



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

SECRETARY

June 30, 2010

The Honorable Mary Jo White, Chairman
Senate Environmental Resources & Energy Committee
Senate of Pennsylvania
Senate Post Office Box 203021
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Senator White:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony during the June 16, 2010, Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee hearing on Marcellus Shale drilling safety issues. I am writing to respond to questions raised during the hearing.

- 1) *Will the department provide the committee with information detailing Marcellus Shale drilling inspections and violations? (Senator Mary Jo White)*

There are 4 enclosures which detail:

1. Inspections by County
 2. Violations by County
 3. Violations by Operator
 4. Violations by Description
- 2) *During the hearing multiple Senators requested a breakdown of DEP's Oil and Gas staff.*

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will have hired an additional 36 persons and completed by July 15 the Phase One of its 2010 plan to hire an additional 68 persons during 2010 for its Oil and Gas staff. The remaining 32 positions will be filled by the end of August.

With the 2010 hiring of 68 positions that followed hiring of 37 positions in 2009, the DEP gas staff includes 196 positions. In the program, 126 positions are focused on compliance and enforcement, 63 on permitting and seven are administrative support for the permitting and enforcement functions. Geographically, 167 positions are located in field offices, with the remaining 29 in Harrisburg.

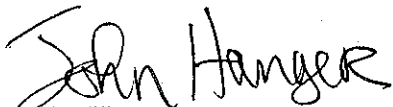
The Honorable Mary Jo White

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I hope this information has proven helpful and has adequately addressed the questions of this committee. If you have additional questions or require further clarification, please contact Robert Maiden, Legislative Director, by e-mail at rmaiden@state.pa.us or by telephone at 717.783.8303.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Hanger". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "H".

John Hanger
Secretary

Enclosures

**Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Oil and Gas Management**

**Marcellus Shale Wells
2010 Summary of Inspections by County
(as of June 18, 2010)**

County	Number of Inspections
Allegheny	10
Armstrong	69
Beaver	6
Blair	10
Bradford	127
Butler	69
Cambria	6
Cameron	5
Centre	53
Clarion	5
Clearfield	60
Clinton	41
Elk	15
Fayette	81
Forest	11
Greene	154
Indiana	46
Jefferson	19
Luzerne	1
Lycoming	128
McKean	17
Potter	44
Somerset	26
Sullivan	2
Susquehanna	227
Tioga	110
Washington	403
Westmoreland	99
Wyoming	22
Total	1866

**Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Oil and Gas Management**

**Marcellus Shale Wells
2010 Summary of Violations by County
(as of June 18, 2010)**

County	Total Number of Violations	Number of Wells with Violations
Bradford	131	41
Tioga	103	30
Lycoming	74	26
Susquehanna	58	28
Potter	47	12
Wyoming	27	3
Washington	25	11
Clearfield	16	4
Clinton	15	4
Greene	14	9
Armstrong	12	6
Blair	8	1
Centre	7	6
Somerset	6	6
Westmoreland	6	5
Elk	5	4
Indiana	3	3
Butler	2	2
Fayette	2	2
Forest	2	1
Cameron	1	1
McKean	1	1
Total	565	207

**Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Oil and Gas Management**

**Marcellus Shale Wells
2010 Summary of Violation by Operator
(as of June 18, 2010)**

Operator	Total Number of Violations	Permits Issued 2005 thru Present	Wells Drilled 2005 to Present	Permits Issued 2010 YTD	Wells Drilled 2010 YTD
CHIEF OIL & GAS LLC	78	115	63	52	22
TALISMAN ENERGY USA INC	60	364	141	131	141
EAST RESOURCES INC	55	346	172	247	73
CHESAPEAKE APPALACHIA LLC	48	654	170	320	66
SENECA RESOURCES CORP	36	76	35	3	18
PA GEN ENERGY CO LLC	35	64	40	100	14
ULTRA RESOURCES INC	29	136	33	63	15
CITRUS ENERGY CORP	23	12	2	4	1
CABOT OIL & GAS CORP	22	161	74	43	18
ANADARKO E&P CO LP	18	133	68	57	47
EOG RESOURCES INC	18	164	64	74	25
ALTA OPR CO LLC	16	18	9	4	3
ATLAS RESOURCES LLC	15	329	146	63	14
XTO ENERGY INC	13	58	17	19	8
RANGE RESOURCES APPALACHIA LLC	12	482	227	122	77
EQT PRODUCTION CO	9	97	43	34	22
REX ENERGY OPERATING CORPORATION	8	36	28	14	10
ANTERO RESOURCES APALACHIAN CORP	7	9	2	6	2
GUARDIAN EXPLORATION LLC	7	10	3	1	0
SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY PROD CO	7	27	13	15	9
EXCO RESOURCES PA INC	6	122	12	47	12
PENN VIRGINIA OIL & GAS CORP	6	2	1	0	0
ENERGY CORP OF AMER	5	53	3	17	3
NOVUS OPERATING LLC	5	9	6	6	4
RICE DRILLING B LLC	5	13	4	3	2
CNX GAS CO LLC	3	99	41	214	13
WILLIAMS PRODUCTION APPALACHIA LLC	3	29	7	6	7
BAKER GAS INC	2	2	1	0	0
BLX INC	2	16	7	3	1
CARRIZO OIL & GAS INC	2	1	1	1	0
PHILLIPS EXPLORATION INC	2	74	9	117	7
SAMSON RES CO	2	7	1	0	0
TANGLEWOOD EXPL LLC	2	4	2	2	1
J W OPERATING CO	1	10	5	4	0
LONGFELLOW ENERGY LP	1	2	2	0	0
ST MARY LAND & EXPLORATION CO	1	5	1	4	1
STONE ENERGY CORP	1	16	5	4	0
Total	565	3,773	1,458	1,800	636

**Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Oil and Gas Management
Marcellus Shale Wells - 2010 Summary by Violation Type, (as of June 18, 2010)**

Violation Description	Total
O&G Act 223-General.	84
Clean Streams Law-General.	55
Failure to minimize accelerated erosion, implement E&S plan, maintain E&S controls. Failure to stabilize site until total site restoration under OGA Sec 206(c)(d)	52
Discharge of IW to ground	45
Failure to maintain 2' freeboard in an impoundment	42
Impoundment not structurally sound, impermeable, 3rd party protected, greater than 20" of seasonal high ground water table	36
Improperly lined pit	25
Industrial waste was discharged without permit.	20
There is a potential for polluting substance(s) reaching Waters of the Commonwealth and may require a permit.	19
Administrative Code-General	15
Failure to post permit number, operator name, address, telephone # in a conspicuous manner at the site during drilling	15
Encroachment without Permit or Waiver	10
Failure to install, in a permanent manner, the permit number on a completed well	10
Failure to notify DEP, landowner, political subdivision, or coal owner 24 hrs prior to commencement of drilling	10
Drillers Log not on site	9
Failure to construct properly plug, frac, brine pits	9
Failure to restore site w/in 9 months of completion of drilling or plugging	9
No E&S plan developed, plan not on site	9
Failure to have permit on site during drilling	8
Failure to notify DEP of pollution incident. No phone call made forthwith	8
Stream discharge of IW, includes drill cuttings, oil, brine and/or silt	8
Polluting substance(s) allowed to discharge into Waters of the Commonwealth.	7
E&S Plan not adequate	5
Rat hole not filled	5
Encroachment-General	4
Failure to report defective, insufficient, or improperly cemented casing w/in 24 hrs or submit plan to correct w/in 30 days	4
Improper encapsulation of waste	4
Person constructed, operated, maintained, modified, enlarged or abandoned a water obstruction or encroachment but failed to obtain Chapter 105 permit.	4
Failure to plug a well upon abandonment	3
Failure to post pit approval number	3
Inadequate, insufficient, and/or improperly installed cement	3
Drilling w/in 100 ft of surface water or wetland w/o variance	2
Failure of storage operator to maintain and/or submit required information, such as maps, well records, integrity testing information, pressure data	2
Failure to comply with terms and conditions of permit	2
Site conditions present a potential for pollution to waters of the Commonwealth.	2
Adequate impoundment freeboard was not maintained.	1
Drilling, altering, or operating a well without a permit	1
Failure to affix, in a permanent manner, a registration number on a well within 60 days of registration	1
Failure to case and cement properly through storage reservoir or storage horizon	1
Failure to plug zones having borne gas, oil, or water	1
Failure to restore site w/in 9 months of plugging well	1
Failure to submit well record within 30 days of completion of drilling	1
Failure to take all necessary measures to prevent spill. Inadequate diking, potential pollution	1
Hazardous well venting	1
Improper casing to protect fresh groundwater	1
Improper coal protective casing and cementing procedures	1
Inadequate or improperly installed BOP, other safety devices, or no certified BOP operator	1
No Control and Disposal/PPC plan or failure to implement PPC plan	1
Oil & Gas Conservation Law - General	1
Permittee has failed to perform work according to specifications as approved.	1
Pollution incident was not reported to DEP.	1
Tophole water discharged improperly	1
Total	565