Dale Arnold is director of energy, utility, and local government policy at the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation (OFBF), a position he has held since 1995. Dale started his career with OFBF as an organization director in central Ohio in 1985. Dale is involved in regional and state working groups exploring how oil and gas exploration and related infrastructure expansion impact farmers and rural communities, and what they can do to get involved in the process, and works with OFBF leaders to create effective energy policy on local, state, and national levels. He has authored papers advocating a diversified energy portfolio using domestic oil and coal resources, nuclear energy, and renewable technologies. He is a native of Knox County, where his family can trace their involvement in Ohio agriculture since the 1820s.

Ted Boettner, co-founding executive director of the West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy, is the author of numerous reports on state tax and budget issues, economic development, and family economic security, including the annual “State of Working West Virginia.” Ted frequently presents analyses of policy proposals to the West Virginia Legislature and testifies before committees. He also regularly addresses statewide civic groups on state tax, budget and economic policies. In 2013, Ted was appointed to a three year term as a primary member to the U.S. Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (USEITI), an advisory committee within the Department of Interior. An adjunct instructor at West Virginia University Institute of Technology, Ted holds a B.S. degree in journalism from West Virginia University and a M.A. degree in political science from the University of New Hampshire.

Jason Brown is a senior economist in the Regional Affairs Department of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. He conducts research on issues related to regional economic growth, emerging industries, and structural change in regional industry and labor markets. Prior to joining the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Jason was an economist at the USDA Economic Research Service in Washington, D.C. He holds a Ph.D. from Purdue University.

Joe Campbell is a research associate and lecturer at Ohio State University’s School of Environment and Natural Resources. His research focuses on the balance between community economic development and natural resource management in rural areas of the U.S. and abroad. Joe, who has worked on community development and research projects in mining and agricultural communities in the U.S. and in Ghana, oversees the university’s social responsibility initiative and conducts applied research on the social impacts of energy development. His areas of expertise include intergovernmental collaboration for economic development, rural sociology, natural resource management, and watershed restoration. He holds a PhD in rural sociology from The Ohio State University.

Michelle Decker is the chief executive officer of Rural Action, a regional sustainable development nonprofit in Appalachian Ohio working on waste, forestry, food systems, watershed restoration, and energy. For the past 20 years she has held leadership positions in community economic development and has specialized in rebuilding or constructing nonprofit development organizations in both urban and rural communities. Michelle is a member of the Rural Policy Research Institute’s National Advisory Board and leads Rural Action’s participation in the Central Appalachian Network, Central Appalachian Forestry Alliance, and Central Appalachian Regional Network. She holds a M.S. degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and a B.A. in Art History from the University of Cincinnati.
Harry Eadon Jr. is president and executive director of the Economic Development and Finance Alliance of Tuscarawas County, a position he has held for 12 years. He has experience in all aspects of accounting and financial management, including direct experience with real estate, financial consulting, and venture capital. In addition, he has developed an early-stage venture capital fund. Harry has successfully recruited major energy projects and co-leads a multi-county regional economic development group in Eastern Ohio focused on economic development opportunities around the Utica Shale development.

Steve Herzenberg is executive director of the Keystone Research Center, a position he has held since the organization’s inception in 1996. Before joining Keystone, Steve taught at Rutgers University and worked at the U.S. Congressional Office of Technology Assessment and the U.S. Department of Labor, where he served as assistant to the chief negotiator of the labor side agreement to the North American Free Trade Agreement. Steve has been published widely; his work includes Losing Ground in Early Childhood Education, 2005; New Rules for a New Economy: Employment and Opportunity in Postindustrial America, 1998; U.S.–Mexico Trade: Pulling Together or Pulling Apart? 1992; and Labor Standards and Development in the Global Economy, 1990. Steve holds a PhD in Economics from MIT.

Jeffrey Jacquet is assistant professor in the department of Sociology and Rural Studies at South Dakota State University. Since 2005 he has performed research and been published widely on the social and economic impacts of multiple types of energy development across the US. Jeffrey is among the first scientists to have examined the social and economic effects of hydraulic fracturing, including efforts to effectively model the distribution of energy industry workforces and impacts to local municipalities. More recently, his work has examined municipal-level planning, regulation, and ownership of energy facilities, along with the social-psychological disruption in energy impacted communities. Jeffrey received his master’s degree from the University of Wyoming and his PhD from Cornell University.

Paul Kaboth is vice president and community development officer in the Community Development department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. His responsibilities include strategic oversight of the team’s work on a range of consumer credit, community reinvestment, and asset-building issues with the Bank’s Research and Supervision and Regulation departments and with other Federal Reserve offices. He also directs research, outreach, and public programs that promote fair and equal access to credit in the Fourth Federal Reserve District, which comprises Ohio, western Pennsylvania, eastern Kentucky, and the panhandle of West Virginia. Paul began his career with the Cleveland Fed in 1986 as a field examiner; he was appointed to his current position in 2011. A commissioned bank examiner, Paul holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

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Troy Mix is a policy scientist with the Institute for Public Administration at the University of Delaware and a PhD candidate in Regional Planning at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign. A member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), Troy provides data-driven research and analysis, strategic planning, and training services to support the economic development efforts of governments, business groups, and community stakeholders across Delaware and the mid-Atlantic region. He managed an Appalachian Regional Commission-funded research project focused on understanding the role of economic diversity in regional development efforts. Troy earned a Master of Public Administration from the University of Delaware and a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Pittsburgh. He is completing a dissertation on the development of university research parks.

Mark Partridge is the C. William Swank Chair of Rural–Urban Policy at The Ohio State University and a Professor in the Agricultural, Environment, and Development Economics Department. He is managing editor of the Journal of Regional Science and co-editor of seven other journals. Mark has published more than 100 scholarly papers and coauthored The Geography of American Poverty: Is there a Role for Place-Based Policy? His research, funded by sources including the Appalachian Regional Commission, Brookings Institution, European Commission, Infrastructure Canada, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, U.S. National Science Foundation, U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, includes investigating rural-urban interdependence and regional growth and policy. Mark, who currently serves as chair of the North American Regional Science Council, has served the Southern Regional Science Association as president and fellow.

Scott Rotruck, director of energy and transportation services at Spilman Thomas & Battle law firm, is a key leader of Spilman’s government relations, energy and shale gas practice groups. In this role, Scott consults with exploration and production companies; mid-stream companies; trade associations; state, regional and local development authorities; and other businesses related to the energy and natural gas industry (e.g., suppliers, vendors, end-product users, etc.), among other responsibilities. Previously he served as vice president of corporate development and state government relations at Chesapeake Energy, leading corporate development and government relations in the Marcellus and Utica Shale regions. Scott also has 10 years of experience in the railroad industry with CSX Corporation and Norfolk Southern Corporation and 15 years of experience in the energy industry.

Amanda Woodrum is a researcher with Policy Matters Ohio who focuses primarily on energy issues. She has written reports examining the economic impact of Ohio’s advanced energy fund and clean energy standards, outlined strategies to make our transportation and manufacturing sectors more energy efficient and Ohio’s communities more sustainable, all while creating good jobs and building green pathways out of poverty in the process. Amanda also convenes the statewide network Ohioans for Transportation Choice. Previously, she clerked for the City of Cleveland law department and the Summit County Council, where she received a commendation for commitment to public service. Amanda has a master’s in economics, a law degree from the University of Akron, and a bachelor’s degree from Bowling Green State University.