

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1501 Session of
2025

INTRODUCED BY WEBSTER, WAXMAN, HILL-EVANS, PIELLI, OTTEN,
GUENST, HOHENSTEIN, PROBST, SANCHEZ, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ,
D. WILLIAMS AND CIRESI, MAY 27, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE
PROTECTION, MAY 28, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 58 (Oil and Gas) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, establishing the Radiation Testing Pilot Program.

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

5 Section 1. Title 58 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
6 Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read:

7 CHAPTER 29

8 RADIATION TESTING PILOT PROGRAM

9 Sec.

10 2901. Definitions.

11 2902. Operation of Radiation Testing Pilot Program.

12 2903. Powers and duties of department.

13 2904. Report to General Assembly.

14 2905. Subsequent actions regarding radiation testing.

15 § 2901. Definitions.

16 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter

17 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the

1 context clearly indicates otherwise:

2 "Department." The Department of Environmental Protection of
3 the Commonwealth.

4 "Dosimeter." A device used to measure an individual's
5 exposure to radiation.

6 "Operator." A well operator.

7 "Owner." As defined in section 3203 (relating to
8 definitions).

9 "Pilot program." The Radiation Testing Pilot Program
10 established under section 2902(a) (relating to operation of
11 Radiation Testing Pilot Program).

12 "Well." As defined in section 3203.

13 § 2902. Operation of Radiation Testing Pilot Program.

14 (a) Establishment.--The Radiation Testing Pilot Program is
15 established within the department to:

16 (1) Improve the detection of potentially radioactive
17 leachate at well sites.

18 (2) Protect individuals who work at oil or gas drilling
19 sites.

20 (b) Commencement and duration.--The pilot program shall
21 operate for one full year, beginning January 1 of the year that
22 begins at least six months after the effective date of this
23 subsection.

24 § 2903. Powers and duties of department.

25 (a) Guidelines and procedures.--The department shall
26 establish guidelines and procedures necessary for the
27 implementation and administration of the pilot program, which
28 must also include:

29 (1) The requirement that each individual working at an
30 oil or gas drilling site shall wear a dosimeter to measure

1 and monitor radiation levels.

2 (2) The requirement that each owner or operator of an
3 oil or gas drilling site shall report to the department, on a
4 quarterly basis in the form and manner as determined by the
5 department, the average radiation level to which individuals
6 working at the oil or gas drilling site of the owner or
7 operator are exposed, as detected by a dosimeter worn by the
8 individuals.

9 (b) Selection.--The department shall select at least three
10 oil or gas drilling sites located in this Commonwealth to
11 participate in the pilot program.

12 § 2904. Report to General Assembly.

13 (a) Issuance.--No later than one year after the commencement
14 of the pilot program, the department shall issue a report to the
15 General Assembly on radiation levels measured at oil and gas
16 drilling sites, which must also include any recommendations to:

17 (1) Improve radiation safety.

18 (2) Expand the pilot program or develop a radiation
19 testing program on a permanent Statewide basis based on the
20 pilot program.

21 (b) Submittal.--The department shall submit the report under
22 subsection (a) to:

23 (1) The chairperson and minority chairperson of the
24 Environmental Resources and Energy Committee of the Senate.

25 (2) The chairperson and minority chairperson of the
26 Energy Committee of the House of Representatives.

27 (3) The chairperson and minority chairperson of the
28 Environmental and Natural Resource Protection Committee of
29 the House of Representatives.

30 § 2905. Subsequent actions regarding radiation testing.

1 After submitting the report in accordance with section
2 2904(b) (relating to report to General Assembly), the department
3 may take actions to expand the pilot program or develop a
4 radiation testing program on a permanent Statewide basis based
5 on the pilot program, unless otherwise directed by the General
6 Assembly.

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