

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change

Hearing on

“Lessons from Across the Nation: State and Local Action to Combat Climate Change”

April 2, 2019

Chairman Daniel C. Camp III
Beaver County Board of Commissioners
Beaver County, Pennsylvania



DANIEL C. CAMP, III
COMMISSIONER
810 Third Street
Beaver, PA 15009

(724) 770-4402
(724) 728-0725 Fax
dcamp@beavercountypa.gov

The Honorable John Shimkus (R-IL)

1. Most people are aware of the enormous impact of the shale revolution and Marcellus gas to the electricity sector and consumer’s pocketbooks, but there is less appreciation for the “downstream” impacts in terms of both jobs and consumer goods. According to the American Chemistry Council, investment in over 300 petrochemical projects totaling \$181 billion have been announced since 2010. These facilities (such as the Shell cracker) not only mean high-paying jobs for American workers that might otherwise go to overseas competitors, they mean more affordable, American-made consumer goods in a wide range of areas.
 - a. Please elaborate on what they mean to your community, not just in terms of jobs but also with respect to tax revenue and government services.

RESPONSE:

The Shell Petrochemical Plant located in Potter Twp. Pennsylvania has had a large impact on our communities across Beaver County. Shell has invested in many of our school districts. They have invested into our high education at the Community College of Beaver County to build the Shell Process Technology Center which was more than a \$1 million dollar contribution. As stated in my testimony before you they have also updated our infrastructure around their site. Shell Pennsylvania will be paying the assessed value of the buildings of the former Horsehead Site until the year of 2042. We are hopeful to see many ancillary and downstream jobs relocate to Beaver County which would increase our tax base.

- b. It is well known that the “Keep It in the Ground” movement and its political allies have successfully blocked the ability to transport American energy from the Marcellus shale to markets where it is in demand. From your perspective, what would restrictions on energy out of the Marcellus and other plays mean for your country?

RESPONSE:

Currently Beaver County has not had any issues with the “Keep It in the Ground” movement. If an issue would come to Beaver County it would limit the growth in Beaver County pertaining to the Marcellus Shale industry.