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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Scott Conklin

DATE: January 5, 2011

SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship Legislation - Requirements for Gas Permit Applications
Former House Bills 2183 and 2184 of 2009-2010

In the near future, I plan to introduce two pieces of legislation that will amend both the Oil and Gas Act and the Oil and Gas Conservation Law to create notice requirements for natural gas permit applications that are similar Pennsylvania coal mining requirements.

The two amendments include the Oil and Gas Law and the Oil and Gas Act. The Oil and Gas Law will require public notice to be made in order to submit an application for drilling. In addition, the Oil and Gas Act will provide permit application notice to be published in the newspapers. Both of these two proposals require well operators to give public notice of the filing by publication in a local newspaper, which is published in the locality in which the permit was applied, prior to filing their applications. This public notice must be published once a week for four consecutive weeks and well operators must also include proof of the publication of the required notice with their applications.

As we expand our natural gas drilling efforts within the Commonwealth, it is imperative that we keep the public informed. I strongly believe that this package of legislation will allow us to provide residents with this information, as well as make it easier for citizens to remain aware of drilling activities within their communities

If you would like to co-sponsor this package, please contact Suzanne Chadwick at 787-9473 or via email schadwic@pahouse.net.