

MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members
From: Representative Larry Curry
Date: January 18, 2012
Re: Co-Sponsorship Memo – Legislation Amending the Air Pollution Control Act

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation that would amend the Air Pollution Control Act (Act 787 of 1960). This legislation would expand the definition of “air pollution” to include dust generated from oil and gas operations.

The inclusion of dust as an air pollutant is pertinent as the Marcellus Shale industry continues to grow in the Commonwealth. Natural gas extraction is a complex process that includes activities such as the construction of the well sites, access roads, and retention ponds. During these activities, a large amount of dust is created, which poses potential health risks to residents living in close proximity to drilling sites. Exposure to dust and toxins can have profoundly negative effects on the long-term health of humans, especially young children. With that said, I believe it is very important that we take the necessary steps to address the health risks associated with the gas drilling process.

If you would like to co-sponsor this measure, please contact Nancy Porvaznik at 717-783-1079 or nporvazn@pahouse.net.