

## **PACP Column: April 2025**

Energy is one of Pennsylvania's greatest assets and a competitive advantage that could lead our Commonwealth to broad-based economic prosperity—if we don't get in our own way.

That was the recurring message shared at the PA Chamber's recent "Energy and Economic Opportunity" event, which we co-hosted with our friends at the Washington County Chamber of Commerce and held at Range Resources. Nearly 100 professionals from the energy industry, labor, and economic development sectors came together to discuss Pennsylvania's rich history of responsible energy development and the actions that are needed to harness Pennsylvania's energy resources for economic growth – including pro-energy policies and regulations at the state and federal level that will attract investment. At the meeting, representatives from the Pittsburgh Airport highlighted how natural gas, strong leadership, and regional partnerships have transformed the airport into an innovation hub that puts \$30 billion back into the regional economy.

Officials also pointed to Ohio's growth in the energy sector due to advancing permitting and other regulatory reforms as an example of what to aspire to, while noting that In Pennsylvania, ongoing "stops and starts" with the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and other carbon tax proposals are creating regulatory uncertainty, which can deter the investment we need. You can read the *Washington Observer Reporter's* recap of the event [here](#) and view the PA Chamber's video recap [here](#).

As we work with business leaders, our local chamber partners, elected officials and other key stakeholders on a bright energy future, our goal is to achieve a balanced, pro-growth energy strategy that meets demand while keeping Pennsylvania competitive.

This includes enacting smart policies like S.B. 187, which would establish an Independent Energy Office, akin to the IFO, to analyze Pennsylvania's existing energy policies and determine how to drive growth.

For more information about the PA Chamber's pro-energy legislative agenda, visit our [website](#).