Ky/Tenn Report

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FRACKING FIGHTS GO LOCAL – A series of embarrassing losses at the national and state level to ban fracking have forced the anti-development crowd to narrow their focus to individual localities. This targeted approach represents a pullback in strategy, however, it also opens up a variety of entry points that can accumulate into a larger win.

National & Statewide Defeats
Even with a federal administration that is hostile to energy development, the anti-fracking crowd has been unable to secure an all-out ban so they turned their attention to individual states. While opponents beat the drum of stricter regulations for additive disclosure, water and air monitoring, just like in Tennessee, once the industry agreed to additional regulations, the environmentalists claimed that the regulations were no longer strict enough.

Despite the shaky foundation of the environmental crowd, legislators have by and large favored a common sense approach, trusted the ever-growing body of scientific evidence proving that fracking is safe and ignored requests for fracking bans and the most onerous regulations.

Back to the Drawing Board
So what *is* an activist to do in this situation? Why, develop a local approach surrounding urban areas, college towns and non-producing areas of course!

Building on a handful of successes, like in Longmont, Colo., the fight to ban fracking is now moving city-by-city. These "local" campaigns are planned, funded and executed by national organizations like Food and Water Watch or the Southern Environmental Law Center that have the resources to pour into small areas.

Although these groups are having trouble digging into high-producing states like Texas, Tennessee seems ripe for this type of action for a variety of reasons. First, a relatively small area of the state benefits from oil and gas development so it's easy for non-recipients to oppose the activity. Second, Tennessee's four major cities are governed by Democratic mayors who are more likely to favor limited resource development. Finally, 2014 is an election year and environmental issues can be an easy win for urban legislators.

As the Tennessee General Assembly prepares to reconvene in January, it's important to consider the tactics and methodology used by the opposition. As we know, the anti-fracking crowd has shown themselves not to be limited by the facts, so why would they be influenced by the results?

QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING - Join us for the quarterly TOGA Board of Directors and Membership Meeting **Thursday, November 21st at the Cove Lake State Park pavilion**. We will have food and drink courtesy of Packers Plus and Lonnie Jeffers.

The meeting agenda will consist of planning for the 2014 legislative session, vice chairman nominations and voting, plans for the 2014 convention and more.

CHRISTMAS PARTY REMINDER – Plans for the Christmas Party are in full swing, and we want you to join us! The party will kick off **Saturday, Dec. 7th with a 6:30 p.m.** reception, followed by elegant, gourmet dinner and live entertainment immediately after dinner.

It's not too late for sponsorships! No donation is too small (or big!) to make a difference. Please let the TOGA office know if you can help by contributing to the cause.

In order to keep the Christmas Party TOGA exclusive, room reservations at the Dancing Bear ***MUST*** be made through the TOGA office at 615.371.6100. The Christmas Party registration form, which includes room information, can be found on the TOGA website. Room reservations will be first come, first served so get your information in early. There are (3) two-bedroom cabins available.

TENNESSEE OCTOBER PERMITS:

Overton: *J3 Natural Resources, LLC,* Michael Garrett, #1-K, Alpine; *J3 Natural Resources, LLC,* Betty G. Sells Trust, #1-K, Byrdstown; *National energy Development,* O.V. Story Trust, #4N & #10N, Alpine ***Pickett:*** *Travis Croomer Drilling,* Linda Carol Turgeon, #3, Moodyville; *North Central Tennessee Drilling Contractors, Inc.,* Danny Crouch et al, #54-L & #56-L, Moodyville

KENTUCKY OCTOBER PERMITS:

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Christopher Family, LLC, 1, Sunnybrook ***Metcalfe:*** *Bear Trading, LLC,* Charles W. Brown, 1, Fort Payne Fm ***Monroe:*** *SWO & ISM, LLC,* Joshua Sells, 11, 12 & 13, Knox Gp; *SWO & ISM,* Johannah Hays, H-44 & H-47, Knox Gp; *OMR Drilling & Acquisition LLC,* Steve Monroe, 1, Knox Gp ***Ohio:*** *Lawrence R. Payne dba Payne Drilling Co.,* Neil Howard, 3, O'Hara Lime ***Perry:*** *EQT Production Company,* EQT Production Company, 572051, Huron Mbr, Ohio Sh., ***Pike:*** *EQT Production Company,* EQT Production Company, 569814, Huron Mbr, Ohio Sh., *EQT Production Company,* EQT Production Company, 569815 & 571907, Cleveland Mbr, Ohio Sh ***Warren:*** *Erwin Frank,* Greencastle Farms, Inc., 4, Corniferous ***Webster:*** *Har-Ken Agent Ok, Ltd.,* Mahlon Cottingham Estate, 2, McClosky Ls; *Har-Ken Agent Ok, Ltd.,* Oral & Randolph Samples, 2, McClosky Ls; *Kentucky Exploration, LLC,* I.N. Aldridge Estate, 4, mcClosky Ls ***Wolfe:*** *Nathan Miller et al,* 16-P, 17-P, 18-P & 19-P, Corniferous

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