

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : DEP data missing nearly 500 gas wells

Re: DEP data missing nearly 500 gas wells

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URL:

There's no doubt some problems with the DEP data base. For one, we shouldn't be calling it Marcellus shale, its actually a half dozen different shale layers. Devonian shale would be more inclusive and less confusing. In addition, PA still has a conventional O&G industry. It been in decline but with the price of oil, its not going away. So that further confuses things.

And the reel kicker is PA, unlike any other state, allows operators to withhold production data for 3 years. Most states only give 30-90 days. So at any point in time, there's 3 years worth of producing wells that haven't reported in yet. If you want to find the permit and drilling records, you're going to have to look back at least 4-5 years. So 500 sounds about right for Devonian shale gas.

Torture the data enough, and it will say anything.