

## **Michigan Basin Utica / Collingwood Shales – A New Resource Play**

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Unconventional resource plays, particularly shale plays for natural gas, have become increasingly popular in North America and across the globe. In the Northeastern U.S.A. and Southeastern Canada more attention is focusing on the Ordovician Utica Shale. The Michigan Basin covers portions of five (5) States and one (1) Canadian Province. The part of the Michigan Basin containing the thickest and greatest burial depths of the Utica / Collingwood Shales is located within the borders of the State of Michigan.

A recent discovery well by EnCana Oil & Gas (USA), Inc. (“EnCana” dba Petoskey Exploration LLC) has proven one portion of the deeper Michigan Basin to be productive of both natural gas and condensate primarily from the Collingwood Shale. According to an EnCana report, the wildcat well encountered approximately 245 feet (75 meters) of Utica / Collingwood Shales between 9260 feet (2822 meters) and 9505 feet (2897 meters) in depth.

Discussion topics include: the EnCana discovery; and publically available information on Michigan Utica stratigraphy, lithofacies, geochemistry, and thermal maturity. Comparisons will also be made with the Utica Shale in New York State.