

EarthTalks: Monday, Feb. 2

“Accommodating Another Straw in the Water: Development of the Marcellus Shale Formation in the Susquehanna River Basin”

Thomas Beauduy, deputy director and counsel, Susquehanna River Basin Commission

Description: The Marcellus Shale formation underlies 72 percent of the entire land area of the Susquehanna River Basin. Given the renewed interest in energy independence, coupled with the aggressive estimates of recoverable natural gas from the Marcellus, the rush is now on to extract that resource. Accompanying that rush is a new demand for water in the basin.

In his presentation, Beauduy will focus on the extent of that demand, how it compares to overall water demand in the basin and how this new demand can be accommodated. He also will discuss how the Susquehanna River Basin Commission is attempting to balance the need to protect the basin's water resources while simultaneously allowing for their utilization to support this important new industry.