



November 19, 2013

The Honorable Ron Miller
115 Ryan Office Building
PO Box 202093
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2093

Dear Chairman Miller:

On behalf of our approximately 300 producing and supply chain members who represent many of the largest and most active companies in natural gas production, gathering and transmission in the country, as well as the suppliers and contractors who service the industry, I am writing in support of HB 1699. Responsible shale gas development is providing a cleaner-burning fuel source for energy consumers across Pennsylvania and the country, and use of natural gas in power generation provides for the reliable production of electricity that our state's businesses, industries and residential customers need.

Currently, the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) affords demand response, diesel generating units a 100 hour per year exemption from pollution controls. This EPA decision acts as an incentive for the use of these generators by favoring the use of uncontrolled, less reliable sources of power generation and serves as an impediment to the adoption of cleaner-burning, domestic natural gas.

The Marcellus Shale Coalition firmly believes that natural gas will play a critical role in electric power generation in the Commonwealth which will be a major energy benefit to all energy consumers. However, absent a fair market environment, development of regional natural gas fueled power generating facilities may become economically infeasible. We support HB 1699 as it would level the playing field and result in a net benefit to the environment while ensuring more reliable supply of power to wholesale markets.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to this bill moving through committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Welty", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Jim Welty
Vice President, Government Affairs
Marcellus Shale Coalition

cc: Members, House Environmental Resources & Energy Committee