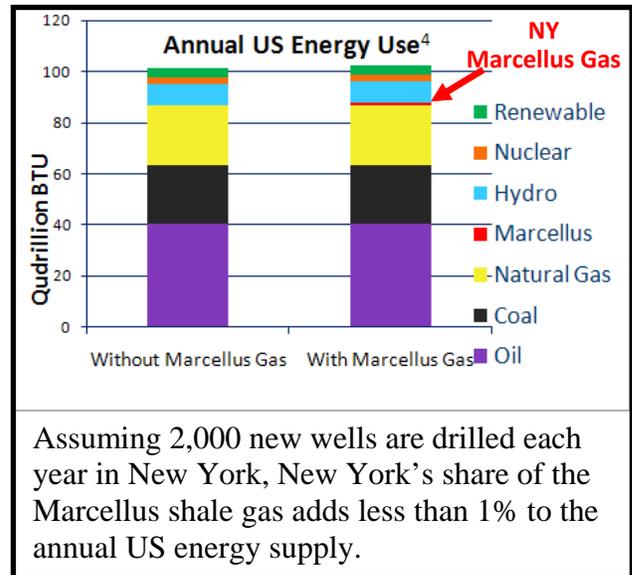


New York State's Marcellus Shale Gas Does Not Add Significantly To The US Energy Supply Or Energy Security

- Less than 20% of the Marcellus shale gas lies in New York.¹
- No scientifically-reviewed estimates of the amount of gas have been published; the box at right uses 250 trillion cubic feet, five times the original estimate² but half the highest number reported in the media.³
- Production from shale gas wells declines a lot with time (~50% the first year) and drilling all the required wells will take many years. Because old wells decline even as new ones come on-line, not a lot of gas is produced in any one year.
- The gas industry has an incentive to overstate the total amount of gas because it is trying to attract investors and convince people to lease.
- Investing in non-fossil fuel energy alternatives and conservation measures can add as much or more energy to the US energy supply without the negative environmental, health, economic, and societal impacts that accompany shale gas extraction. See, for example, "A Path To Sustainable Energy by 2030," *Scientific American*, November 2009, by Mark Jacobson and Mark Delucchi.



Increasing Natural Gas Does Not Improve Energy Security

Extracting natural gas does not reduce dependence on foreign oil because natural gas and oil are used differently: two-thirds of oil is used for transportation, but natural gas cannot be used for transportation without large investments to change vehicles and infrastructure. Gas and oil use overlap only in space heating, but less than 20% of oil is used for space heating.⁴ According to Alan Krueger, Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy at the US Treasury, using less oil and investing in clean technologies are more effective at increasing our energy security than is increasing domestic fossil fuel production.⁵

References

- ¹ Draft SGEIS, page 4-24.
- ² Engelder T., and Lash, G.G. 2008. "Marcellus shale play's vast resource potential creating stir in Appalachia." *American Oil and Gas Reporter*, v. 51, No. 6, pp. 76-87
- ³ Engelder, T. 2009. "Marcellus 2008: Report Card on the Breakout Year for Gas Productivity in the Appalachian Basin," *Fort Worth Basin Oil & Gas Magazine*. August 2009, pp. 19-22.
- ⁴ Energy Information Administration (EIA). See data at http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/dnav/pet/pet_cons_psup_dc_nus_mbb1_a.htm and http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/dnav/ng/ng_cons_sum_dcu_nus_a.htm
- ⁵ Krueger, Alan B. October 15, 2009. Remarks at American Tax Policy Institute Conference, Washington, DC. <http://www.ustreas.gov/offices/economic-policy/AK-ATPI-1015.pdf>