

Reality: Oil shale potential is just that – and always has been...

What the politicians are saying

What industry experts are saying

<p>Chairman Doc Hastings (R-WA): <i>[T]he U.S. Geological Survey estimates [oil shale reserves] to be greater than one and a half trillion barrels of oil. The best way for the United States to insulate themselves long-term from unpredictable world events and rising gasoline prices is to produce more energy here at home.</i> House Natural Resources Committee oversight hearing, Mar. 17, 2011</p>	<p>Gene Whitney, Ph.D., Manager, Energy Research, nonpartisan Congressional Research Service: <i>We did not do a technically recoverable [oil shale] resource estimate because there isn't one technology yet that is proven.</i> House Natural Resources Committee oversight hearing, Mar. 17, 2011</p>
<p>Rep. Scott Tipton (R-CO): <i>The development of [oil shale] resources would lead to tens of thousands of good paying jobs and help stabilize our energy supply – putting an end to spikes in gas prices.</i> Grand Junction Daily Sentinel guest column: <i>Congress must curb Obama administration's regulatory overkill</i>, Mar. 20, 2011</p>	<p>Tom Yelverton, ExxonMobil: <i>At best, commercial production is a decade away and most likely more.</i> Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, <i>ExxonMobil working to bring extraction ideas for oil shale to surface</i>, Nov. 11, 2010</p>
<p>Rep. Rob Bishop (R-UT): <i>Actually, if the Energy Department, your department, believes there is 800 billion barrels that could be recovered that's much bigger than what Saudi Arabia has in proven reserves. It would create 100,000 jobs and about \$2 billion in royalties, which the state's share would do a great job in funding our state's education system.</i> House Natural Resources Committee oversight hearing, Mar. 17, 2011</p>	<p>Glenn Vawter, Director of the National Oil Shale Association: <i>The short answer is that I don't think we will see anyone embark on a commercial project for well into the next decade.</i> Glenwood Springs Post Independent, <i>Glenwood Springs man promoting oil shale development</i>, Mar. 31, 2008</p>
<p>Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-CO): <i>It is all well and good to propose measures that may pay off decades in the future, such as alternative energy research and higher CAFÉ standards for vehicles. The most urgent and immediate solution though is to ramp up domestic production of oil and gas right now.</i> Rep. Lamborn's Congressional website</p>	<p>Tracy Boyd, Shell Corporation: <i>In fact, it could take up to 10 to 12 years of additional research, environmental analysis and permitting before a company could develop a federal oil shale lease.</i> Glenwood Springs Post Independent, <i>Oil shale decisions could affect Garfield County</i>, Nov. 11, 2008</p>