



## Statement from Allegheny Conference on Community Development, Team NEO and Vision Shared

**(PITTSBURGH – Oct. 13, 2015)** - “In the truest definition of a summit, top leaders from government, business, academia and foundation philanthropy have come together – setting aside state border boundaries – to move forward as a unified super region eager to make the most of the enormous economic opportunity for downstream manufacturing presented by Marcellus and Utica Shale gas.

The [Allegheny Conference on Community Development](#), [Team NEO](#) and [Vision Shared](#), all economic development organizations with a focus on attracting/retaining business investment and job creation, stand together in support of a shared economic development strategy to capture downstream-related business investment, including a potential ethane cracker facility – or multiple cracker investments – to the tri-state region’s benefit.

Together, we will market the Appalachian Basin as the new global petrochemical center and hub for made-in-America manufacturing.

We congratulate Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf, Ohio Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor and West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin on the signing, at today’s Tri-State Shale Summit in Morgantown, W.Va., of an unprecedented agreement to enhance regional cooperation and job growth through the continuing development of shale gas in the Appalachian Basin.

This is a critical step toward demonstrating that our tri-state region is ready, willing and able to make downstream-related business investment a win-win for the region and for the firms – large and small – that have operations in this geographic footprint.

Above and below ground, the Appalachian Basin has a more than ample supply of assets to support multiple ethane cracker investments, as well as to support and retain supply chain manufacturers and plastics fabricators. Continued collaboration between Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia will maximize the competitive advantage provided by our collective assets and allow us to reinvigorate the economy of America’s industrial heartland, of which the tri-state region is the core.”

[View the tri-state Regional Cooperation Agreement here.](#)

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