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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES
APPROPRIATIONS
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY
JUDICIARY
STATE GOVERNMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Greg Vitali 

DATE: December 30, 2010

SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship Memo – Marcellus Shale Well Spacing

When we return to session, I will be reintroducing legislation that would amend the Oil and Gas Act to require a two (2) mile spacing requirement for drilling in unconventional shale formations such as Marcellus Shale.

Drilling in unconventional shale formations such as Marcellus is an intense industrial activity, creating the need for pipelines, access roads, water impoundments, and gas compressor stations to be built around the well site.

Proper well spacing is critical to protecting the character of the Commonwealth's countryside, promoting the efficient development of the Commonwealth's vast natural gas resources, and protecting the Commonwealth's land, air and water resources.

By spacing well sites two miles apart, this bill will consolidate this industrial activity, limit the impacts of development to the environment and communities, and even save well drillers money by cutting down on construction costs.

This was HB2740 of last session. The following members were cosponsors: Briggs, Caltagirone, Cohen, Conklin, Curry, Houghton, Josephs, Lentz, McIlvaine Smith, Mundy, and Murphy.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Terri Koller at 787-7647 or by email at TKoller@pahouse.net