
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 786 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY GEORGE, BELFANTI, BRENNAN, BROWN, CONKLIN,
FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HORNAMAN,
JOSEPHS, KORTZ, MAHONEY, McILVAINE SMITH, MELIO, MILNE,
MYERS, PETRARCA, PHILLIPS, READSHAW, SIPTROTH, WALKO,
YOUNGBLOOD, YUDICHAK, K. SMITH AND BRIGGS, MARCH 6, 2009

SENATOR M. WHITE, ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, IN SENATE,
AS AMENDED, JUNE 22, 2010

AN ACT

1 Establishing the State Energy Office; and imposing duties on the
2 State Energy Office.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the State Energy
7 Office Act.

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Commission." The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission.

13 "Department." The Department of Environmental Protection of
14 the Commonwealth.

15 "Office." The State Energy Office established under section

1 3.

2 "Secretary." The Secretary of Environmental Protection of
3 the Commonwealth.

4 Section 3. The State Energy Office.

5 The State Energy Office is established in the Department of
6 Environmental Protection to promote the goals of energy
7 development and energy conservation.

8 Section 4. Composition of office.

9 The secretary shall designate an executive director and hire
10 the staff of the office in accordance with procedures of the
11 department.

12 Section 5. Powers and duties of office.

13 The powers and duties of the office are as follows:

14 (1) To promote the development of this Commonwealth's
15 indigenous and renewable energy resources through programs
16 involving information and technical and financial assistance.

17 (2) To assist the Department of General Services in
18 promoting the efficient use of energy by the State government
19 and all sectors of this Commonwealth. Working with the
20 Governor's Green Government Council, the office will
21 encourage energy efficiency and conservation through programs
22 providing information and technical and financial assistance.

23 The office will also work with the commission to develop
24 specific programs to promote energy efficiency for
25 commercial, industrial and residential ENERGY consumers of ←
26 ~~deregulated utilities, such as natural gas and electricity.~~

27 (3) To be the point of contact for private and
28 government energy matters and the lead Commonwealth agency
29 for energy policy development. The office will regularly
30 update the Commonwealth's energy policy to determine new

1 opportunities for energy development and energy conservation.

2 (4) To be the primary manager and coordinator of Federal
3 energy grants, petroleum overcharge funds and private energy
4 grants.

5 (5) To assist the Department of General Services in the
6 review of energy-related plans, programs, policies and
7 regulations of Commonwealth agencies and to provide
8 recommendations to further promote energy development and
9 energy conservation. ~~The office is authorized to intervene in~~ ←
10 ~~energy related proceedings of the commission and other~~
11 ~~Federal or State regulatory agencies.~~

12 (6) To monitor prices of petroleum and supplies of
13 petroleum products available for use in this Commonwealth to
14 determine whether there exists or is likely to exist an
15 emergency shortage under section 2802-C(d) of the act of
16 April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative
17 Code of 1929, and to conduct emergency allocation measures
18 during a period of declared emergency petroleum product
19 shortage under section 2802-C of The Administrative Code of
20 1929. The office will also monitor the price and supply of
21 energy to provide information to the Governor AND THE GENERAL ←
22 ASSEMBLY on the changing impact of energy prices on the
23 Commonwealth's economy.

24 (7) To assume the responsibilities assigned to the
25 Department of Environmental Protection under the act of June
26 28, 1995 (P.L.89, No.18), known as the Conservation and
27 Natural Resources Act, which had been assigned to the office
28 under prior statutes, regulations and executive orders,
29 including the administration of the funds transferred to the
30 department under section 507 of the Conservation and Natural

1 Resources Act.

2 (8) To promote the establishment of a Commonwealth
3 liquid fuels reserve and programs for the Commonwealth to
4 ensure continuity of government operations in the event of an
5 emergency.

6 (9) To provide financial assistance including, but not
7 limited to, loans, loan guarantees, bond guarantees, grants
8 and rebates for projects fulfilling the purposes of this act.

9 (10) To receive appropriations and apply for and accept
10 grants, gifts, donations, bequests and settlements from any
11 public or private source.

12 (11) To make contracts of every name and nature and
13 execute all instruments necessary or convenient to effectuate
14 the purposes of this act.

15 ~~(12) To do any act necessary or convenient to exercise~~ ←
16 ~~the powers enumerated in this section or reasonably implied~~
17 ~~from those powers.~~

18 SECTION 6. JURISDICTION. ←

19 NOTHING IN THIS ACT SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO EXPAND, DIMINISH OR
20 MODIFY THE JURISDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT, THE OFFICE OR THE
21 COMMISSION.

22 Section ~~6~~ 7. Effective date. ←

23 This act shall take effect in 60 days.