

West Virginia ranks in world's top 10 for oil and gas investment.



From business climate to natural resources, West Virginia is the state of energy today.

With coal, oil, gas, and energy alternatives, West Virginia is the fourth-leading electricity exporter in the nation — a truly powerful place to be.

Top 10 investment site

The state ranks among the world's top 10 most attractive jurisdictions for oil and gas development, according to a survey released in 2011. Out of 135 jurisdictions worldwide, West Virginia scored sixth, according to the Fraser Institute's Global Petroleum Survey 2011. The survey looks at 17 factors that affect investment decisions, such as labor availability, fiscal terms, quality of infrastructure, regulatory compliance, legal system and stability.

Tap Marcellus and Utica Shale reserves

West Virginia's designation as a top oil and gas investment site takes on added significance with the discovery of vast gas reserves in the Marcellus and Utica Shale formations beneath portions of the Appalachian region. The state's 6,000-foot-deep Marcellus Shale gas fields are believed to contain more than 50 trillion cubic feet of recoverable natural gas. Underlying the Marcellus Shale is the Utica Shale formation, which has great potential as a natural gas resource.

Prime location for ethane crackers and derivative investments

- Access to low cost, sustainable feedstock
- Located in the center of East Coast markets
- Significant petrochemical infrastructure
- Predictable fiscal and regulatory environment
- Industrial heritage that will embrace new corporations

Most Attractive Jurisdictions for Oil and Gas Investment

2011 Rank in Group of 135

Mississippi	1
Ohio	2
Kansas.....	3
Oklahoma	4
Texas	5
West Virginia	6
Netherlands-North Sea	7
Alabama	8
Hungary	9
North Dakota	10

West Virginia passes aggressive legislation to attract world-scale ethane crackers and related facilities

Marcellus Gas Manufacturing and Development Act (Senate Bill 465)

- Modification of "Five for Ten" program to lower existing and new investment thresholds
- Allows qualified additional capital to be valued at salvage value (eliminates 95 percent of property tax)
- Clarifies an ethane cracking facility as a manufacturer qualifying project for Economic Opportunity Credit and Manufacturers Investment Credit
- Amends the strategic R&D tax credit to include design, refinement and testing of equipment as being eligible as R&D investments
- Includes any component of raw natural gas as an alternative energy resource under the Alternative and Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard

