

Presenter Bios

Thomas Murphy is an extension educator and co-director of the Marcellus Center for Outreach and Research (MCOR), the state's leading resource for information on the Marcellus Shale.

MCOR is Penn State's shale energy education and research initiative serving all stakeholders including state and federal agencies, elected officials, communities, landowners, industry, and environmental groups. MCOR is committed to expanding research, advancing technology and providing science-based programming on shale energy resources that promotes environmental protection, economic stability, and energy security.

Tom's work has taken him across the globe and focuses on economic development, community impacts, workforce, agricultural impacts and water disposal.

Kevin Mooney is an investigative reporter who writes for several publications based in the Washington D.C. area. He is currently an investigative reporter with The Daily Signal, the multimedia news publication of The Heritage Foundation. He also writes for National Review, The American Spectator, The Daily Caller, Forbes Magazine, The Washington Free Beacon, The Weekly Standard, The Washington Examiner, The Washington Times and the publications of the Capital Research Center.

Kevin has also worked with several free market think tanks associated with The State Policy Network including The Pelican Institute in New Orleans and the Rhode Island Center for Freedom Prosperity.

Kevin specializes in reporting on the environmental movement, its impact on economic activity and new scientific data that questions the premise of man-made global warming. Another special area of interest concerns the actions of organized labor and its impact on public policy and the free market.

Kevin has also appeared on several Fox News programs including the Tucker Carlson program where he discussed the financial relationship between the Russian government and the U.S. environmental movement. He also appeared on the Glenn Beck program to discuss the connection between organized labor and the now defunct Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN). Kevin was also the first to report on the taxpayer funding made available to ACORN in midst of voter fraud activity that involved ACORN and its operatives in the 2008 election cycle.

Thomas Shepstone is author of Natural Gas Now, a blog intended to promote responsible natural gas development as a vehicle to achieve American energy

independence, promote rural economic development and, thereby, give farmers and other landowners the basis for keeping their land in its farm, forest or other open space uses.

Natural Gas Now is owned and managed by Shepstone Management Company, Inc. a planning and research firm that has represented both public and private clients, throughout New York and Pennsylvania, including members of the natural gas, housing and transportation industries. The firm has also consulted on projects in California, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, New Jersey, Ohio, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia.