vividly, I do remember tracking natural gas prices in August that year and feeling incredibly optimistic about the trajectory of commodity prices.

That optimism was short-lived. Just six months later, on February 22, 2023, the spot price for natural gas was \$2.07 per MMBtu, and oil was priced at \$73.95 per barrel (EIA, FRED). If nothing else, this volatility serves as a vivid reminder that swings and cycles are part of the DNA of the oil and gas industry.

Other than looking at commodity prices for fun, this lookback is interesting because it underscores how our industry is subject to cycles and swings. Whether caused by advancements in horizontal drilling, geopolitical events, a global pandemic, supply and demand imbalances, weather disturbances, or regulatory uncertainty, these cycles have shaped our industry, and our careers. They create opportunities for growth, innovation, and entrepreneurship, but can also expose vulnerabilities and force adaptation.

I have been a landman for 17 years, and I was fortunate to cut my teeth during the Marcellus boom. At the time, I worked for our family-owned land services company, primarily representing regional oil and gas operators. In the initial stages of the Marcellus Shale's development, I recall some conversations with our regional oil and gas clients, who informed us that their companies were being acquired or that their assets were being divested to major energy players like Exxon, Chevron, and Hess, among others. I am sure many others have encountered similar scenarios in their own experiences. It was an exciting period, and mergers, acquisitions, and divestitures are simply part of the natural business cycle in the lifespan of an oil and gas play.

This shift in the cycle, and the maturing of an oil and gas play, introduced both changes and opportunities, leading to new areas of interest, new clients, and heightened competition. Over time, the market stabilized; some major energy companies remained, others divested assets to smaller privately held operators, and still others merged with competitors to form even larger oil and gas entities. It is fascinating to look back over the past 15 years and compare the industry's key players, then versus now, along with their leasehold positions.

*(Continued)*

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

*MLBC PRESIDENT, JOHN CATSONIS*

Veteran landmen have seen this pattern repeat across different regions and plays. Some of us recall the rush to acquire acreage in New York targeting the Trenton-Black River, the excitement in Pennsylvania during the early Marcellus activity, the rapid development along the Ohio River during the rise of the Utica, and more recently the competitive atmosphere in Ohio's western Utica oil expansion. All these formations and plays are at various stages in their life cycle, and all of us have contributed to their acquisition, development, re-acquisition, divestment, or release, whatever the case may be.

On a personal note, my wife always reminds me to stay present whenever I catch myself wandering down memory lane or thinking too much about historical commodity prices. It is a valuable reminder that while reflection is important, the real work happens in the present. No matter which stage of the play's life cycle we find ourselves in, the work we do is essential to energy development and the success of the companies we serve and represent.

As members of the MLBC, we have weathered both commodity price volatility and the maturation of our region's oil and gas plays. We have been part of the development and production of one of the most significant basins in the country. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration's Drilling Productivity Report, the Appalachian Basin consistently ranks as the highest-producing natural gas region in the United States. Collectively, we have made the Appalachian Basin the top natural gas producing shale play in the nation, a contribution we should all be proud of.

Over the past two decades, our industry has transformed, and we have transformed with it. We have capitalized on market upswings, survived downturns, and carved out lasting legacies in the process. Brokers and land-service companies have been fortunate to transition away from weeks spent in hotels to the comforts of working from our offices. Gone are the days of using colored pencils to draw leasehold maps and today we have robust GIS software that handle illustrating our leaseholds. The future will present both challenges and opportunities, but if history is any guide, volatility will persist, and new possibilities will arise even as our region's plays mature.

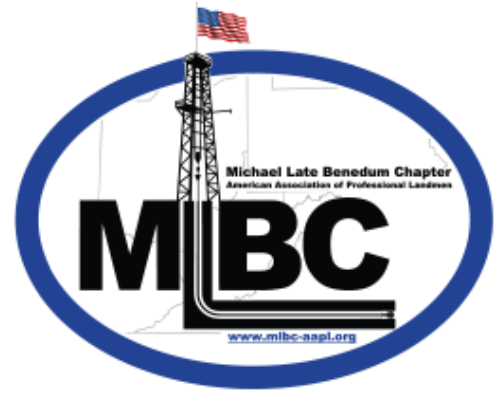
As I reflect on my journey as a landman, I am reminded of how these cycles have shaped not only our profession and the MLBC organization, but also our resilience and resourcefulness. Through it all, the MLBC has been a constant, a community of like-minded professionals who understand the unique challenges and rewards of our work. Together, we have celebrated the booms, endured the busts, built the nation's top natural gas basin, and we did it together as members of the MLBC.

Looking ahead for the rest of this year and beyond for landmen in our region and the MLBC organization, I am optimistic about what the future holds. At the time of writing this article, CNBC is reporting oil trading at \$73.57 per barrel while natural gas is trading at \$3.42 per MMBtu. Whether it is a new play, a shift in market dynamics, or the rise of emerging opportunities, I know we will face it head-on with the same determination that has carried us through the past. And while I will always enjoy looking back at historical commodity prices, it is good to be in the present and make the most of today, because that is where our future begins. The future may be hard to predict, and I am certain we will face our share of ups and downs in commodity prices, but we will do it together as colleagues and members of the MLBC. No matter how volatile the market is, or where we find ourselves in the lifecycle of our region's shale plays, let us continue moving forward and remember to be present in the moment and enjoy the ride.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Catsonis

# 2025 MLBC CORPORATE SPONSORS



## DIAMOND



## EMERALD



## PLATINUM



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## SILVER



For more information or to purchase a Corporate Sponsor package or advertise in the The Wildcatter, please contact Abby Veigel at [abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org](mailto:abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org).



# 2025 CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

The 2025 Corporate Sponsorship tiers are designed to support both the MLBC organization and the MLBC Foundation. Fifty percent of your contribution will support the MLBC organization, with the remaining fifty percent supporting the MLBC Foundation. By contributing, you're helping to advance energy professionals in our region, strengthen the communities where we work, and support the charities we proudly stand behind. Join us and our mission to support land professionals in our region and make a meaningful, lasting impact in our community.

**For more information or to purchase a Corporate Sponsor package or advertise in the The Wildcatter, please contact Abby Veigel at [abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org](mailto:abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org).**

## DIAMOND \$10,000

- \$4,000 Foundation Credit (may be redeemed for event tickets or sponsorship)
- 4 passes to each MLBC educational & social event
- Logo included in every Wildcatter edition & membership email
- Logo linked on MLBC website
- Logo displayed at all events (virtually or in person)
- 4 full page ads in The Wildcatter per year
- 2 half page ads in The Wildcatter per year

## EMERALD \$7,500

- \$3,000 Foundation Credit (may be redeemed for event tickets or sponsorship)
- 4 passes to each MLBC educational & social event
- Logo included in every Wildcatter edition & membership email
- Logo linked on MLBC website
- Logo displayed at all events (virtually or in person)
- 3 full page ads in The Wildcatter per year
- 2 half page ads in The Wildcatter per year

## PLATINUM \$5,000

- \$2,000 Foundation Credit (may be redeemed for event tickets or sponsorship)
- 4 passes to each MLBC educational & social event
- Logo included in every Wildcatter edition & membership email
- Logo linked on MLBC website
- Logo displayed at all events (virtually or in person)
- 2 full page ads in The Wildcatter per year
- 1 half page ad in The Wildcatter per year

## GOLD \$2,500

- \$1,000 Foundation Credit (may be redeemed for event tickets or sponsorship)
- 2 passes to each MLBC educational & social event
- Logo included in every Wildcatter edition & membership email
- Logo linked on MLBC website
- Logo displayed at all events (virtually or in person)
- 1 half page ad in The Wildcatter per year

## SILVER \$1,500

- \$500 Foundation Credit (may be redeemed for event tickets or sponsorship)
- Logo included in every Wildcatter edition & membership email
- Logo linked on MLBC website
- Logo displayed at all events (virtually or in person)

# LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY UPDATE

By Nikolas Tysiak, Legislative and Regulatory Chairman



Our update is West Virginia heavy this time. Here are the cases since our last update:

Kaess v. BB Land, LLC, —S.E.2d—, 2024 WL 4784609 (November 14, 2024). Certified question to Supreme Court from U.S. District Court for Northern District of West Virginia, inquiring whether the deduction of certain costs from the delivery of royalties were allowable under West Virginia law when the lease calls for “in kind” royalty delivery. After extensive analysis, the Supreme Court likened an “in kind” royalty provision as being similar to a “flat” royalty provision, and ultimately held that lessor under a lease with an in kind royalty provision where the lessor elects NOT to take oil and gas in kind is not subject to the deduction of post-production costs as a matter of West Virginia law.

Venable Royalty Ltd. v. EQT Production Company, 908 S.E.2d 501 (W. Va. I. C., 2024). The Intermediate Court was presented with the problem of determining whether non-participating royalty interests (“NPRIs”) should be classified as “real estate” or “personal property” as a matter of West Virginia law. The NPRI at issue was conveyed by a tax deed following a delinquent tax sale concerning the interest. One side argued that the tax deed was void because an NPRI is personal property. The other side claimed that the tax deed was successful because an NPRI is assessable as real estate, rendering the tax deed effective as to the reserved NPRI. After reviewing the available authorities, the Intermediate Court determined that NPRIs should be classified as real estate interests because they are vested real property.

Romeo v. Antero Resources Corporation, —S.E.2d—, 2024 WL 4784706 (November 14, 2024). Another certified question from the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia concerning post production costs. The Court adopted a “point of sale” rule, which indicates that the lessee must bear all costs incurred in exploring for, producing, marketing and transportation the product to the point of sale. The Court expressed concern that adopting a different rule would make the marketability of produced gas a question of fact to be determined by courts or other judicial proceedings, instead of a question of law. Acknowledging that their ruling put West Virginia in a minority of one regarding the deductibility of post-production costs, the Court nevertheless found that the deduction of such costs could only be taken if specifically stated in a lease, and further found that the same rulings extended to NGLs derived from produced natural gas.

West v. Armstrong, 2024 WL 4709943 (W. Va. I.C.A., November 7, 2024). In 1905, landowners conveyed ½ oil and gas interest under 30 acres, described as “one half part of the royalty and rents reserved under such lease while the same remains in force . . .” and then includes additional language that the parties argued over whether it limited the conveyance generally or only if only certain terms of the conveyance were limited. The Supreme Court found that the limiting language contained in the oil and gas conveyance only applied to certain provisions of the deed, and not the conveyance as a whole.

Bleigh v. Dominion Energy Transmission, Inc., 2024 WL 5201003 (W. Va. I.C.A., December 23, 2024). This case involves the determination of the rights and duties under a 1909 oil and gas lease and subsequent 1952 lease modification. The modification gave the operator the right to inject and store oil and gas into the Berea Sand. A storage well was subsequently completed on the property. After the deep rights under the lease became vested in DETI and HG Energy, successors to those rights, the landowner, Bleigh, alleged that these operators did not take proper steps to develop the oil and gas under the prudent operator standard. The Court found that the modification agreement overrode the implied covenant to prudently operate and develop the oil and gas, resulting in the storage lease being sufficient to hold the lease so long as the lease continues to be used for storage.

As always, if you come across anything that needs to be reported on, please let us know ASAP.

Regards,

Nik Tysiak  
Chair – Legislative and Regulatory Committee MLBC

# MEMBER ALERT



## 2025 MEMBERSHIP SATISFACTION SURVEY

Each year AAPL conducts a [survey](#) of its members to gauge overall membership satisfaction. The results assist AAPL in providing the most value to our members and adapting our products and services to meet membership needs.

The survey, which is powered by SurveyMonkey, takes only roughly 10 minutes to complete. Enter the email that's connected to your Amazon account at the end of the survey for your chance to win one of four \$20 digital Amazon gift cards or one of four \$25 digital Amazon gift cards!

We value your membership and thank you for your role in AAPL and our industry. Please give us your honest feedback so we can best serve you in 2025!

### TAKE OUR 2025 MEMBERSHIP SATISFACTION SURVEY



## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to promote the highest standards and ethics of performance for all land professionals and to encourage sound stewardship of all energy and mineral resources.

## OUR VALUES

Through relevant information, comprehensive education and targeted networking, we assist land professionals in deepening their industry knowledge, elevating their careers and, ultimately, creating new business opportunities.

[AAPL'S VALUE STATEMENT, STRATEGIC GOALS & MORE](#)

[BECOME MORE FAMILIAR WITH YOUR BENEFITS](#)



# REGISTRATION FOR AAPL'S 2025 ANNUAL MEETING IS OPENING SOON!



Experience world-class education, tailored networking offerings, unmatched entertainment and time-honored AAPL traditions with hundreds of North American energy professionals at the 71st edition of AAPL's Annual Meeting June 18-20 in Kansas City, Missouri. Stay tuned for more info and registration!

## UPCOMING IN-PERSON EVENTS

**FEB 11-13**

**RPL/CPL CERTIFICATION EXAM REVIEW**  
FORT WORTH, TX

**MAR 3-5**

**RPL/CPL CERTIFICATION EXAM REVIEW**  
MIDLAND, TX

**APR 3-4**

**APPALACHIAN LAND INSTITUTE**  
REGISTRATION OPENING SOON  
PITTSBURGH, PA

**APR 23-24**

**MINING & LAND RESOURCES INSTITUTE**  
REGISTRATION OPENING SOON  
LAKE TAHOE, NV

**MAY 20-22**

**RPL/CPL CERTIFICATION EXAM REVIEW**  
DENVER, CO

**JUN 18-20**

**71ST ANNUAL MEETING**  
REGISTRATION OPENING SOON  
KANSAS CITY, MO

**JUL 22-24**

**RPL/CPL CERTIFICATION EXAM REVIEW**  
PITTSBURGH, PA

**AUG 6-8**

**RPL/CPL CERTIFICATION EXAM REVIEW**  
HOUSTON, TX

## DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE

The AAPL Educational Foundation, Inc. established the Disaster Relief Assistance Program for AAPL members who have suffered financial loss due to severe storms and natural disasters.

If you or an AAPL member you know have been affected by the California wildfires or any other natural disaster or severe storm across North America and would like to apply for a grant, please complete the [Disaster Relief Application](#).

There are two ways to donate to the Disaster Relief Assistance program:

- To donate online, visit our [PayPal page](#) and select "Disaster Relief" in the drop-down menu.
- If paying via check, make your check payable to "AAPL Educational Foundation, Inc.," and specify "Disaster Relief" in the memo. Send check to [800 Fournier St., Fort Worth, TX 76102](#).

100% of donations to the AAPL Educational Foundation for disaster relief directly assist AAPL members who have suffered losses during recent and future natural disasters. The Educational Foundation is a Section 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 chartered under the laws of Texas. Your donation is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

For questions, please contact [aapl@landman.org](mailto:aapl@landman.org).

[DISASTER RELIEF FORM](#)

[EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION](#)

# AAPL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Submitted by: Jeremy White



On December 7th and 8th, 2024, the AAPL held its Q4 Board Meeting at the historic Rancho Bernardo Inn in northern San Diego, CA. I know what you are thinking. A December trip to warm, sunny southern California – what a lucky break for Jeremy. You would be hasty in assuming that it was warm. You would also be hasty to assume it was sunny. In fact, it was neither.

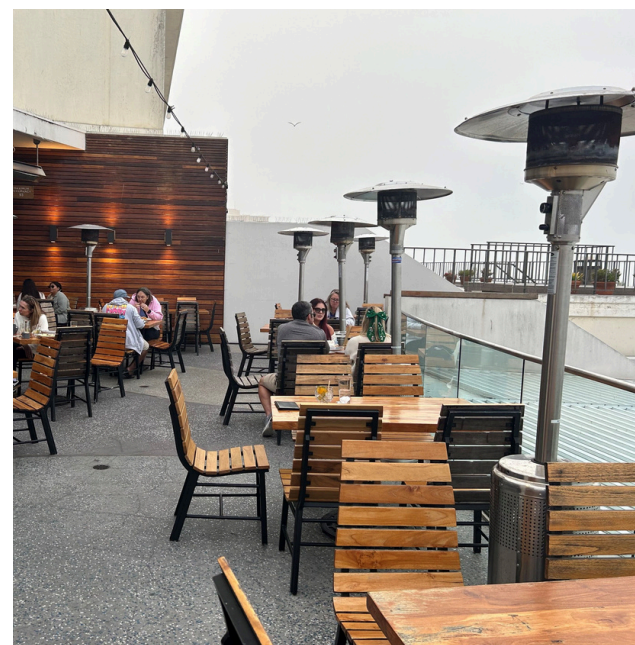
I flew into San Diego on Thursday, December 5th and flew back on Monday the 9th. The only warm or sunny day just so happened to be Sunday the 8th – squarely when I was in a conference room tending to AAPL business. That said, I did manage to enjoy the little bit of sun left that afternoon at a local historic winery in Escondido. It was a great spot that I enjoyed - enough to purchase a case of their product for shipment back home.

Those that know me know that regardless of the cool, overcast weather I encountered, I still explored. Within an hour of landing, I was sitting waterfront at San Diego Fish Market having some fish and chips along with a spectacular cup of clam chowder. Afterwards, I paid my respect at the Bob Hope Memorial and the Unconditional Surrender statue with the USS Midway in the background.

The next day, I decided to make my way up the coast and explore on my way to the AAPL host hotel, which was about 45 minutes north of town. I took some time to explore the Sunset Cliffs area and enjoyed watching the few surfers choose their breakers patiently. I ended up spending most of the afternoon in La Jolla, which is a picturesque town built around the La Jolla Bay and has famous coves, tide pools, sea lion point, and a cave.

The town of La Jolla is full of interesting boutiques, upscale restaurants, and art galleries. If you visit, I recommend exploring the tunnel leading to the sea cave. It provides a unique perspective looking out into the Pacific Ocean. Another highlight for me was the Authentic Vintage Poster gallery. If you appreciate vintage commercial artistry, graphic arts, or history – it is not to be missed. Check their website out if I've piqued your curiosity. Everything in their gallery is original – no reprints! I'm talking an original concert poster from the 1967 Monterey Pop Festival, "screaming" character posters used as archery targets for the Prussian soldiers in the 1880s, and 1950s travel advertising posters. If you like this kind of stuff, you can spend hours here. Also, unfortunately for me, and much to my wife's chagrin, everything is for sale. I did not escape without asking them to take my money. But, as any self-respecting landman – I didn't pay asking price! If you are curious what I couldn't live without, feel free to reach out to me or ask me at the next MLBC meeting. Happy to share.

Oil & Gas Connection: I'm not sure if this is a connection, or more of an observation. If you are reading this, no doubt you are very familiar with where our energy comes from. Landmen understand – whether they are primarily involved with gas, oil, solar, wind, or yes, coal – when you turn on the light switch, there is something generating that power. When you turn on your automobile, it is relying on some source of energy – whether its gasoline, diesel, CNG, or electric. As it's accurately been said many times, electric vehicles just have a much longer exhaust pipe.



Let me be clear - this is not a statement against electric vehicles. I have no issue with them. In fact, I can honestly see myself buying one of those new Scout Travelers when they hit the market. What I am saying is – there is a clear disconnect with a large part of the population when it comes to understanding energy, emissions, and conservation.

It is no secret that California has the strictest vehicle emissions standards in the country. The state has led the way with EV mandates, with a target of 100% of new vehicle sales by 2035 being electric vehicles. I'm not much for vehicle mandates, but that's beside the point. My point is that, although they are pushing EVs, they don't fully understand energy conservation or emissions – or at least don't care as much they say they do. This could not have been illustrated any better as during the times I went out to eat at restaurants that had outdoor seating. Every restaurant patio or deck I dined on had many, many, fixed natural gas heaters and mobile propane patio heaters firing away constantly – whether anyone was sitting nearby or not. I mean EVERY restaurant and I mean MANY heaters. The first restaurant at which I ate (remember the fish and chips and clam chowder?), I sat outside on the open air deck. Recall I said it wasn't warm? It wasn't frigid either. It was probably 60 degrees give or take. They had multiple natural gas radiant heaters making me sweat in the open air. The restaurant at which I ate in La Jolla, (which has amazing ceviche tacos by the way), had a large outside patio with no roof – just open air – and had no fewer than 5 fixed heaters and 12 mobile patio heaters all firing away constantly. The one that really blew my mind though, was the host hotel. The Veranda Restaurant at Rancho Bernardo Inn has a very large outdoor patio overlooking their golf course. I decided to have breakfast here Saturday morning. You guessed it – I ate outside – as did maybe a dozen other guests. I was dumbfounded at the amount of propane heaters firing away into the open air – along with a natural gas firepit and natural gas log fireplace – all firing away. I have included photos of the restaurant in La Jolla and the Veranda patio, because I don't think my words do it justice.



When I mentioned the abundance of heaters just firing off into the atmosphere to waitstaff a couple times, the response was the same: “Do you need me to move one closer to you?” No thank you. Not necessary. It just seems like a waste. “Oh, we have tons of propane. We won't run out.” To me, that is a small microcosm of the disconnect a large segment of the population has regarding what energy conservation and emissions control really mean.

We are landmen. We understand. I would ask each of you to do your part, when opportunities present themselves, to politely educate those who truly don't make the connection. You can be all for energy production and all for energy conservation at the same time. It just takes being mindful.

As far as actual AAPL business, the Q4 meeting was pretty short, as it seemed everyone wanted to get out early and enjoy the aforementioned rare sun sighting. In addition to the individual Director's Reports, the following is a summary of the key points covered:

- **Treasurer's Report:** AAPL total assets have increased to \$44,661,666, up 14% YOY. The increase is primarily due to market activity related to the investment account and not drawing down on the investment account for cash flow since February 2023.
- **Revenues** (exclusive of investment revenue) year over year, have increased 7.4% from \$743,252 to \$797,993, a change of \$54,741.
- **Expenses** compared to this time last year have increased 3.7% from \$1,235,342 to \$1,280,671, an increase of \$45,329.
- **Event Participation**
  - Women in Energy Institute saw a 20% increase in attendance, rising from 200 to 240 participants. Sponsorship revenue increased by 42.8%, growing from \$76,000 to \$108,500. Expenses decreased by over \$22,000, reflecting improved operational efficiency. Final P&L for the institute will be available in the next quarter.
  - The Gulf Coast Land Institute set a record with 131 attendees, tripling attendance from 2023.
  - Denver Land Institute reached full capacity with over 200 participants. Hosted inaugural Oklahoma Energy Institute exceeding our attendance goal of 100 with 182 registrants.
  - 20 webinars conducted this quarter, including the highest-attended Legal Landmines webinar with 317 participants.
  - Professional Development Assistance provided \$32,578 in support to 129 recipients.
  - Recognized Dorsey Roach and Owen “Monty” Barnhill for dedicated service to AAPL as educators.

On March 14-16, 2025 I'll be traveling to Providence, RI for the AAPL Q1 Board Meeting and will be sure to update the MLBC with points of interest. As always, I would like to thank the MLBC for the opportunity to represent the organization and region as its AAPL Director. I would also like to thank Tenmile Land, and its ownership, for supporting my efforts to serve this term.

If any of our members have questions or concerns related to the AAPL, feel free to reach out to me and I'll try to help the best way I can.

Sincerely,

Jeremy M. White  
AAPL Director 2023-2025



*Please note the following dates related to upcoming Director's Meetings and the AAPL Annual Meeting:*

- Board Meeting: March 14-16, 2025 - Newport Harbor Island Resort - Newport, RI
- Board Meeting: June 17-18, 2025 - Loews Kansas City - Kansas City, MO

# DUDLEY

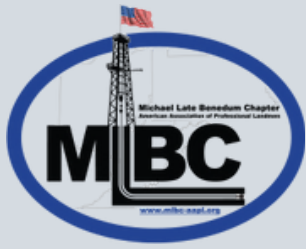
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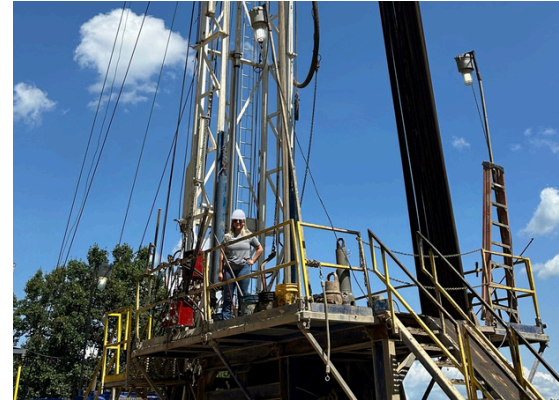
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# Member Spotlight

## McKenna Hewitt



### **Tell us a little about yourself.**

My name is McKenna Hewitt, and I'm from Daisytown, Pennsylvania, a small rural town in Washington County. I'm currently studying Land and Energy Management with a minor in Geographical Information Systems at Marietta College. On campus, I am involved in several PLM/ELM activities, including working two jobs within the athletic department, participating in Marietta College Cru, and being an active member of both the Marietta College Landman Association and the Society of Petroleum Engineering. In my free time, I enjoy studying and spending time with friends. After graduating in the Spring of 2026, I plan to apply my skills in the landman and mapping industries.

### **Who are you currently employed or contracted with?**

Currently, I am not employed as I am still pursuing my studies. However, I have signed a contract with American Consolidated Natural Resources (ACNR) to complete my second year of internship with the company.

### **How long have you worked in the oil and gas industry? And what states do you have experience? And tell us about any other land organization you belong.**

I have not yet fully worked in the oil and gas industry due to continuous education.

### **Tell us about your first position in the industry.**

My first role in the industry was with a solar-focused company, Chaberton Energy, where I served as a Solar Policy Intern. This position gave me a comprehensive understanding of the regulatory requirements essential for maintaining operations in the solar energy sector. During my internship, I had the opportunity to review various pieces of legislation related to solar energy in Maryland, where the company was based, deepening my knowledge of the regulatory landscape in the industry.

### **What areas of the industry do you have experience in?**

While attending Marietta College, I have had the opportunity to experience work within the solar, coal mining, and oil and gas industry. All these opportunities are thanks for several internships and job shadows.

### **Do you have a mentor in the industry? Can you provide details?**

Although I do not have an official mentor within the industry, I have greatly admired and sought guidance from our program director at Marietta, Tina Thomas. With her extensive experience in engineering, leasing, and legislation, Professor Thomas has navigated numerous challenges throughout her career. I hold deep respect for her resilience and determination. She has been an invaluable resource, offering both academic support and industry insights, and I am grateful for the guidance she has provided.

### **How long have you been a member of the MLBC. Do you currently have any certifications through the AAPL?**

I have been a Student Member of MLBC since August of 2022 and plan to continue my membership post-graduation.

### **What benefits have you found as a member of the MLBC? What are your favorite aspects?**

Since joining MLBC, I've had the opportunity to attend monthly Zoom meetings and luncheons at various locations. Each event has allowed me to connect with new industry professionals and strengthen my network within the landman community. The learning opportunities MLBC provides have greatly expanded my knowledge of oil and gas, which I can now apply to advance my career.

### **Do you serve the MLBC, AAPL, or any other organizations in an executive capacity and/or serve as a committee chair? Are you a member of any committees?**

As a student member of MLBC I have had the great honor to serve at the Marietta College Student Liaison.

Industry Intelligence. Focused Legal Perspective.  
Unparalleled Value.

## HIGH-YIELDING RESULTS.



Energy &  
Natural Resources



Environmental &  
Regulatory



Business  
Transactions



Real Estate,  
Land Use & Zoning



Pipeline &  
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Commercial  
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# PRESIDENT TRUMP SIGNS ENERGY EXECUTIVE ORDERS ON DAY ONE OF ADMINISTRATION

BY: BLAKE JONES



On January 20, 2025, newly sworn-in President Donald Trump signed several executive orders related to energy policy. In the most comprehensive order, [Declaring A National Energy Emergency](#), the administration declared a national energy emergency, the purpose of which is to increase leasing, development, production, transportation, refining, and generation of energy in order to meet the nation's needs. Under the order, federal agencies are granted emergency authority to develop domestic energy resources, including those on federal lands. The order also directs federal agencies to expedite all authorized energy infrastructure projects and requires federal agencies to identify projects that may need emergency permits under the Clean Water Act or the Endangered Species Act.

The next order, [Unleashing American Energy](#), sets forth the policy of the new administration with respect to domestic energy. These policies include encouraging energy production on federal lands and waters, the production of rare earth minerals, elimination of electric vehicle mandates, and ensuring that all regulations related to energy are grounded in clear applicable law. The order also requires federal agencies to review all actions that could potentially burden the identification and development of domestic resources and announced the revocation of several executive orders issued by the Biden Administration, including several related to climate change and sustainability.

[Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential](#) states that it is the policy of the new administration to fully avail itself of Alaska's vast resources, including those on federal and state lands, and to prioritize the development of Alaska's liquid natural gas. The order directs various federal agencies to rescind or withdraw numerous decisions, orders, and moratoriums that limit the production of natural resources in Alaska.

Finally, the administration ordered the [withdrawal of all areas within the Offshore Continental Shelf](#) from disposition for wind energy leasing. The order does not apply to existing wind leases or to leases for other purposes, such as oil and gas, and environmental conservation. The order calls for a temporary cessation of all wind leasing while federal agencies conduct an assessment of the environmental impacts of onshore and offshore wind projects.



# Educational Luncheon

**REGISTER NOW**

**The "O"  
Bridgeport, WV**

**2/13/2025**

**Registration: 11:30 AM**

**Lunch/Presentation: 12:00 PM**

**1 CE available**

**The Scope  
of Curative**

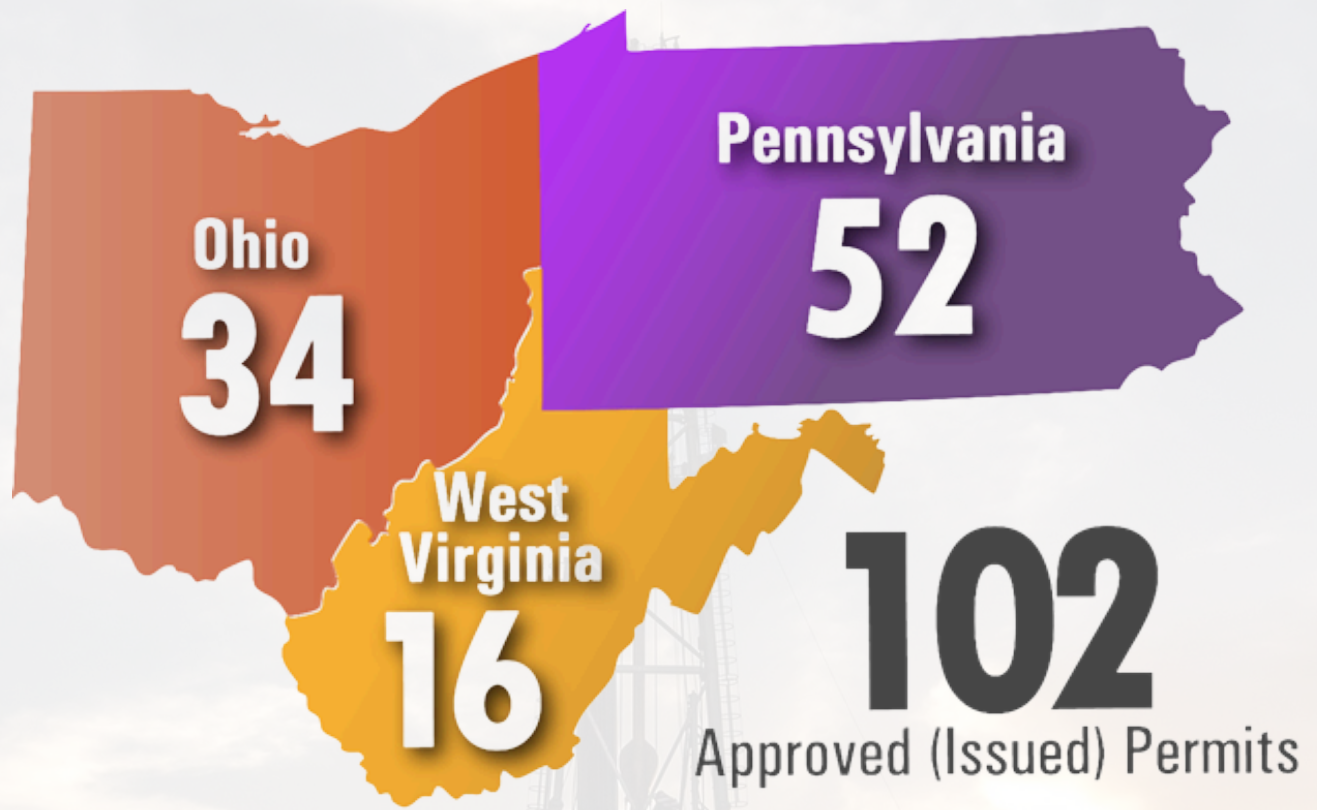
—  
Bethsandra Ash  
Percheron, LLC



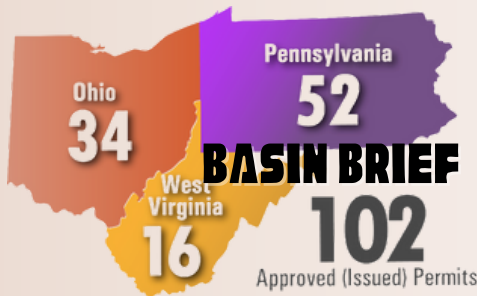
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# BASIN BRIEF



*BASIN ACTIVITY INFORMATION PROVIDED BY AYERS PETROLEUM CONSULTING AND IS CURRENT OF JANUARY 2025.*

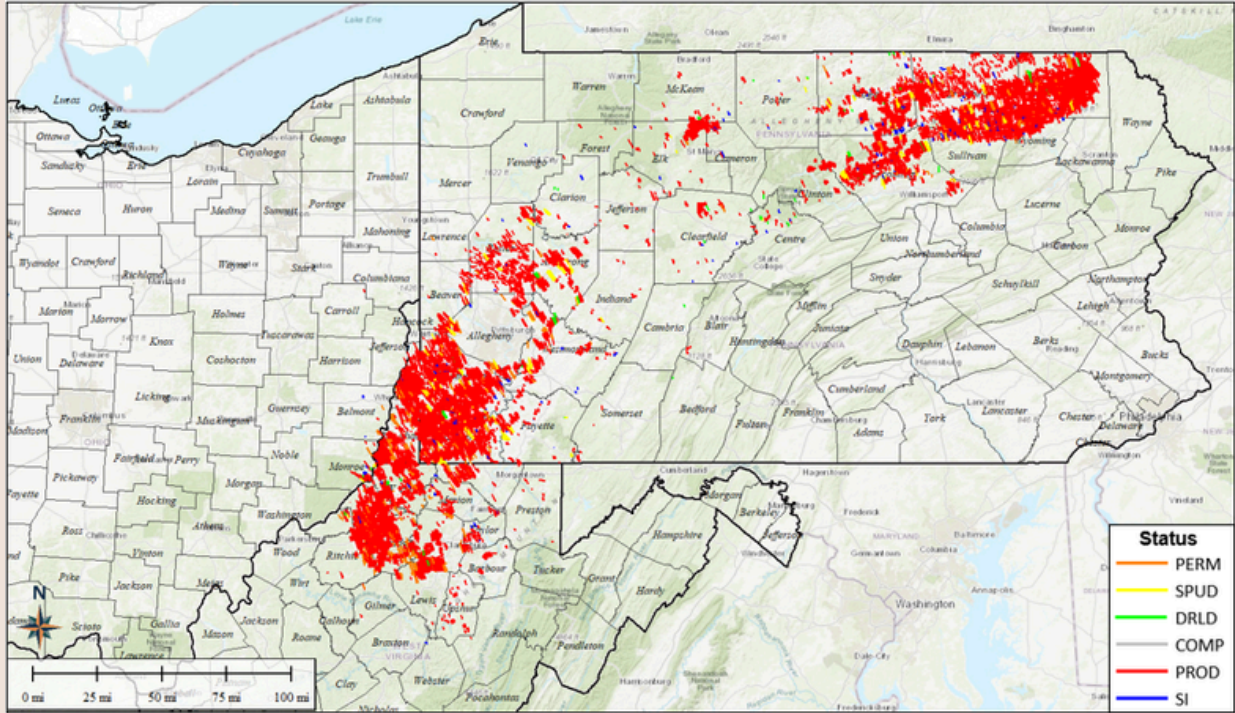


# PERMIT DETAILS

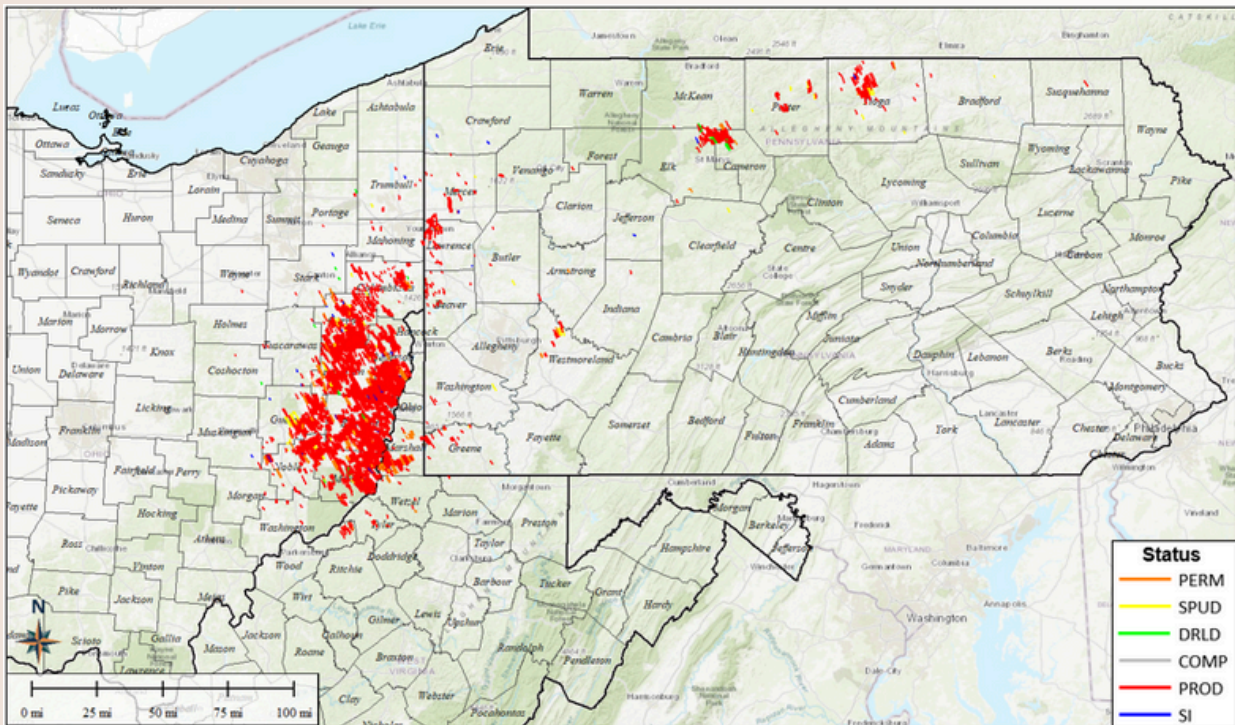
NO.	API	COUNTY	OPERATOR	PERMIT DATE	RESERVOIR
1	34-067-21823-0000	Harrison	EOG Resources	12/03/2024	Ufica
2	34-067-21824-0000	Harrison	EOG Resources	12/03/2024	Ufica
3	34-067-21825-0000	Harrison	EOG Resources	12/03/2024	Ufica
4	34-067-21826-0000	Harrison	EOG Resources	12/03/2024	Ufica
5	34-067-21827-0000	Harrison	EOG Resources	12/03/2024	Ufica
6	34-067-21828-0000	Harrison	Ascent	12/06/2024	Ufica
7	34-067-21829-0000	Harrison	Ascent	12/06/2024	Ufica
8	34-067-21830-0000	Harrison	Ascent	12/06/2024	Ufica
9	34-067-21831-0000	Harrison	Ascent	12/06/2024	Ufica
10	34-059-24700-0000	Guernsey	Ascent	12/09/2024	Ufica
11	34-059-24701-0000	Guernsey	Ascent	12/09/2024	Ufica
12	34-059-24702-0000	Guernsey	Ascent	12/09/2024	Ufica
13	34-059-24703-0000	Guernsey	Ascent	12/09/2024	Ufica
14	34-059-24704-0000	Guernsey	Ascent	12/16/2024	Ufica
15	34-059-24705-0000	Guernsey	Ascent	12/16/2024	Ufica
16	34-059-24706-0000	Guernsey	Ascent	12/16/2024	Ufica
17	34-111-25011-0000	Monroe	Expand Energy	12/18/2024	Ufica
18	34-157-25549-0000	Tuscarawas	Encino	12/19/2024	Ufica
19	34-157-25550-0000	Tuscarawas	Encino	12/19/2024	Ufica
20	34-157-25551-0000	Tuscarawas	Encino	12/20/2024	Ufica
21	34-019-22899-0000	Carroll	Encino	12/24/2024	Ufica
22	34-067-21832-0000	Harrison	Encino	12/26/2024	Ufica
23	34-067-21833-0000	Harrison	Encino	12/26/2024	Ufica
24	34-067-21834-0000	Harrison	Encino	12/26/2024	Ufica
25	34-067-21835-0000	Harrison	Encino	12/26/2024	Ufica
26	34-111-25012-0000	Monroe	Expand Energy	12/30/2024	Ufica
27	34-019-22900-0000	Carroll	Encino	12/31/2024	Ufica
28	34-019-22901-0000	Carroll	Encino	12/31/2024	Ufica
29	34-019-22902-0000	Carroll	Encino	12/31/2024	Ufica
30	34-019-22903-0000	Carroll	Encino	12/31/2024	Ufica
31	34-121-24684-0000	Noble	Encino	12/31/2024	Ufica
32	34-121-24685-0000	Noble	Encino	12/31/2024	Ufica
33	34-121-24686-0000	Noble	Encino	12/31/2024	Ufica
34	34-121-24687-0000	Noble	Encino	12/31/2024	Ufica
35	37-081-22022	Lycoming	EGT	12/02/2024	Marcellus
36	37-081-22023	Lycoming	EGT	12/02/2024	Marcellus
37	37-081-22024	Lycoming	EGT	12/02/2024	Marcellus
38	37-081-22025	Lycoming	EGT	12/02/2024	Marcellus
39	37-081-22026	Lycoming	EGT	12/02/2024	Marcellus
40	37-125-29175	Washington	EGT	12/02/2024	Marcellus
41	37-131-20674	Wyoming	Expand Energy	12/02/2024	Marcellus
42	37-131-20675	Wyoming	Expand Energy	12/02/2024	Marcellus
43	37-131-20676	Wyoming	Expand Energy	12/02/2024	Marcellus
44	37-131-20677	Wyoming	Expand Energy	12/02/2024	Marcellus
45	37-081-21997	Lycoming	Infection Energy	12/02/2024	Marcellus
46	37-027-21720	Centre	XPR Resources	12/03/2024	Marcellus
47	37-015-23953	Bradford	Blackhill Energy	12/04/2024	Marcellus
48	37-129-29266	Westmoreland	Olympus Energy	12/04/2024	Ufica
49	37-059-27005	Greene	EGT	12/05/2024	Marcellus
50	37-059-27312	Greene	EGT	12/05/2024	Marcellus
51	37-129-29246	Westmoreland	CNX	12/05/2024	Ufica

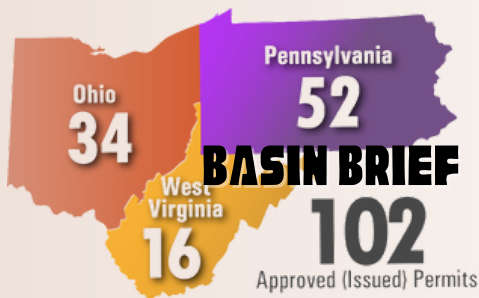
52	37-129-29269	Westmoreland	CNX	12/05/2024	Ufica
53	37-081-22029	Lycoming	PA Gen Energy	12/11/2024	Marcellus
54	37-115-23181	Susquehanna	Coterra	12/11/2024	Marcellus
55	37-007-20672	Beaver	Pennenergy	12/12/2024	Burket
56	37-007-20673	Beaver	Pennenergy	12/12/2024	Marcellus
57	37-007-20674	Beaver	Pennenergy	12/12/2024	Burket
58	37-007-20675	Beaver	Pennenergy	12/12/2024	Marcellus
59	37-007-20593	Beaver	Pennenergy	12/12/2024	Marcellus
60	37-007-20567	Beaver	Pennenergy	12/12/2024	Burket
61	37-007-20594	Beaver	Pennenergy	12/12/2024	Marcellus
62	37-007-20568	Beaver	Pennenergy	12/12/2024	Burket
63	37-007-20595	Beaver	Pennenergy	12/12/2024	Marcellus
64	37-007-20591	Beaver	Pennenergy	12/12/2024	Burket
65	37-007-20592	Beaver	Pennenergy	12/12/2024	Marcellus
66	37-129-29270	Westmoreland	CNX	12/12/2024	Ufica
67	37-117-22255	Tioga	Seneca	12/13/2024	Ufica
68	37-117-22257	Tioga	Seneca	12/13/2024	Ufica
69	37-117-22233	Tioga	Seneca	12/13/2024	Ufica
70	37-007-20566	Beaver	Pennenergy	12/17/2024	Burket
71	37-117-22258	Tioga	Seneca	12/18/2024	Ufica
72	37-125-29128	Washington	Range Resources	12/19/2024	Marcellus
73	37-125-24674	Washington	Rice	12/19/2024	Marcellus
74	37-117-22259	Tioga	Repsol	12/23/2024	Marcellus
75	37-015-23890	Bradford	Repsol	12/23/2024	Marcellus
76	37-015-23891	Bradford	Repsol	12/23/2024	Marcellus
77	37-015-23892	Bradford	Repsol	12/23/2024	Marcellus
78	37-015-23893	Bradford	Repsol	12/23/2024	Marcellus
79	37-059-26986	Greene	Rice	12/27/2024	Marcellus
80	37-059-28437	Greene	EGT	12/27/2024	Marcellus
81	37-003-22676	Allegheny	Range Resources	12/30/2024	Marcellus
82	37-003-22677	Allegheny	Range Resources	12/30/2024	Marcellus
83	37-003-22678	Allegheny	Range Resources	12/30/2024	Marcellus
84	37-003-22679	Allegheny	Range Resources	12/30/2024	Marcellus
85	37-003-22680	Allegheny	Range Resources	12/30/2024	Marcellus
86	37-003-22681	Allegheny	Range Resources	12/30/2024	Marcellus
87	47-051-01903	Marshall	EGT	12/09/2024	Marcellus
88	47-051-01904	Marshall	EGT	12/09/2024	Marcellus
89	47-051-02079	Marshall	EGT	12/09/2024	Marcellus
90	47-051-02081	Marshall	EGT	12/09/2024	Marcellus
91	47-051-02082	Marshall	EGT	12/09/2024	Marcellus
92	47-051-02083	Marshall	EGT	12/09/2024	Marcellus
93	47-069-00356	Ohio	Expand Energy	12/13/2024	Marcellus
94	47-069-00357	Ohio	Expand Energy	12/13/2024	Marcellus
95	47-033-06044	Harrison	Arsenal	12/19/2024	Marcellus
96	47-033-06045	Harrison	Arsenal	12/19/2024	Marcellus
97	47-103-03694	Wetzel	Antero	12/20/2024	Marcellus
98	47-103-03695	Wetzel	Antero	12/20/2024	Marcellus
99	47-103-03696	Wetzel	Antero	12/20/2024	Marcellus
100	47-103-03697	Wetzel	Antero	12/20/2024	Marcellus
101	47-103-03698	Wetzel	Antero	12/20/2024	Marcellus
102	47-103-03699	Wetzel	Antero	12/20/2024	Marcellus

## MARCELLUS WELLS BY STATUS



## UTICA WELLS BY STATUS





## PERMITTING SUMMARY BY STATE

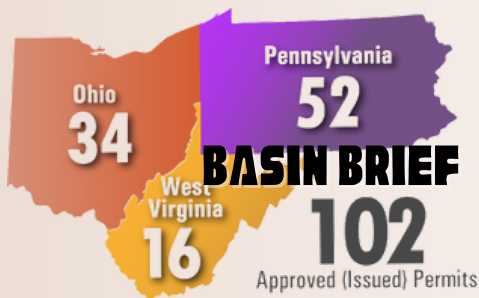
STATE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
OH	23	17	6	21	31	22	32	31	36	21	43	34
PA	56	38	29	34	35	37	44	36	43	32	46	52
WV	58	28	9	10	12	12	11	19	8	32	8	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>102</b>

## PERMITTING SUMMARY BY OPERATOR

OPERATOR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
EQT	54	19	7	6	15	2	6	24	11	31	10	15	200
Encino	4	13	-	12	11	11	21	14	19	13	23	16	157
Expand Energy	10	12	10	9	7	9	6	11	11	18	11	8	122
Range Resources	3	10	6	2	13	2	12	2	12	4	14	7	87
Ascent	11	-	2	3	14	4	-	11	2	2	8	11	68
Seneca	4	4	3	-	-	10	2	4	6	1	-	4	38
EOG Resources	2	1	4	3	3	-	11	1	5	-	3	5	38
Antero	9	3	-	3	4	-	9	2	-	-	-	6	36
Rice	2	-	2	6	5	2	1	5	-	-	3	2	28
Snyder Bros	5	-	1	8	-	-	11	-	1	1	-	-	27
Others (26)	33	21	9	13	6	31	8	12	20	15	25	28	221
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>1,022</b>

## HORIZONTAL WELLS BY RESERVOIR BY STATUS

RESERVOIR	PERM	SPUD	DRLD	COMP	PROD	SI	TOTAL
Marcellus	783	411	118	249	15,000	303	16,864
Utica	222	115	32	98	3,929	42	4,438
Burket	30	23	-	3	281	5	342
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>19,210</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>21,644</b>



## PRODUCING WELL COUNT BY RESERVOIR

RESERVOIR	OH	PA	WV	TOTAL
<b>Marcellus</b>	41	11,167	3,792	<b>15,000</b>
<b>Utica</b>	3,404	406	119	<b>3,929</b>
<b>Burket</b>	-	248	33	<b>281</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,445</b>	<b>11,821</b>	<b>3,944</b>	<b>19,210</b>

## PRODUCING MARCELLUS WELLS

OPERATOR	OH	PA	WV	TOTAL
<b>Expand Energy</b>	29	2,350	666	<b>3,045</b>
<b>EQT</b>	-	1,552	943	<b>2,495</b>
<b>Range Resources</b>	-	1,548	-	<b>1,548</b>
<b>Antero</b>	-	-	1,246	<b>1,246</b>
<b>Coterra</b>	-	1,086	-	<b>1,086</b>
<b>Seneca</b>	-	818	-	<b>818</b>
<b>Repsol</b>	-	766	-	<b>766</b>
<b>Rice</b>	5	549	-	<b>554</b>
<b>CNX</b>	1	432	85	<b>518</b>
<b>Pennenergy</b>	-	362	-	<b>362</b>
<b>Others (52)</b>	6	1,704	852	<b>2,562</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>11,167</b>	<b>3,792</b>	<b>15,000</b>

## PRODUCING UTICA WELLS

OPERATOR	OH	PA	WV	TOTAL
<b>Encino</b>	1,036	-	-	<b>1,036</b>
<b>Ascent</b>	907	-	-	<b>907</b>
<b>Gulfport</b>	460	-	-	<b>460</b>
<b>Antero</b>	241	-	1	<b>242</b>
<b>Expand Energy</b>	216	1	5	<b>222</b>
<b>Hilcorp</b>	87	97	-	<b>184</b>
<b>Rice</b>	182	1	-	<b>183</b>
<b>Seneca</b>	-	179	-	<b>179</b>
<b>INR Operating</b>	111	-	-	<b>111</b>
<b>EQT</b>	-	8	81	<b>89</b>
<b>Others (18)</b>	164	120	32	<b>316</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,404</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>3,929</b>

# 2025 MLBC **5K** & FAMILY FUN RUN

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE MLBC FOUNDATION'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM!

**MAY 2, 2025**  
**6:00PM CHECK-IN | 7:00PM START**



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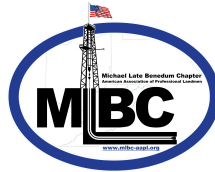
[Michael Late Benedum](https://www.facebook.com/Michael.Late.Benedum)  
Chapter of AAPL



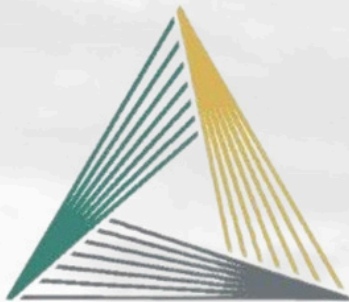
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# ATENCIOHALL

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

## Fueling Energy Progress

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 [www.atenciohall.com](http://www.atenciohall.com)



# UPCOMING EVENTS

**13**

FEBRUARY,  
2025

## EDUCATIONAL LUNCH MEETING

"THE O"

Bridgeport, WV

**3-4**

APRIL, 2025

## APPALACHIAN LAND INSTITUTE

HILTON GARDEN INN

Southpointe, PA

**2**

MAY, 2025

## MLBC FOUNDATION 5K

MORGANTOWN  
RAIL TRAIL

Morgantown, WV

**23**

MAY, 2025

## CHARITY SPRING GOLF EVENT

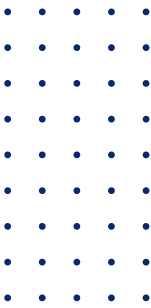
QUICKSILVER  
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[www.mlbc-aapl.org](http://www.mlbc-aapl.org)



# 2025-2026



# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Fellow MLBC Members,

It is that time of year in which the Nominating Committee, which consists of past MLBC Presidents, is requesting nominations for Executive Committee members for the upcoming officer election in advance of the 2025-2026 year. In accordance with our bylaws, nominations may be made for all positions with the exception of President, which will be filled by Kevin Pierson, our current Vice President.

The qualifications for each position are:

***Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer***

1. To have been an Active member of the Association for the preceding two years
2. To have served on the Executive Committee as either an Officer or Local Director for two years

***Sergeant-at-Arms and Local Director***

1. To have been an Active member of the Association for the preceding two years
2. To have served on a Committee for two years

If you would like to make a nomination for one or all of these positions, please do so by emailing this year's Nominating Committee Chairman, Rob Greiner at [rgreiner@rkgconsultingservices.com](mailto:rgreiner@rkgconsultingservices.com) **on or before February 15th**. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,  
John Catsonis  
MLBC President, 2024-2025



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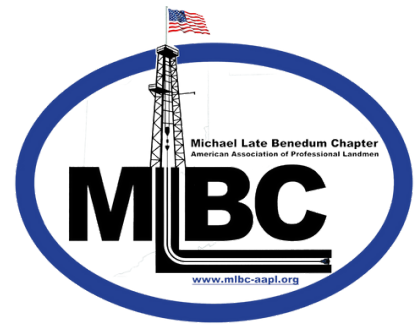
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2024 - 2025

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**PRESIDENT**



**John Catsonis**  
Apex Land Corp.  
[jcatsonis@apexlandcorp.com](mailto:jcatsonis@apexlandcorp.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT**



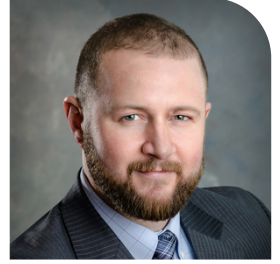
**Kevin Pierson**  
Blue Duck Resources  
[kp@blueduckres.com](mailto:kp@blueduckres.com)

**SECRETARY**



**Stacy Tichy, RPL**  
Percheron, LLC  
[stacy.tichy@percheronllc.com](mailto:stacy.tichy@percheronllc.com)

**TREASURER**



**Ben McKinney**  
Step toe and Johnson  
[ben.mckinney@step-toe-johnson.com](mailto:ben.mckinney@step-toe-johnson.com)

**SGT. AT ARMS**



**Daniel Cooper**  
Amecos Resources, LLC  
[daniel.cooper82@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.cooper82@gmail.com)

**LOCAL DIRECTOR**



**Steve Carr**  
Dudley Land Company  
[SteveCarr@dudley-land.com](mailto:SteveCarr@dudley-land.com)

**LOCAL DIRECTOR**



**Tyler Murray**  
Percheron, LLC  
[tylermurray.land@gmail.com](mailto:tylermurray.land@gmail.com)

**LOCAL DIRECTOR**



**Harry Heinbaugh**  
Percheron, LLC  
[harry.heinbaugh@percheronllc.com](mailto:harry.heinbaugh@percheronllc.com)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



**Abby Veigel**  
MLBC  
[abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org](mailto:abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org)

**REGIONAL DIRECTOR**



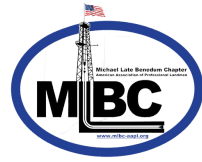
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# 2024-2025



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# MLBC MEMBERSHIP REPORT FEBRUARY 2025



## MEMBERSHIP BY THE NUMBERS

<b>Total Members:</b> 565	<b>Total Active:</b> 363
<b>Active:</b> 332	<b>% Active:</b> 64.25%
<b>Active PP:</b> 31	.....
<b>Honorary:</b> 10	<b>Associate :</b> 99
	<b>Student:</b> 93

# SHOUT OUT!

Congratulations to the following member(s) recently gaining their Certification through the AAPL :



**Jacob Visnic – RL Certification**  
**Jessica Greenwald – RL Certification**  
**Duncan Troy – RL Certification**  
**Robert Bouley – RL Certification**

*New members are approved on a monthly basis. If the need arises to move along membership approval (ex. Ohio Landman Registration), please email Abby Veigel - [abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org](mailto:abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org)*

# MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



The MLBC membership application is located on the website at [www.mlbc-aapl.org](http://www.mlbc-aapl.org). Please check your information on the website prior to submitting your renewal. The [MLBC website](http://www.mlbc-aapl.org) has an updated version of the membership listing. Please use this resource if you cannot find yours or others information in the directory. Please report any errors or omissions to Abby Veigel at [abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org](mailto:abbyveigel@mlbc-aapl.org).

Application for membership in the Association shall be subject to the approval by a majority vote of the Executive Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting and shall require the signed approval by the acting President of the Executive Committee, as evidence of the Committee's approval.

Notice of the approved application(s) of all potential Association member(s) shall be printed in the next regularly scheduled publication of the Association. Members shall have the opportunity for a period of thirty (30) days following the publication to object to the potential member's application.



*Jeremy White met some of the stars from the tv show Landman at NAPE in Houston this past week! He said it was awesome to meet them, but they were very quiet.*



*Nik Tysiak, Steve Carr, John Catsonis, Rob Greiner and Grant Stetz met up at an event at NAPE in Houston this past week sponsored by Dudley Land Company.*