

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 297 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY YAW, BAKER, PILEGGI, RAFFERTY, WONDERLING, BROWNE,
COSTA, O'PAKE, ALLOWAY, VANCE, EARLL AND SMUCKER,
FEBRUARY 24, 2009

REFERRED TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, FEBRUARY 24,
2009

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 19, 1984 (P.L.1140, No.223),
2 entitled "An act relating to the development of oil and gas
3 and coal; imposing duties and powers on the Department of
4 Environmental Resources; imposing notification requirements
5 to protect landowners; and providing for definitions, for
6 various requirements to regulate the drilling and operation
7 of oil and gas wells, for gas storage reservoirs, for various
8 reporting requirements, including certain requirements
9 concerning the operation of coal mines, for well permits, for
10 well registration, for distance requirements, for well casing
11 requirements, for safety device requirements, for storage
12 reservoir obligations, for well bonding requirements, for a
13 Well Plugging Restricted Revenue Account to enforce oil and
14 gas well plugging requirements, for the creation of an Oil
15 and Gas Technical Advisory Board, for oil and gas well
16 inspections, for enforcement and for penalties," further
17 providing for well reporting requirements.

18 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
19 hereby enacts as follows:

20 Section 1. Section 212 of the act of December 19, 1984 (P.L.
21 1140, No.223), known as the Oil and Gas Act, amended July 2,
22 1992 (P.L.365, No.78), is amended to read:

23 Section 212. Well reporting requirements.

24 (a) Every well operator shall file with the department, on a

1 form provided by the department, a semi-annual and an annual
2 report specifying the amount of production on the most well-
3 specific basis available. Annual reports shall also specify the
4 status of each well; however, in subsequent years, only changes
5 in the status need be reported. The department shall [keep all
6 such reports confidential for five years: Provided, however,
7 That the] make the reports available on its publicly accessible
8 Internet website. The Commonwealth shall have the right to
9 utilize such information in enforcement proceedings, in making
10 designations or determinations under section 1927-A of the act
11 of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative
12 Code of 1929, or in aggregate form for statistical purposes.

13 (b) It shall be the duty of the well operator to keep
14 records of any well drilled or altered. A record of the well
15 containing such information as required by regulation shall be
16 filed with the department within 30 days of cessation of
17 drilling. A completion report containing such additional
18 information as required by regulation shall be filed with the
19 department within 30 days after the completion of the well and
20 it shall be kept on file by the department. Within 90 days after
21 the completion of drilling or recompletion of a well, if
22 requested by the department, the well operator shall submit a
23 copy of the electrical, radioactive or other standard industry
24 logs if they have been run. In addition, if requested by the
25 department within one year, the well operator shall file a copy
26 of drill stem test charts, formation water analysis, porosity,
27 permeability or fluid saturation measurements, core analysis and
28 lithologic log or sample description or other similar data as
29 compiled. No such information shall be required unless the well
30 operator has had such information compiled in the ordinary

1 course of business. No interpretation of the data is to be
2 filed.

3 (c) Upon notification by the department prior to
4 commencement of drilling, the well operator shall collect for
5 the department additional data as the department shall specify,
6 such as representative drill cuttings and samples from cores
7 taken and any other such geological information that the
8 operator reasonably can compile. No interpretation of the data
9 is to be filed.

10 (d) All electrical, radioactive or other standard industry
11 logs, drill stem test charts, formation water analyses,
12 porosity, permeability or fluid saturation measurements, core
13 analysis and lithologic logs or sample description or other
14 similar data as compiled, required under subsection (b) or drill
15 cuttings required under subsection (c) shall be retained by the
16 well operator and shall be filed with the department three years
17 after completion of the well. Upon request of the well operator,
18 the department shall extend the date for the filing of the data,
19 but the extension shall not exceed five years from the date of
20 completion of the well: Provided, however, That the department
21 shall have the right to utilize such information in enforcement
22 proceedings, in making designations or determinations under
23 section 1927-A of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175),
24 known as The Administrative Code of 1929, or in aggregate form
25 for statistical purposes.

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.