

The chief executive of one the largest oil and natural gas services companies in the world has said that shale gas could be much harder to recover in Europe than in the United States, because of concerns about environmental damage and other issues.

“We should not underestimate the challenge,” Andrew F. Gould, the chief executive of the company, Schlumberger, said Wednesday.

“The drilling and producing of shale gas wells in Central Europe will be very different from doing so in the southern United States for financial and logistical, social and regulatory reasons,” Mr. Gould said during Oil & Money, a conference convened by the International Herald Tribune.²

What made the issue about shale gas development in Poland even more intriguing and compelling, was the recent position by some Polish statesmen opposing shale gas regulation as it is being contemplated by the EU in general. This publicized resistance stance by Poland, which seems to have more officially been promoted beginning in May, 2011, had much to do with opportunistic politics by energy corporations, seeing that Poland was about to take its turn in heading up the **EU Presidency** for the second half of 2011. What better advertisement for promoting shale gas to the EU, which American investors and U.S. State Department executives have opportunistically fleeced to the hilt!

As the reader will discover in this report, unconventional fracking, by way of powerful inter-linked diesel engine brute forces, is not just about cracking up geologic shales far underground. It’s much more than that! It’s about using other unconventional brute forces to crack governments, communities and people! In other words, in order to frack the earth, it means fracking everything!

Along the way in my research, I came across Mark Lombardi’s work, and found it appropriate to not only make some of my own sketches about the petroleum frackers in his honour, but to also make a tribute to the late Lombardi, the self-made master of visual artistry through pencil-drawn large canvasses marking the complicated webs of people, companies and institutions involved in international finance and political intrigue. Because of the powerful essence in his factual drawings in helping to reveal our complex and often warped world, it is perhaps time for a creative revival in Lombardi-ism.

A cautionary note. Some information in this report on the background of events, people, corporations and institutions is largely sourced from and reliant upon knowledge pools on the internet. Some, like Wikipedia, Forbes and Bloomberg, offer interesting insights and descriptive details, but some of that information needs to be carefully and further scrutinized, and in that sense some of the information in this report should be considered as preliminary. As every good researcher knows, one has to diligently and carefully investigate and assess all of the facts, as sometimes difficult and frustrating it may be. Nevertheless, these sources provide a critical role as initiators for understanding events and individuals in our complex world, a world now under organized and increasing assault by the fracking fraternity.

Some of the translations from various languages, Polish, Swedish, and Spanish were largely made from Google Translate, and guesswork had to be applied at times to make proper sense of this crude

² New York Times, October 13, 2010, *Outlook for Shale Gas in Europe Is Uncertain.*

method. Given the tight budget on producing this report and limited contacts, it was difficult to find sources to make the proper translations.

Our hearts go out to Poland, the home country of former Catholic Pope John Paul II (Vatican City, October 16, 1978 - April 2, 2005). I cannot but help imagine what Karol Wojtyla may have privately pondered and prayed about if he were still alive after being briefed at length by honest and faithful expert advisors and affected citizens from around the world with deep knowledge and experiences about the diverse issues of the unconventional petroleum world, knowing then of the gloomy fate that may be awaiting his homeland. Would he have dwelled on numerous themes in the Scriptures on the sacredness of water? What quotes from the New Testament would the Pope have found appropriate? Perhaps:

- “Thy Will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven!” (Matthew 6:10) ?;
- “Love (‘Agape’, from the Koine Greek) Thy Neighbour!” (Mark 12:31) ?;
- “You cannot worship both Mammon and God!” (Matthew 6:24) ?;
- and, “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God!” (Matthew 19:24) ?

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Will Koop
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