



Senate of Pennsylvania

Senator Jim Ferlo

38th Senatorial District

MEMO

To: *All Senators*
Date: *January 6, 2011*
From: *Senator Jim Ferlo*
Subject: *Correction: Co-sponsorship of Marcellus Shale Moratorium*

In the near future I plan to re-introduce Senate Bill 1447 that would place a one year moratorium on natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale formation.

The moratorium would temporarily prohibit the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) from issuing new permit and prevent drilling at those sites that have had permits issued but drilling has not begun. During the moratorium a study commission will meet to discuss many issues including:

- Proper protection for rivers, streams, and other drinking water sources from drilling including water withdrawals, management of wastewater, storm water run-off, and spills;
- Proper air quality regulations;
- The disclosure and consequences of all chemicals used by the drilling industry, including amounts used at each well site;
- The appropriate permitting processes, drilling and well inspections, staffing levels, and other administrative responsibilities of the DEP;
- How to handle liability and bonding at all well sites in the event of likely drilling disasters that pose an environmental nightmare, especially in remote areas;
- The impact on the state labor market and on how to encourage job creation and procurement for Pennsylvania people and businesses;
- The financial impact to host communities such as inadequate trucking routes and transportation of contaminated water;
- Property rights of both those leasing land, those adjacent to leased land, and those with that own surface rights, but not mineral rights; and
- The cumulative impact of existing and likely proposed drilling in

Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale, including an analysis on water quality, air quality, land use, habitat, and human health.

The commission will be made up of appointments made by legislative leadership and the Governor. It will be required to issue a report in nine months. Representatives from industry, environmental organizations, and consumer groups will all be required participants.

Co-sponsors from last session were Senators Logan, Washington, Leach and Hughes.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation please e-mail Gianna Veno at gveno@pasenate.com or call 787-6123.