

**THE LOCAL IMPACT OF MARCELLUS  
SHALE DRILLING IN WYOMING  
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**AS PRESENTED TO  
SENATOR EDWIN B. ERICKSON,  
CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE  
MAJORITY POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Prepared by:  
Eugene J. Dziak, Coordinator  
Wyoming County Emergency Management**

**January 26, 2011  
1:00 p.m.  
Room 1/North Office Building**

**ISSUES** that we have encountered in Wyoming County, Pennsylvania:

1. Increase of transportation emergencies has risen three-fold due to added truck traffic for delivery of fresh water for the fracing process and frac water being transported throughout the county. Not all transportation emergencies have been created by the tankers; however, the increase of truck traffic has added to the situation.
2. The responses to hazardous material spills have increased by 30%. The hazardous materials are diesel fuel, mineral oil mud, and some unidentified materials.
3. Each drilling company should be mandated to establish an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) or a Preparedness, Prevention and Contingency Plan (PPC). This allows for quick, easy access to a plan known by emergency responders and gas companies.
4. Each well facility should be mandated to publish an emergency 9-1-1 sign with pertinent information at the entrance to each well site. (Attached is a copy of a sign being used by Chesapeake and Citrus Energy.)
5. Each well site is required to file as a SARA facility under Pennsylvania Act 165. We as a county, need to hold each company accountable for filing this report.

Public Awareness is an important piece of the natural gas industry. I believe that more public meetings and information passing should be required throughout the county.

Emergency responders have been attending numerous training courses that pertain to natural gas drilling. Extensive hours have been spent to learn:

- a. how to protect themselves
- b. how to protect the general public
- c. how to protect adjacent properties

I believe that more training will be needed as the industry grows.

As gas wells continue to increase there will be a need for gathering lines and transmission lines to transport the products to customers. That said, we will see an increase in the construction of gas lines throughout the county.

The one issue we are not prepared or equipped for is trench rescue. Wyoming County will be taking steps in the near future to try to address this problem.

As the gas industry has grown, the Emergency Management Agency of Wyoming County has grown as well. We found a need to hire extra personnel and also to increase emergency products and equipment to mitigate hazardous material spills throughout the county. Obviously this has influenced our budgets. Many of the costs can be recouped, and have been recouped, from the gas well companies and carriers' insurance company.

In closing, I would like to thank Senator Edwin B. Erickson and the Senate Majority Policy Committee for the honor and opportunity to be here today to supply you with this testimony.

Thank you.