

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

<b>As of:</b> 12/6/17 2:58 PM <b>Received:</b> December 06, 2017 <b>Status:</b> Posted <b>Posted:</b> December 06, 2017 <b>Tracking No.</b> 1k1-9076-wowr <b>Comments Due:</b> January 09, 2018 <b>Submission Type:</b> Web
---

**Docket:** MSHA-2014-0031

Exposure of Underground Miners to Diesel Exhaust

**Comment On:** MSHA-2014-0031-0076

Exposure of Underground Miners to Diesel Exhaust: Request for Information; Reopening of Rulemaking Record; Extension of Comment Period

**Document:** MSHA-2014-0031-0135

Comment from b b, NA

## Submitter Information

**Name:** b b

**Organization:** NA

## General Comment

By resending and repealing many of the past administration rules and regulation on oil and gas and mining in the USA will see increase in GDP resulting from shale development and increased federal tax revenues for the 2018 budget, and it will continue to do so. Estimates that federal tax revenues will be in the billions higher in 2020 , and even higher in 2040 with the development of exporting LNG . Shale production also contributes to federal receipts through payments that the developers of federally owned resources make to the governmentbut that contribution can increase by reducing more Regulations that hurt American workers. Increase the shale resources on federal lands will reduce Americas need to import from nations not friendly . Working from EIA's projections of the future production of tight oil and shale gas, and also from its own forecasts of oil and natural gas prices, CBO estimates that federal royalties from shale (minus the amounts that the federal government transfers to the states) will be in the hundreds of million annually by 2020. The technological innovations behind hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling make existing labor and capital whether they are employed in shale development, in industries using natural gas or oil, or in industries using products derived from natural gas or oilmore productive than they otherwise would be. That heightened productivity has increased gross domestic product (GDP) and will continue to do so. The increases in GDP associated with increased productivity would spur further increases in GDP by increasing the supplies of labor and capital. As GDP rises, households have more income to save and invest; most of the additional savings are invested domestically. That investment increases the capital stock, thus increasing the economy's productive capacity and raising GDP.

AB86-COMM-78

In addition, higher labor productivity is reflected in higher wages, which encourage people to work and lead to an increase in the number of hours worked, likewise raising GDP. The two effects reinforce each other: A larger capital stock boosts labor productivity and wages, and an increase in the number of hours worked increases saving and investment.

Higher employment resulting from shale development, along with a larger capital stock resulting from increased investment in the development and use of shale resources, will lead to higher household income and thus greater demand for goods and services. Some of that increased demand will be met by the additional production from the energy-intensive industries.

Shale development also boosts GDP in other ways. The increase in GDP represents increased income, which allows people and firms to save and invest more in productive capital, and the higher productivity increases wages, raising the amount of labor available. Both the increased capital and the increased labor raise GDP for America. In addition, in the near term, shale development causes labor and capital to be used that would otherwise be idle, again raising GDP. In the longer term, shale resources, labor and capital available in the economy will be used at roughly their maximum sustainable rates without regulations, so the additional labor and capital used to produce shale resources or energy-intensive goods will be great for American Middle class.

The exploration and development of natural gas resources provides method of serving the public's need for energy. Natural gas consumption comprises approximately 23 percent of the total energy consumption in the United States. Natural gas is used for many purposes: home space and water heating; cooking; commercial and industrial space heating; commercial and industrial processes; as a raw material for the manufacture of fertilizer, plastics, and petrochemicals; as vehicle fuel; and for electric generation. The Marcellus Shale formation has attracted attention as a significant source of natural gas production. The Marcellus Shale extends from Ohio and West Virginia into Pennsylvania and New York. In New York, the Marcellus Shale is located in much of the Southern Tier and adjoining areas, stretching from Chautauqua and Erie Counties in the west to the counties of Sullivan, Ulster, Greene and Albany in the east.