

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 995 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, ARGALL, COSTA, ERICKSON, FOLMER, FONTANA, KASUNIC, ORIE, RAFFERTY, SCARNATI, SCHWANK, WASHINGTON, YUDICHAK, FARNESE, BROWNE AND MENSCH, APRIL 25, 2011

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, IN SENATE, JUNE 27, 2011

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in Commonwealth services, requiring
3 that the operator of each permitted unconventional oil and
4 gas well within Pennsylvania post certain 911 response
5 information at the entrance to each well site.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Title 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
9 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

10 § 7321. Unconventional oil and gas well 911 emergency response
11 information.

12 The (A) EMERGENCY REGULATIONS.--THE agency and the
13 Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt emergency
14 regulations directing the operators of all unconventional gas
15 and oil wells within this Commonwealth to do all of the
16 following:

17 (1) Adopt a unique GPS coordinate address for each
18 unconventional gas or oil well at both the access road
19 entrance and wellpad site.



1 (2) Register that address with the agency, the
2 Department of Environmental Protection and the county
3 emergency management organization within the county where the
4 unconventional gas or oil well is located.

5 (3) Require the development of an emergency response
6 plan and file that plan with the agency, the Department of
7 Environmental Protection and the county emergency management
8 organization with jurisdiction over the unconventional gas or
9 oil well. The county shall disseminate the GPS address and
10 emergency response plan to the local emergency management
11 organization in which the unconventional gas or oil well is
12 located.

13 (4) Post a reflective sign at the entrance to each well
14 site with the specific address of that site, the coordinates
15 for the site, the emergency contact number for the operator
16 and such other information as the agency or the Department of
17 Environmental Protection deems necessary.

18 (B) DEFINITIONS.--AS USED IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING
19 WORDS AND PHRASES SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS
20 SUBSECTION UNLESS THE CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

21 "UNCONVENTIONAL OIL OR GAS WELL." A BORE HOLE DRILLED OR
22 BEING DRILLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF OR TO BE USED FOR PRODUCING OIL
23 OR GAS FROM A GEOLOGICAL FORMATION EXISTING BELOW THE BASE OF
24 THE ELK SANDSTONE OR ITS GEOLOGIC EQUIVALENT STRATIGRAPHIC
25 INTERVAL WHERE OIL OR GAS GENERALLY CANNOT BE PRODUCED AT
26 ECONOMIC FLOW RATES OR IN ECONOMIC VOLUMES EXCEPT BY VERTICAL OR
27 HORIZONTAL WELL BORES STIMULATED BY HYDRAULIC FRACTURE
28 TREATMENTS OR BY USING MULTILATERAL WELL BORES OR OTHER
29 TECHNIQUES TO EXPOSE MORE OF THE FORMATION OF THE WELL BORE.

30 Section 2. Regulations promulgated under 35 Pa.C.S. § 7321

1 shall apply to both new and existing unconventional gas and oil
2 wells within this Commonwealth.

3 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.