



Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

Senator Gene Yaw
Chairman

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Summary Senate Bill 1310, P.N. 1882

Prime Sponsor: Senator Hutchinson

Summary

- Establishes the PA Grade Crude Development Advisory Council.
- The Council consists of:
 - The Secretary of DCED or the secretary's designee.
 - The secretary of DEP or the secretary's designee.
 - Two members of the Senate appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate.
 - Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
 - The following members are appointed by the Governor
 - Two representatives of the PA Independent Petroleum Producers.
 - Two representatives of the PA Independent Oil and Gas Association.
 - Two representatives of the PA Grade Crude Oil Coalition.
 - Two representatives of refineries of PA grade crude oil.
 - One representative of a nonprofit corporation, which has the purpose of promoting the history and economic benefits of the conventional oil and gas industry in this Commonwealth.
 - One representative of academia who is a geologist with an expertise in petroleum geology.
 - One representative of academia who is a hydrologist.
- The council will meet at least semi-annually.
- The council is required to study and make recommendations regarding existing regulations promulgated under 58 Pa.Cs., develop a regulatory scheme for environmental oversight and enforcement specifically applicable to the conventional oil and gas industry and ensure that its study addresses the need to preserve the long-term viability of the conventional industry.

- The council is required to issue a report of the findings to:
 - Governor
 - Secretary of DEP
 - President pro tempore of the Senate
 - Minority Leader of the Senate
 - Chairperson and minority chairperson of the Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee
 - Speaker of the House
 - Minority Leader of the House of Representatives
 - Chairperson and minority chairperson of the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee.

- The council's duties are as follows:
 - Assist the Secretary of DEP and provide written comments on new departmental policy that will impact the conventional oil and gas industry, including economic consequences.
 - Review and comment on the formulation and drafting of all technical regulations promulgated under 58 Pa.C.S.
 - Provide institutional support for the conventional oil and gas industry by ensuring effective cooperation and communication among governmental agencies and academic research community.
 - Recommend appropriate measures relating to the promotion and development of the conventional oil and gas industry.
 - Develop a plan to increase PA grade crude oil production to more adequately supply the refineries which depend on PA grade crude oil.
 - Develop a joint working group with the department to explore and develop economically viable production water management options.

- The department's duties are as follows:
 - Consult with the council on all policies and technical regulations promulgated under 58 Pa.C.S.
 - Include written comments of the council received before the department's submission of a proposed rulemaking to the EQB.
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Effective Date

- This act shall take effect immediately.