

## Oil, gas, pipeline jobs

Attorney Evan B. Smith's column regarding the potential job creation associated with the release of federal Abandoned Mine Lands funds needs correcting about his estimate of jobs created by Kentucky's oil and gas industry.



The industry provides over 3,200 direct jobs in the state. Pipeline transportation for oil and natural gas is responsible for nearly 900 jobs alone.

The average wage in Kentucky's oil and gas industry is \$75,000. We contribute \$1 billion to the state's economy and over \$40 million in state and local revenues.

Further, the responsible development of our deep shale resources could lead to thousands of new jobs in the industry. In Ohio, the Utica shale is responsible for over 4,600 new oil and gas jobs since 2011.

While the 750 possible mining reclamation jobs would be welcome in Eastern Kentucky, oil and gas jobs are here year after year, supporting families and communities.

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Link to Letter: <http://www.kentucky.com/2015/02/22/3707861/letters-to-the-editor-february.html>