

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

### **If my neighbors' land is being drilled, will the gas under my land be captured?**

There is a possibility that the natural gas under your land could be captured from a well not located on your property. The state does not regulate the placement of wells on properties in regards to distance to property lines and inter-well spacing.

### **Where can I view a full list of my rights as a landowner?**

The DEP provides a fact sheet of frequently asked questions regarding gas leases. It can be viewed at: [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us). For specific questions, you should contact an attorney who is familiar with oil and gas law.

### **How do I know if I own mineral rights under my property?**

If you own the mineral rights under your property, it should be listed on your deed. However, your county office of the Recorder of Deeds would also have the information.

### **How do I find out if companies approaching me about drilling are legitimate oil and gas operators already working in Pennsylvania?**

The DEP provides an online resource where landowners can check to see if drilling companies are actively licensed in Pennsylvania. It is called eFACTS (Pennsylvania's Environment, Facility, Application, Compliance Tracking System) and can be utilized at [www.dep.state.pa.us/efacts](http://www.dep.state.pa.us/efacts).



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# MARCELLUS SHALE

Key to  
**Economic Prosperity**

-  ENERGY INDEPENDENCE
-  GOOD PAYING JOBS
-  LOWER COST OF ENERGY



**THE MARCELLUS SHALE** is a geological formation rich with fossil fuels. It is located approximately 5,000 to 8,000 feet below the Earth's surface.

The Marcellus Shale formation covers roughly 60 percent of Pennsylvania's land mass and also stretches into parts of New York, West Virginia, Kentucky and Ohio.

Pennsylvania citizens are very fortunate to have the Keystone state geographic location in the nation, but also having natural resources not just limited to the Marcellus Shale, but also an abundance of coal, timberlands and waterways.

Natural gas from Marcellus Shale provides job opportunities, energy independence and a reduction in energy costs for Pennsylvania citizens. This brochure will highlight the economic impact, regulatory overview and overall benefits of the Marcellus Shale.

**DID YOU KNOW:** Estimates show that the Marcellus Shale may contain more than 500 trillion cubic feet of natural gas?

**NOTICE:** *This brochure is for general information purposes only. For more specific questions regarding your individual land, please consult an attorney who is familiar with oil and gas law.*

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:**

Natural gas drilling is regulated through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

There are three main state laws in Pennsylvania governing oil and gas drilling operations:

- The Oil and Gas Act
- The Oil and Gas Conservation Law
- The Coal and Gas Resource Coordination Act

Additionally, drilling companies must also comply with: Pennsylvania's Clean Streams Law; the Solid Waste Management Act; and the Pennsylvania Air Pollution and Control Act.

Natural gas is typically extracted from underground through hydraulic fracturing or "fracking." The DEP describes the process of hydraulic fracturing as, "drillers pumping large amounts of water mixed with sand and other proppants into the shale formation under high pressure to fracture the shale around the well, which allows the natural gas to flow freely."

Drillers must also case and grout wells to ensure that groundwater is not contaminated during the hydraulic fracturing process. According to the DEP wells cannot be drilled within 100 feet of wetlands or streams. Wells also cannot be drilled within 200 feet of structures.

### **JOB CREATION:**

According to researchers at Penn State University, the Marcellus Shale industry has created more than 88,000 jobs in Pennsylvania through 2010.

By 2020, researchers at Penn State University estimate that 220,000 jobs will be created in fields, including: construction and excavation; engineering and surveying; legal; and accounting.

Having the Marcellus Shale located in Pennsylvania contributes to energy independence not only statewide, but also nationally.

### **REVENUE FOR PENNSYLVANIA:**

In 2010, Pennsylvania collected \$20 million in payroll taxes directly related to the Marcellus Shale. Additionally, the state collected \$12.4 million in oil and gas permit fees in 2010-11.

According to the Marcellus Shale Coalition, approximately \$4 million is invested into each well. And, for every \$1 invested by Marcellus Shale producers, \$1.90 in economic output is generated.

Marcellus Shale drilling companies pay every tax that all other businesses operating in Pennsylvania pay. This includes:

- the PA Corporate Net Income Tax
- the Capital Stock & Franchise Tax
- PA Sales & Use Tax
- PA Fuel Tax
- Local Property Tax

*\*\*Pennsylvania is the ONLY state in the nation that imposes both an uncapped Capital Stock & Franchise Tax and an uncapped Income Tax on businesses.*

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**ONE MILE OF MARCELLUS SHALE PIPELINE EQUALS**  
approximately \$1 million invested into Pennsylvania's economy