
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1145 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY YAW, RESCHENTHALER, BARTOLOTTA, YUDICHAK, WHITE,
ALLOWAY, HUTCHINSON, VULAKOVICH AND WARD, MARCH 4, 2016

REFERRED TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, MARCH 4, 2016

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of July 25, 1961 (P.L.825, No.359), entitled
2 "An act defining and prohibiting waste in the production of
3 oil and gas; defining the powers and duties of the Oil and
4 Gas Conservation Commission and the Oil and Gas Division of
5 the Department of Mines and Mineral Industries with respect
6 to the prevention of waste in the production of oil and gas
7 from certain geological horizons; the protection of
8 correlative rights; the spacing of well drilling operations;
9 the unitization of lands and horizons for the purpose of
10 regulating well spacing; providing for the enforcement of
11 this act; and the issuance of rules, regulations and orders
12 prescribing the rights, obligations and duties of owners and
13 operators of interests in lands and leasehold interests
14 therein with respect to the drilling of oil and gas wells
15 thereon; providing for hearings and the procedures to be
16 followed therein; imposing duties upon the courts; providing
17 methods for the enforcement of the provisions of this act,
18 limiting all the provisions hereof to certain geological
19 horizons; imposing penalties and making an appropriation,"
20 further providing for applicability, exclusions and
21 construction.

22 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
23 hereby enacts as follows:

24 Section 1. Section 3(b) of the act of July 25, 1961
25 (P.L.825, No.359), known as the Oil and Gas Conservation Law, is
26 amended to read:

27 Section 3. Applicability; Exclusions; Construction.--* * *

1 (b) This act shall not apply to or affect--

2 (1) Any well or wells which do not penetrate the Onondaga
3 horizon, or in those areas in which the Onondaga horizon is
4 nearer to the surface than thirty-eight hundred feet, any well
5 or wells which do not exceed a depth of thirty-eight hundred
6 feet beneath the surface[.] or any well or wells that
7 unintentionally penetrate the Onondaga horizon and do not
8 intentionally produce oil or gas from the Onondaga horizon. For
9 the purposes of this act, the question whether a pool is covered
10 by the act shall be determined by the depth of the producing
11 interval in the discovery well in such pool, and if such
12 producing interval is covered by the act, then all wells drilled
13 to such pool shall be covered by this act, even though some of
14 the wells in the pool, if considered alone, would not be covered
15 by the act.

16 (2) Any well or wells of whatever depth commenced prior to
17 the effective date of this act, except such wells previously
18 completed in strata above the Onondaga horizon, but subsequent
19 to the effective date of this act drilled deeper than the
20 Onondaga horizon, or three thousand eight hundred feet,
21 whichever is deeper, provided that such wells may be considered
22 in spacing and pooling orders entered by the commission.

23 (3) Any well or wells drilled to inject gas into or withdraw
24 gas from gas storage reservoir.

25 * * *

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.