

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Jesse White

DATE: February 14, 2012

SUBJECT: Resolution Providing for "Marcellus Shale Principles"

In the near future, I will be introducing a resolution encouraging corporations engaged in drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale formation in Pennsylvania to adopt and adhere to a set of principles known as the "Marcellus Shale Principles." A similar resolution was recently adopted unanimously by the West Virginia State Senate.

If done correctly, drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale formation will bring much-needed jobs to our Commonwealth. These jobs will be spread throughout the state and in areas that have historically suffered from high unemployment rates for many years. However, if the extraction of this natural resource is done without forethought to consequences, or does not follow state requirements, this industry has the potential to negatively impact our environment and economy.

As such, I will be introducing a resolution calling on the Marcellus Shale industry to adopt a set of principles known as the "Marcellus Shale Principles." These principles would include the hiring of local workers, responsible stewardship of the land, and open communication with all stakeholders. By adopting these principles, natural gas drillers would demonstrate their willingness to be partners with the Commonwealth and its residents in the utilization of this valuable natural resource.

If you would like to co-sponsor this resolution, please contact Dominic Lemmon at DLemmon@pahouse.net or 717-783-6437.