

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators
FROM: Senator Gene Yaw
RE: Amendment to Five-Year Right to Know Law
DATE: January 26, 2009

In the very near future, I will be introducing legislation that will amend the Oil and Natural Gas Act of 1984.

The Commonwealth is home to one of the largest natural gas deposits in the world. An open reporting process would spur a substantial amount of interest into the amount of natural gas produced throughout the state. In time, this formation could turn out to be a substantial revenue producer for our local governments and state as a whole. Current PA law requires annual well reporting, but stipulates that this information be kept confidential for five years. However, many states, such as Texas, already post this information online on a regular basis.

In an effort to entice more development as well as offer information to local communities on the amount of natural gas being produced in their townships, my bill would require a six-month report and an annual report of all oil and natural gas well production to be posted on the DEP website.

If you wish to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Adam Pankake of my office at 787-3280, or apankake@pasen.gov. Thank you for your consideration.

