

# Marcellus Shale Development and Pennsylvania: What Lessons for Sustainable Energy?

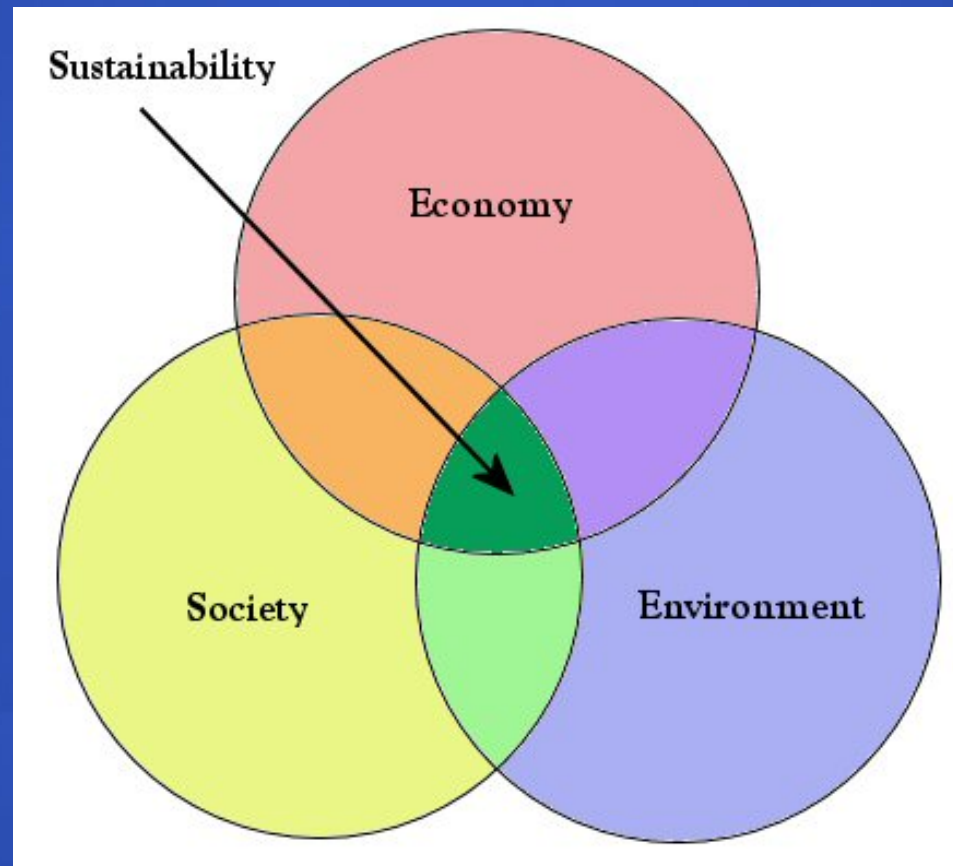


# Framing the Sustainability Question

# Starting Points

- Marcellus Shale development is having game changing impacts on U.S. and the world:
  - Energy
  - Security
  - Economy
- Marcellus Shale has also attracted strong supporters and opponents
- Josh Fox: “There is no middle ground.”
- Could sustainable development be the middle ground?

# The focus of sustainable development



# Sustainable Development

- *Sustainable development is “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”*
- *World Commission on Environment and Development, Our Common Future (1987)*

# Conventional Development

## *PROGRESS:*

- Peace & security*
- Economic Development*
- Social Development/ Healthy Communities*

## *PRICE OF PROGRESS:*

- Environment & Natural Resources*

# Sustainable Development

## ***PROGRESS:***

***--Peace & security***

***--Economic development***

***--Social development/healthy communities***

***--Environmental protection/restoration***

# Meaning of sustainability for Marcellus Shale development has not been worked out in great detail

- Contrast:
  - Green building
  - Sustainable forestry
  - Corporate sustainability reporting
  - Sustainability in colleges and universities
  - Community sustainability

Hopeful sign: Center for Sustainable Shale Development



# Questions for this conference

- What have we learned from Pennsylvania's experience to date about the role of law in fostering sustainability of shale gas production?
- What new or modified laws and policies are needed so that hydraulic fracturing for shale gas contributes to a sustainable future?
- What does this mean for other states and nations?

# This conference will:

- Employ sustainability as a normative frame to evaluate Marcellus Shale development.
- Provide information, ideas, and recommendations that can be used to answer these questions.
- Identify issues that, if unresolved, pose a challenge to the sustainability of shale gas.
- Contribute (hopefully) to a serious and constructive public conversation about how shale gas production can be made more sustainable.
- Test the proposition that sustainability can provide middle ground in the debate about shale gas.

# This conference will not:

- Categorically endorse Marcellus Shale development.
- Categorically oppose Marcellus Shale development.
- Simply describe relevant law.

- **Next slides need to preview issues and panels. Then we're done.**

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