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MarkWest Energy Partners LP Q3 2009 Earnings Call Transcript

Question-and-Answer Session

Operator

(Operator Instructions) Your first question comes from John Edwards - Morgan Keegan.

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John Edwards - Morgan Keegan

Frank, could you talk a little bit about what you see longer term the midstream investment opportunity over the next two to three years? I guess what share you expect MarkWest to be able to capture on that?

Frank Semple

John, are you speaking about any specific area?

John Edwards - Morgan Keegan

Marcellus Shale.

Frank Semple

John, obviously we're very pleased with our first move for advantage as I mentioned in the call. There has been certainly a lot of focus across the Marcellus primarily in Pennsylvania. Now in West Virginia and certainly moving up into the Northeast, but the majority of the investments that are going on right now are down in the wet area in the Greene and Washington area.

The capital that we now provided guidance for in 2010 reflects pretty clear line aside on the types of facilities that need to be in place in order to support the drilling programs of range and Chesapeake and the other producers that we are working with in that area.

As far as the overall capital that's going to be required to support the Marcellus drilling activities. Again, there's going to be billion of dollars required in order to support those drilling programs. It's an enormous play with obviously now very good economics and a lot of interest and a lot of acreage being committed to that play.

Our goal really is to stay focused on our key customers up there and to make sure we don't get ahead of ourselves. So that's why you see the large majority of our assets really being centered around that wet area. We believe that we could continue to maintain a very strong market share in that area.

John Edwards - Morgan Keegan

You say multiple billions. I mean what do you think your share would be of \$1 billion over the next three years? Would that be a fair assumption or what's your thought on that?

Frank Semple

We obviously look at our capital plan over a five year period. So we go out pretty far and that capital program is based on our work with our producer customers and we're pretty committed to stay ahead of the opportunities particularly in that wet area of the Marcellus. I'm not going to venture a guess as to what that five year plan looks like, but if you just look and listen to the earnings calls in the earnings releases from the major producers in the Marcellus, you start to get an idea of what they are planning in terms of rig count and production in their acreage.

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