Development of the Fayetteville Shale in Arkansas has been an economic boon for the state. Production of natural gas from the Fayetteville has pumped billions of dollars into the state’s economy and generated tens of thousands of jobs. Between 2001 and 2010, job creation in the mining, quarrying, and oil and gas industries accounted for 65% of the state’s total employment growth.

**Fayetteville Shale Development by the Numbers:**

- **Between 2008 and 2011**, development generated **$18.5 billion** in economic activity.

- Natural gas production in just nine counties grew from **100.6 million** cubic feet in 2004 to **943.6 billion** cubic feet in 2011.

- From 2008 to 2011, energy development generated nearly **$2 billion** in local and state tax revenues.

- In 2010, the average annual pay in the oil and gas industry was **$74,555**, twice the average pay of all industries in Arkansas.

**The bigger picture**

Numerous energy-production support industries and projects also created significant economic benefits for the state. For example:

- Construction of the Fayetteville Express Pipeline – used to transport natural gas – meant a **$1-billion** investment in the state.

- Welspun Corporation is expanded its pipe manufacturing business and increased its investment in Arkansas to **$280-million**.

- Saint-Gobain Group built a new **$100-million** factory to produce ceramic proppants used for gas production.