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**Barnett Shale EXPO Answers New Questions in Changing Natural Gas Landscape**  
*Royalties, job opportunities among the topics at event scheduled for Wednesday, March 11*

FORT WORTH (February 17, 2009) - Have you signed a natural gas lease, and now are wondering when you can expect your royalty checks? Is a natural gas pipeline going in near your neighborhood, raising new questions and concerns? Are you considering a career transition into an energy-related job? You'll find the answers to these and many other questions at the third annual Barnett Shale EXPO scheduled for 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11 at the Fort Worth Convention Center. Admission is free.

Energy industry exhibitors will be on hand for the EXPO, along with a full slate of natural gas experts who will be leading information-packed sessions aimed at bringing attendees up to date on happenings at one of the nation's largest natural gas plays. Visit [www.barnettshaleexpo.com](http://www.barnettshaleexpo.com) for more information.

"The theme of the EXPO this year is 'Natural Gas-Moving us Forward,' and it is designed to answer questions about where we are today with the Barnett Shale," said Bill

Thornton, president and CEO of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, one of the EXPO's presenting chambers. "Now that so many people have signed leases and construction is under way on natural gas pipelines, there are whole new sets of issues that need to be addressed."

The EXPO kicks off at noon with a luncheon featuring economist Dr. Ray Perryman as the keynote speaker. Dr. Perryman will present an economic impact update by county—the State of Energy Barnett Shale Report—and also take a look at where the regional economy would be today without the Barnett Shale. Tables are \$800 for a table of 8 or \$50 per person. For reservations go to [www.barnettshaleexpo.com](http://www.barnettshaleexpo.com)

The EXPO itself is free to the public, and will begin immediately after the luncheon at 1 p.m. Many questions will be answered in five informational sessions starting at 1:30 p.m. Topics include:

- **Royalties – Understanding your lease** - Learn how royalties are calculated, when to expect them, and where to get more information on tax implications and pending legislation.
- **The Future of Natural Gas and Why it's Important to You** – Hear about the future potential this natural resource has to fuel automobiles and trucks, our electric supply and how it complements other alternative fuel sources.
- **Natural Gas Pipelines Construction and Operation** - Get more information about key terms in leases with pipeline companies, what to expect during the construction phase and how the property will look when the work is complete.
- **Barnett Shale Careers and Training** - Learn about energy-related careers and the training resources available, including industry-prescribed classroom, on-site and Internet training programs and short-term outdoor and in-class training opportunities.
- **Living with a Neighborhood Gas Well** – Hear how a diverse group of community volunteers – from neighborhoods to energy industry representatives – arrived at a consensus regarding Fort Worth's drilling ordinance and what it means to you.

The Fort Worth Chamber is one of several North Texas chambers co-hosting the EXPO, which is the largest trade show ever devoted to the Barnett Shale energy industry. Other participating chambers include Arlington, Benbrook, Bowie, Bridgeport, Burleson, Cleburne, Crowley, Decatur, Greater Irving/Las Colinas, Saginaw, Stephenville and Weatherford.

Presenting corporate sponsors include Devon Energy Corporation, EnCana Oil and Gas, and XTO Energy, Inc.

The Barnett Shale is one of the largest and most active natural gas reserve fields in the United States. Across the region there are more than 11,000 active wells, with most in rural or semi-rural areas. The U.S. Geological Society estimates that the size of the Barnett Shale is at least 26 trillion cubic feet of natural gas — enough to supply all gas-heated homes in the U.S. for more than five years.

. The Fort Worth Convention Center is located in downtown Fort Worth at 1201 Houston Street.

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