

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 644 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY MUTH, SANTARSIERO, COMITTA, SCHWANK AND  
CAPPELLETTI, MAY 7, 2021

REFERRED TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, MAY 7, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 58 (Oil and Gas) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in development, further providing for relationship  
3 to solid waste and surface mining.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 3273.1(a) and (b) of Title 58 of the  
7 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

8 § 3273.1. Relationship to solid waste and surface mining.

9 (a) General rule.--[The obligation to] An owner or operator  
10 of a well shall obtain a permit and post a bond under Articles  
11 III and V of the act of July 7, 1980 (P.L.380, No.97), known as  
12 the Solid Waste Management Act, and [to] provide public notice  
13 under section 1905-A(b)(1)(v) of the act of April 9, 1929  
14 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, for  
15 any pit, impoundment, method or facility employed for the  
16 disposal, processing or storage of residual wastes generated by  
17 the drilling of an oil or gas well or from the production of  
18 wells which is located on the well site. [, shall be considered

1 to have been satisfied if the owner or operator of the well  
2 meets the following conditions:

3 (1) the well is permitted under the requirements of  
4 section 3211 (relating to well permits) or registered under  
5 section 3213 (relating to well registration and  
6 identification);

7 (2) the owner or operator has satisfied the financial  
8 security requirements of section 3225 (relating to bonding)  
9 by obtaining a surety or collateral bond for the well and  
10 well site; and

11 (3) the owner or operator maintains compliance with this  
12 chapter and applicable regulations of the Environmental  
13 Quality Board.]

14 (b) Noncoal surface mining.--Obligations under the act of  
15 December 19, 1984 (P.L.1093, No.219), known as the Noncoal  
16 Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act, or a regulation  
17 promulgated under the Noncoal Surface Mining Conservation and  
18 Reclamation Act, for any borrow area where minerals are  
19 extracted solely for the purpose of oil and gas well  
20 development, including access road construction, shall be  
21 considered to have been satisfied if the owner or operator of  
22 the well meets the following conditions [imposed under  
23 subsection (a) (1) and (2) and]:

24 (1) the well is permitted under the requirements of  
25 section 3211 (relating to well permits) or registered under  
26 section 3213 (relating to well registration and  
27 identification);

28 (2) the owner or operator has satisfied the financial  
29 security requirements of section 3225 (relating to bonding)  
30 by obtaining a surety or collateral bond for the well and

1 well site; and

2 (3) the owner or operator maintains compliance with this  
3 chapter and applicable regulations of the Environmental  
4 Quality Board.

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6 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.