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## House of Representatives commonwealth of Pennsylvania harrisburg

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## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Mike Hanna

**Democratic Whip** 

**DATE:** 

March 7, 2012

RE:

**Brownfield Remediation Standards** 

In the near future, I will introduce legislation to close a loophole in Act 2 of 1995, the Land Recycling and Environmental Remediation Standards Act, which governs our state's standards for brownfield reclamation.

Under this law when spills occur during gas drilling activities, the responsible party has three options for remediation: Statewide Health Standard, Background Standard, or Site-Specific Standard.

My legislation will address an incident involving a spill that spread onto private property in which the responsible party cleaned up the ground only to Statewide health standards, which were poorer than background levels of contamination prior to the spill.

Specifically, my bill will do two things. First, when contamination occurs on a residential property by an entity other than the property owner, the site must be restored to the Background standard unless written consent is granted by the property owner to allow for Statewide health standards or Site-specific standards to be implemented.

Second, my bill will require the Environmental Quality Board and the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt regulations regarding health standards for chemicals associated with oil or gas extraction activities that are not currently addressed in regulation.

I feel both of these issues will protect our constituents and their property. I ask for your support in sponsoring this legislation by contacting my office by phone at (717) 772-2283 or by contacting Gayle Jones at gjones@pahouse.net.

