Montana Policy Review Webinar Series: Community Responses to Energy Development

The MSU Local Government Center is announcing a new webinar series focusing on opportunities and challenges brought on by the energy boom in northeastern Montana. Each bimonthly, one-hour interactive presentation features authors from the <u>Fall 2012 Montana Policy Review</u>.

The first webinar will take place **Wednesday**, **March 20 at 11 a.m. MDT**. Mark Haggerty and Julia Haggerty of Headwaters Economics will present *Improving Fiscal Policy to Maximize Benefits of Unconventional Oil Development in Montana Communities*. If you are unable to attend, all webinars will be recorded and archived on the Local Government Center website.

Webinar description: This webinar considers the influence of state fiscal policy on the capacity for state and local governments to manage the impacts of energy development in order to ensure long-term economic benefits. We provide a brief overview of the unconventional resource in the Bakken with a focus on implications for revenue. We then compare state energy policies in Montana and North Dakota and discuss recommended changes to fiscal policy in Montana.

To Connect

Go to msuextensionconnect.org/commdev/

Select the "Enter as a Guest" option, type your full name and click "Enter Room". You can listen to the audio via your computer speakers or through the phone. If you wish to call in, dial (605) 477-2100; participant code: 742340#. If you have not attended an Adobe Connect session on the computer you will be using, make sure to test your connection before the start of the session at

http://www.msuextensionconnect.org/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm

A complete list of topics and presenters for the series can be downloaded here.

Join us for the next webinar in the series on **Wednesday**, **April 10 at 11 a.m. MDT**. Bret Smelser, Mayor of Sidney, will present *Weathering the Storm: Community Responses in Sidney, MT*.

Please pass along this information to any interested groups – the webinars are free and open to the public. We hope you can join us!

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