

# Conservation Committee Report

Volume 10 Issue 10

By Jack Walters, ACSL Conservation Chair

October 2008



## The Conservation Pledge

I give my pledge as an  
American to save  
and faithfully defend from  
waste,  
the natural resources of my  
country;  
the soil, the water, the air,  
the minerals, the plant life and  
the wildlife.

This is my Pledge!

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## MARCELLUS SHALE COULD LEAD TO BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN NEW INVESTMENTS FOR PA LANDOWNERS, COMMUNITIES AND WORKERS, DEP OFFICIAL SAYS

Says Agency Working to Facilitate Development While Protecting Natural Resources

A state Department of Environmental Protection official told a legislative panel today that developing the natural gas reserves in the Marcellus Shale formation could generate billions of dollars in new economic investments for commonwealth citizens and communities, but doing so must include the protection of the state's environment. Robert Yowell, director of DEP's Northcentral Regional Office, testified before the state House Republican Policy Committee on the economic and environmental issues associated with drilling in the 5,000- to 8,000-foot deep geologic formation.

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## House Committee OKs Bill No One Wants To Become Law on Electric Rate Caps

After many members said they did not want it to become law, the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee this week reported out [Special Session House Bill 54](#) (George-D-Clearfield) that would extend electric rate caps.

Other bills approved by the Committee would set additional sitting criteria for landfills, ask Congress for more low-income heating assistance and give the Committee subpoena power to investigate the Governor's Energy Independence Initiative.

The bills include:

· [House Bill 1164](#) (Wansacz-D-Luzerne) setting sitting criteria for landfills near State Parks;

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## MARCELLUS SHALE COULD LEAD TO BILLIONS

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“The economic potential from the Marcellus Shale could be a boon to Pennsylvania communities, particularly regions in the north central and northeastern parts of the state that have not traditionally seen much gas well drilling development,” said Yowell. “The department has fielded many calls over the past year from landowners, farmers, local governments, environmental organizations and sportsmen’s groups who have been concerned about how we intend to facilitate the tremendous economic opportunities before us while protecting our land and water.

“There is no question that the Marcellus Shale holds tremendous potential, but unless it is managed properly, this development can create serious problems that could last for years or be irreversible. We’re committed to having procedures in place that protect our natural resources.”

Yowell explained that DEP has worked with the Susquehanna and Delaware river basin commissions and the oil and gas industry to create a consistent statewide application process for Marcellus Shale drilling permits that requires gas well operators to better protect water resources. Operators must provide additional information as part of the permitting process, including the sources and locations of water to be used in the drilling process, anticipated impacts of drilling on water resources, and locations of facilities where drilling fluids will be taken for treatment and disposal.

Since Aug. 15, DEP has issued 73 permits containing the enhanced water management requirements to companies seeking to drill for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale formation, which underlies much of Pennsylvania and portions of New York and West Virginia. It is estimated to hold as much as 50 trillion cubic feet of recoverable natural gas. Penn State University estimates the economic value of the Marcellus Shale formation at \$1 trillion and that for every \$1 billion in royalties paid to Pennsylvania residents, nearly 8,000 new jobs will be created each year over the next three years. While it has long been considered prohibitively expensive to access the natural gas contained within the Marcellus Shale, recent advances in drilling technology and rising natural gas prices have attracted new interest in this previously untapped formation.

Extracting natural gas from the Marcellus Shale requires a drilling process known as horizontal drilling, which uses far greater amounts of water than traditional natural gas exploration. This water can originate from various sources including municipal suppliers or streams. Concerns about the effects of large water withdrawals on streams and aquifers have prompted the need to regulate planned withdrawals at drilling operations.

“Governor Rendell recognizes this economic potential and has made facilitating this development in a manner that is environmentally sound one of his top priorities,” said Yowell. “A small number of wells have begun production, and as the natural gas industry completes construction of pipelines and infrastructure, we can expect exploration and drilling activity to increase dramatically. While the department is committed to providing the industry with prompt reviews and timely decisions on all permit applications that meet our

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**MARCELLUS SHALE COULD LEAD TO BILLIONS****(continued)**

regulations, we are especially mindful of the consequences these operations could have on the state's natural resources and are working aggressively to ensure no adverse consequences result from drilling activities." DEP has created a special webpage specific to the Marcellus Shale that features resources for industry and information on drilling questions for landowners and the general public, which is available at [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us), keyword: Oil and Gas, then click on "Marcellus Page."

Source: PA DEP

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**Did you know?**

Americans burn 800 million gallons of gas each year trimming their grassy yards, according to the EPA. One gas mower running for an hour emits the same amount of pollutants as eight new cars driving 55 mph for the same amount of time. For those with lawns, there are alternatives—from electric or propane-powered mowers to un-powered push reels or cutting-edge solar models, such as this new

[solar electric hybrid lawnmower](#) .

## House Committee OKs Bill No One Wants To Become Law on Electric Rate Caps (continued)

- [House Resolution 848](#) (Waters-D-Philadelphia) urging President and Congress to increase funding for Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program; and
- [House Resolution 843](#) (George-D-Clearfield) authorizing the Environmental Resources and Energy Committee to investigate all aspects of the Governor's Energy Initiative.

Rep. Greg Vitali (D-Delaware) and other Committee members said they hoped Special Session House Bill 54 would not become law, but rather they hoped it would help force Senate action on [House Bill 2200](#) (George-D-Clearfield) that would require utilities to adopt programs to encourage energy conservation.

Members also noted that Gov. Rendell and others said the bill did not pass "constitutional muster."

"Pennsylvania is not prepared to deal with the \$4 billion jolt to the pocketbooks of its citizens and businesses that will occur with the end of the rate caps," Rep. George said. "It's time to insulate the consumers rather than the utilities already reaping record profits and expecting a bigger bounty with double-digit rate increases."

The Majority Chair of the Committee is Rep. Bud George (D-Clearfield) and the Minority Chair is Rep. Scott Hutchinson (R-Venango).

NewsClip: [Environmental Panel Sends Rate Cap Bill To House](#)

[Electric Customers In PA Due For Jolt](#)

Source: PA Environment Digest

## Environmentally Safe Control of Invasive Mussels Made Possible by DOE-Funded Project

### Bio-Pesticide Destroys Invasive Species, Is Harmless to Non-Target Organisms

In a project funded by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), researchers have developed an environmentally safe bacterial toxin to control zebra and quagga mussels, two non-native, invasive species that have found their way into the waterways of 25 states over the past two decades, fouling the aquatic environment as they spread.

The new bio-pesticide was derived from a common soil bacterium by researchers at the New York State Museum (NYSM) Field Research Laboratory in Cambridge, N.Y. When ingested in large quantities, the bacterium is lethal to zebra and quagga mussels, but it is harmless to non-target organisms, including native freshwater mollusks.

In experimental treatments of zebra and quagga mussels, the bio-pesticide achieved a 98 percent mortality rate in service water systems at a New York power plant. The addition of the bacterium to the water supply showed no effects on humans.

Since their introduction to U.S. rivers and lakes in the mid-1980s, the dime-sized zebra mussel, and the slightly larger quagga mussel, have cost the North American economy billions of dollars in lost industrial productivity and the expense of control efforts. The two species, which are native to Eastern Europe, have few natural predators in America, and they compete with indigenous mussels, disrupting the native aquatic food chain.

When the invaders grow in high density, they can block pipes that deliver water to power-plant cooling systems, shutting down electricity generation while the organisms are removed. Large colonies can also threaten water supplies for drinking, fire-fighting, and irrigation.

Existing methods used by power-plant operators to control zebra and quagga mussels include chemical "molluscicides," chlorination, filtration, and pre-oxidation of intake water. Use of the new bacterial toxin is economically competitive with these other methods while having minimal effect on native species. It is expected that application of the bacterial toxin will allow power plant operators to reduce or eliminate the use of chlorination that can harm aquatic ecosystems.

The now-completed project was funded by DOE's Office of Fossil Energy and managed by the National Energy Technology Laboratory. Production of commercial quantities of the toxin is now being carried out at Marrone Organic Innovations (MOI), a private laboratory in California. MOI and NYSM will use a \$500,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to continue the work started with NETL and improve the bio-pesticide for even higher mussel kill.

Source: U.S. EPA

## EQB Takes Action on Water, Hazardous Waste and Air Quality Measures

Members of the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) met at the Rachel Carson State Office Building in Harrisburg and approved four final rulemakings -- the Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards, Hazardous Waste Amendments, Diesel Vehicle Idling, and the Clean Air Interstate Rule.

Following is a summary of the approved rulemakings:

**1. Final Rulemaking – Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards (25 Pa Code, Chapter 93):** The Federal Clean Water Act requires that states periodically, but at least once every three years, review and revise as necessary, their water quality standards. This regulation constitutes Pennsylvania's current triennial review of its water quality standards. Pennsylvania's water quality standards, which are codified in Chapter 93 and Chapter 92, are designed to implement the requirements of the Clean Streams Law and the Federal Clean Water Act.

The water quality standards consist of the designated uses of the surface waters of the Commonwealth, along with the specific numerical and narrative criteria necessary to achieve and maintain those uses and an antidegradation policy. Thus, water quality standards are in-stream water quality goals that are implemented by imposing specific regulatory requirements, such as treatment requirements and effluent limitations, on individual sources of pollution. Final amendments to the Triennial Review rulemaking, once approved by the Commonwealth, will be submitted to the U.S. EPA for approval.

The final form rulemaking will: update the water quality criteria; merge sections of Chapter 16 (Water Quality Toxics Management Strategy – Statement of Policy) into Chapter 93 (Water Quality Standards); add a definition in § 93.1 to clarify the term “conventional treatment” for potable water supply (PWS) that is used in § 93.3, Table 1; clarify in the footnote to Table 3 in § 93.7 that other sensitive “critical uses” may apply; verify current exceptions to fishable/swimmable waters; and correct and change drainage lists and other typographic and grammatical errors.

The EQB approved the proposed rulemaking at its Oct. 16, 2007, meeting. The proposed rulemaking was published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on Jan. 12, 2008, with a 45-day public comment period and two public meetings and hearings. The Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) published a correction in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on Feb. 2, 2008 to correct the criteria for two chemicals found in the proposed Table 5 of § 93.8c. In addition, in response to a public request, the public comment period was extended an additional 30 days and closed on March 27, 2008, as published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on Feb. 23, 2008.

Comments were received from 10 commentators including the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC). A majority of the comments received involved requests for the board to justify the proposed statewide criterion for molybdenum (Mo), as most commentators felt that a statewide criterion, as opposed to a facility-specific discharge limitation, is not appropriate. Other commentators questioned the DEP's

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methodology in developing the statewide criterion for Mo and countered that the proposed discharge limitation could not be met by any current treatment technologies. Some commentators also questioned the toxicity of Mo and whether it is a threat to human health.

DEP discussed the final-form rulemaking with the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) on July 22. Although WRAC unanimously approved the final rulemaking for consideration by the EQB, the committee offered suggestions for the definition of “conventional treatment,” as well as noted that some committee members’ objected to the proposed statewide criterion for Mo. The committee’s recommendations for the definition of “conventional treatment” are incorporated into the definition as it now appears in the Annex.

In response to the comments over Mo, the department maintains that a statewide criterion for Mo is needed as there are numerous major facilities across Pennsylvania that are discharging Mo and a statewide criterion would provide consistent protection limits. The U.S. EPA Headquarters and EPA Region 3 staff reviewed and determined that the department used the appropriate data and methodologies to develop the recommended statewide human health criterion for Mo.

**2. Final Rulemaking - Hazardous Waste Amendments (25 Pa. Code Chapters 260a – 266a, 266b, 267a, 269a, and 270a):** Various amendments were contained in this final rulemaking, which will affect persons who generate, store, transport, dispose or treat hazardous waste in Pennsylvania.

The rulemaking removes obsolete provisions and corrects inaccurate references currently in the regulations; deletes the outdated co-product transition scheme; and simplifies the reporting requirements for hazardous waste manifests and universal wastes to eliminate unnecessary reports and to reduce paperwork requirements.

The rulemaking also proposes the addition of two new categories of universal wastes, including oil-based finishes (paint, varnishes, stains, etc.) and silver containing spent photographic solutions. Universal wastes are managed under reduced requirements in order to encourage recycling and proper management.

The regulations also improve the current permitting process by incorporating the federal standardized permits provision, which provides a streamlined process for generators of hazardous waste to obtain a permit to store waste for greater than 90 days. A standardized permit process is also available to companies that generate hazardous waste at various locations but want to establish a single treatment facility at one of these locations to treat hazardous waste generated at all locations.

The final-form rulemaking also includes a minor correction to the regulation for corrective action for solid waste management units. This correction will eliminate an impediment for Pennsylvania to receive federal authorization for the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Corrective Action program, which would provide increased flexibility and further encourage brownfields redevelopment.

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The proposed rulemaking was published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on July 14, 2007, commencing a 30-day public comment period. During the public comment period, the EQB received comments on the rulemaking from 11 commentators, including Sen. Raphael Musto and Mary Jo White, Rep. Scott Hutchinson, and IRRC. The predominant issue raised in the majority of comments submitted on the proposed rulemaking was the department's proposal to change the bonding requirements for closure and post-closure care of a hazardous waste storage, treatment or disposal facility. Specifically, the DEP proposed that the financial test and corporate guarantee for closure be eliminated from the regulations and replaced with a provision for closure insurance, as provided for in the federal regulations.

This recommendation was based on the department's experience with companies suddenly losing the ability to meet the requirements of the financial test with no means of replacing collateral available or entering bankruptcy. In the final-form rulemaking, the department's proposal is eliminated, thereby retaining the financial test and corporate guarantee provisions as viable options to satisfy the bond requirement.

The U.S. EPA is currently conducting a national comprehensive study to review financial assurance requirements, which may result in changes to the federal requirements including the financial test and corporate guarantee. DEP feels it is best to suspend changes to Pennsylvania's financial test requirements at this time, until the results of EPA's study can be thoroughly examined.

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee reviewed the final-form rulemaking on April 10, 2008. At that meeting, SWAC unanimously approved the final rulemaking for consideration by the EQB.

### **3. Final Rulemaking - Diesel Vehicle Idling (25 Pa Code, Chapters 121 and 126):**

The final-form rulemaking, which was initiated through a petition to the EQB by the Clean Air Board of Central PA, adds a new Subchapter F to Chapter 126 to restrict any person from idling a diesel-powered motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,001 pounds or more, or allowing such idling to occur on their property, for more than a total of 5 minutes in any continuous 60-minute period.

A number of exemptions are included in the rulemaking to allow idling under certain circumstances, including a temporary exemption for driver comfort during hot and cold weather (expires May 1, 2010), and exemptions applying when idling is necessary for maintenance and safety considerations; loading and unloading activities; and for sampling, weighing, and for vehicles waiting to load or unload.

In addition, vehicles displaying a California label indicating they are less polluting are also permitted to idle.

Through the implementation of this rulemaking, DEP estimates that 1,610 tons of NO<sub>x</sub> will be reduced annually, as well as 45 tons of volatile organic compounds. Once the temperature exemption expires in 2010, the department estimates that an additional 30 tons of particulate matter will also be reduced in the commonwealth. These emission reductions are not only a part of the commonwealth's efforts to achieve and

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maintain the health-based ozone and PM<sub>2.5</sub> air quality standards, but will also reduce direct exposure to diesel particulate emissions, a likely carcinogen.

Furthermore, the U.S. EPA estimates that idling heavy-duty vehicles can consume about one gallon of diesel fuel for every hour of idling time, resulting in more than 21 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, a major greenhouse gas. Therefore, the idling restrictions contained in this rulemaking will not only reduce greenhouse gas emission, but fuel usage, which will be a cost savings to vehicle owners and operators. If adopted by the board, the final-form rulemaking will be submitted to the EPA as a revision to the State Implementation Plan.

The proposed rulemaking was published in the Jan. 12, 2008, edition of the Pennsylvania Bulletin, commencing the public comment period. During the 65-day public comment period on the proposed rulemaking, the EQB received 568 comments, including petitions with more than 2,200 signatures in support. Testimony on the proposed rulemaking was also received at three public hearings that occurred earlier this year in Allentown on Feb. 12; Harrisburg on Feb. 13, and Pittsburgh on Feb. 15.

A majority of the comments received were supportive of the rulemaking and its intended environmental and health benefits; however, some commentators expressed concerns with several aspects of the rulemaking. Specifically, concerns were raised regarding the regulatory provision that would require the exhaust of auxiliary power systems (APS) on vehicles with MY 2007 or newer engines to be routed through the main engine's exhaust system. In lieu of this requirement, the regulations specify that an APS, labeled as being verified by CARB for having advanced particulate control, could be used.

In reviewing comments on this provision, the department concluded that since APS emission reduction and alternative technology fields are still developing, it would omit the requirement in the final-form rulemaking and would continue to monitor the technological developments until a more satisfactory approach can be identified.

Commentators also expressed concern with the DEP's proposal to allow idling of vehicles with MY 2007 and newer if the vehicle displayed a CARB label, and suggested that if such an idling exemption was provided, it should not be limited to vehicles of model year 2007 and newer because retrofits are being developed. DEP considered the comments and amended the rulemaking by removing any reference to a specific model year for this regulatory provision. Several commentators, including IRRC, also provided substantive comments concerning their opposition to the proposal that would hold property owners responsible for the idling of vehicles on their property.

The same concerns regarding the responsibility of property owners to uphold idling restrictions were deliberated by the Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee (AQTAC) when it reviewed the final-form rulemaking on May 23, 2008. While AQTAC voted to present the final-form rulemaking to the EQB, it did so on the condition that the words "or allow" would be removed from § 126.611 of the final rulemaking to limit the idling restriction responsibilities of property owners.

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Despite these collective concerns, the department has retained the requirement in the final-form rulemaking, as it maintains that shared responsibility by owners and operators of facilities and owners and operators of vehicles is essential to reducing idling effectively.

In the EQB's final-form regulation, requirements are also added to require certain locations to post signs about the idling prohibition regulations in order to aid the Department with public education about the rule.

**4. Final Rulemaking (With Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Omitted) - Clean Air Interstate Rule – Repeal (25 Pa Code, Chapters 121, 129 and 145):** This final-omitted rulemaking repeals the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR), which was previously adopted by the Board on Dec. 18, 2007, and published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on April 22, 2008.

The rulemaking is being processed under procedures for final-omitted regulations as authorized under 45 P.S. §1204 (relating to omission of notice of proposed rulemaking). Omission of notice of proposed rulemaking is appropriate for these regulations because the notice of proposed rulemaking procedure specified in sections 201 and 202 of the Commonwealth Document Law (45 P.S. §§1201 and 1202) is, in this instance, impracticable, unnecessary and contrary to the public interest.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) adopted the CAIR in 2005. CAIR included model rules for a 28-state and District of Columbia emission trading program to reduce the interstate transport of NO<sub>x</sub> and sulfur dioxide. Following CAIR's adoption, numerous petitions for review were filed in the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, however, the Department did not file a petition. The Department adopted a Pennsylvania CAIR on April 12, 2008, incorporating by reference the Federal CAIR model rules and making related regulatory amendments. On July 11, 2008, the District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that CAIR was "fundamentally flawed," and vacated the regulation. The court stated that the NO<sub>x</sub> SIP Call continues in CAIR's absence. The NO<sub>x</sub> SIP Call is in the Commonwealth's federally-approved SIP. EQB Members and Alternates Page 5 September 2, 2008 This final-omitted rulemaking is necessary to repeal the CAIR provisions to ensure continuity in implementing the NO<sub>x</sub> SIP Call regulations and to avoid lost emission reductions, undue confusion, and conflict with the Federal court decision and the Commonwealth's Federally-approved SIP. The final-omitted rulemaking will enable the Department to continue the NO<sub>x</sub> SIP Call emission allowances that the Commonwealth's CAIR regulations terminated (beginning January 1, 2009). The rulemaking will also repeal the transition provisions, including those applicable to non-EGUs, and reinstate requirements for small sources of NO<sub>x</sub> (certain boilers, stationary combustion turbines and stationary internal combustion engines) in the five-county Philadelphia area, as well as enable Portland cement kilns and large stationary internal combustion engines to surrender NO<sub>x</sub> Budget Trading Program allowances instead of CAIR allowances. The rulemaking will allow air pollution reductions to continue in accordance with the court ruling and the Commonwealth's approved SIP.

For more information, contact DEP Regulatory Coordinator Michelle Tate at 717-783-8727 or e-mail [mtate@state.pa.us](mailto:mtate@state.pa.us) .

Source: PA DEP

## New Wind Energy Initiative Puts Pa. in Forefront of Renewable Energy Sector

A new wind energy initiative, jump-started by the Energy Independence Strategy Governor Edward G. Rendell signed in July, will better connect wind energy companies and their suppliers and boost the growth of Pennsylvania's alternative energy industry, the commonwealth's top economic development official said today.

The Wind Energy Supply Chain Initiative, or WESCI, will create jobs, grow Pennsylvania's manufacturing base and produce environmentally friendly, home-grown energy, said Department of Community and Economic Development Secretary Dennis Yablonsky.

"We're confident that the WESCI initiative will prove to be an economic development catalyst for wind and other renewable energy businesses," he said. "With our large and diverse manufacturing base, Pennsylvania is well-positioned to be a world leader in making components for wind and other alternative energy product sectors."

"Pennsylvania has a growing base of wind energy providers already here," Yablonsky said. "Companies like Gamesa in Cambria and Bucks counties; GE Wind in Erie; and Iberdrola, with operations in Somerset, Schuylkill and Luzerne counties, already have a significant presence in Pennsylvania -- and they need hundreds of manufactured components to build, maintain and expand their operations. Wind and alternative energy providers need suppliers and this initiative will help providers and suppliers find and connect with each other. WESCI will help attract wind energy providers and help more Pennsylvania manufacturers to transition and enter the growing alternative energy market."

As examples of wind industry supply needs, Yablonsky cited electrical equipment, power transmission devices, turbine generators, fabricated parts gearboxes and bearings.

Initial goals of the WESCI initiative include:

- Identifying "gaps" in the existing supply chain;
- Identifying Pennsylvania companies with the capacity to meet production demands of the industry; and
- Working with manufacturers in the alternative energy sector to identify suppliers willing to relocate to Pennsylvania and to make capital investments in the commonwealth.

If alternative energy companies are based in Pennsylvania, it means a diverse and secure supply chain, reduced lead times, improved on-time delivery of components and reduced procurement costs, Yablonsky said.

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## New Wind Energy Initiative Puts Pa. in Forefront of Renewable Energy Sector

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Through the WESCI initiative and the commonwealth's \$650 million Energy Independence Strategy, the commonwealth and its regional economic development partners are in a great position to capture market share, create jobs and ensure our place as a world-class leader in the field, Yablonsky said.

Energy Independence Strategy components include:

- \$165 million for clean and alternative energy projects;
- \$80 million for solar-related alternative energy production projects;
- \$40 million to support early-stage business development activities through Ben Franklin Technology Partners to companies developing and implementing alternative energy and energy efficiency technologies;
- \$25 million for geothermal or wind energy projects, including manufacturing facilities for wind energy; and
- \$50 million in Alternative Energy Production tax credits equal to help with development, construction and equipment costs for alternative energy production projects.

Key to the WESCI initiative will be the commonwealth's industrial resource center network -- seven regional centers that provide comprehensive process improvement and strategic consulting services to Pennsylvania's small- and medium-sized manufacturers. Under the WESCI initiative, the centers will help identify supply-chain gaps, gather provider requirements and find qualified suppliers.

WESCI is being introduced at the WindEnergy 2008 conference in Husum, Germany, Sept. 9-13, where commonwealth representatives will begin to connect with European energy companies, suppliers and investors, and develop opportunities to do business here.

It was at the 2006 WindEnergy conference that Pennsylvania started its relationship with Germany-based Conergy, one of the world's leading developers of renewable energy systems. Company officials later visited Pennsylvania to meet with Governor Rendell, who provided a showcase of Pennsylvania's clean energy initiatives and introduced them to companies working on advanced technologies in the solar, wind and bio-fuel sectors. The company cited the growth potential of these sources in Pennsylvania as its reasons for selecting the commonwealth as a base.

Under Governor Rendell's World Trade PA initiative, the commonwealth has stepped up efforts to expand and accelerate foreign direct investment, with an emphasis on developing the clean and renewable energy sector.

"We know this economic development investment strategy works because we've seen it work before," Yablonsky said.

Source: PA DEP