

# **HYDRAULIC FRACTURING** & SAFE DRINKING WATER

Hydraulic Fracturing Workshop March 30, 2011





## Joseph J. Lee, Jr., P.G. President



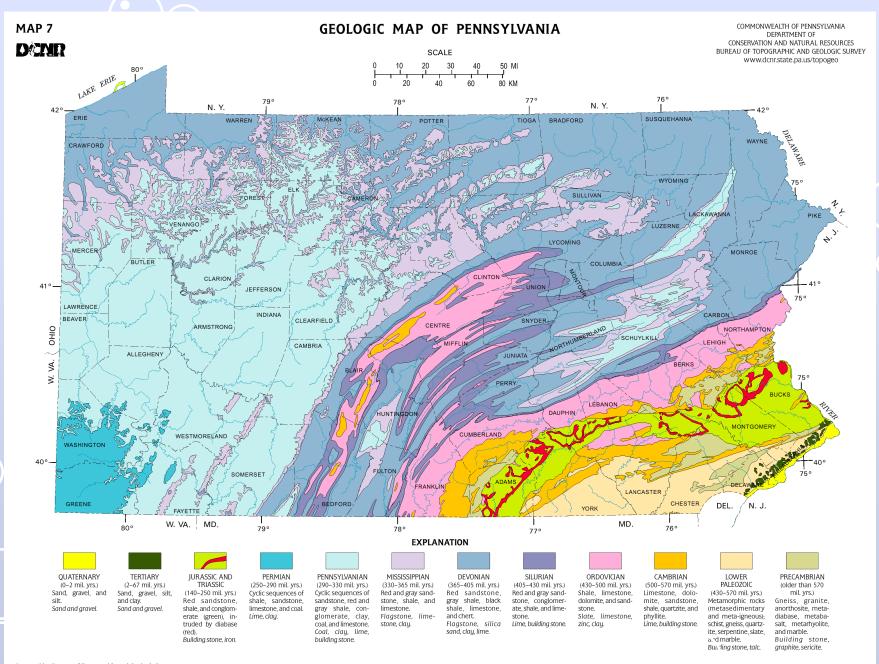


Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Watershed Management (717)783-5469 joslee@state.pa.us



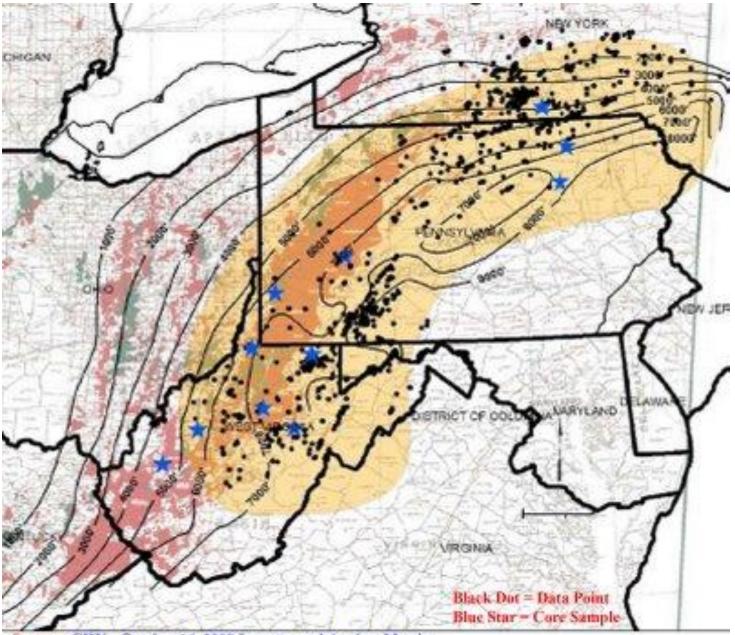
### **KEY MESSAGES**

- 1. State Oil & Gas (O&G) regulations are adequate to protect water resources
- 2. Well construction regulations are adequate for Hydraulic Fracturing (HF); However, development of adaptable BMPs would assist operators and states
- 3. There are environmental challenges for water and drinking water programs posed by gas shale development
- 4. We know surface water & ground water stressed by past mineral extraction in area of Marcellus Shale
- 5. We have holes in our understanding of ground water going forward



Prepared by Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey. Third Edition, 1990; Third Printing, Revised, 2000.

#### **Depth to Marcellus Shale in feet**



Source: CHK - October 16, 2008 Investor and Analyst Meeting

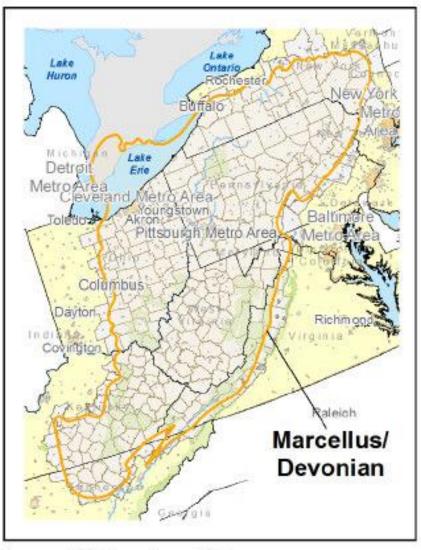
#### **EXHIBIT 18: STRATIGRAPHY OF THE** MARCELLUS SHALE Period Group/Unit Pottsville Penn Miss Pocono Conewango Conneaut Canadaway Upper West Falls Sonyea Devonian Genesee Tully Moscow Hamilton Ludlowville Middle Group Skaneateles Marcellus Onandaga Tristates

Lower

Source: Arthur et al, 2008148

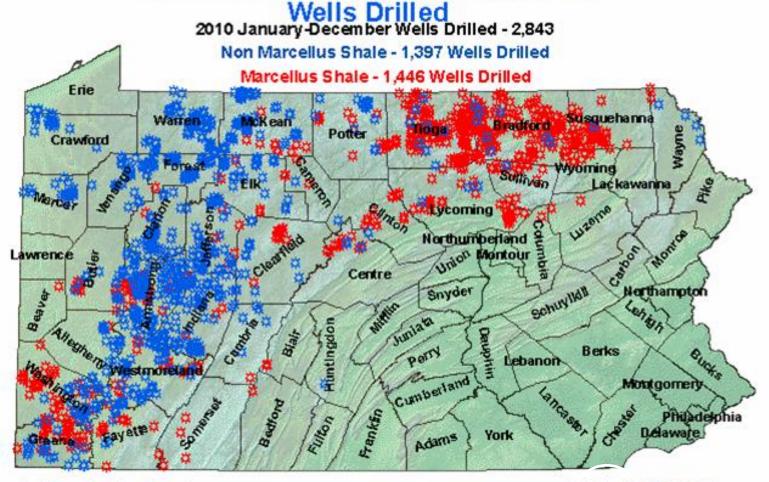
Helderberg

#### EXHIBIT 19: MARCELLUS SHALE IN THE APPALACHIAN BASIN



Source: ALL Consulting, 2009

#### Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Oil and Gas Management



As Reported by Operators

Updated 01/25/2011



# What We Know

#### **Impacts on Water Resources**

- •Water withdraws for HF solutions: streams, CWS
- •Produced water containment, transport, treatment, discharge or disposal.
- •Earth disturbance / construction, access & pipelines
- •Site waste equipment maintenance repair & other operations.





#### • Marcellus and Other Shale Issues



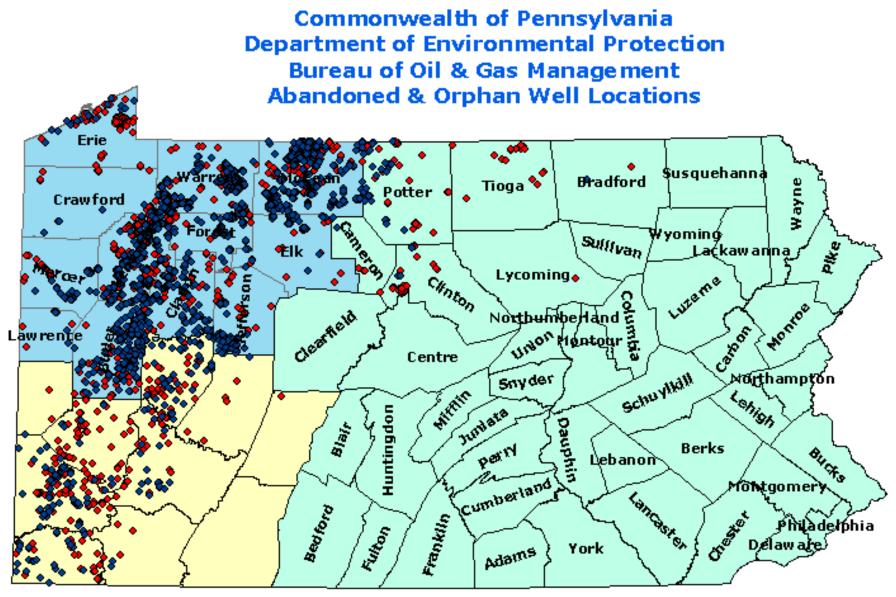
### What We Know

#### Water Pollution Causes:

- •Loss of produced water or wastes at the surface
- •Improper well casing design or construction
- •Aquifer disturbance during drilling
- •Improper treatment

•No evidence or concern in Pennsylvania that HF has caused direct migration of fluids to underground sources of drinking water

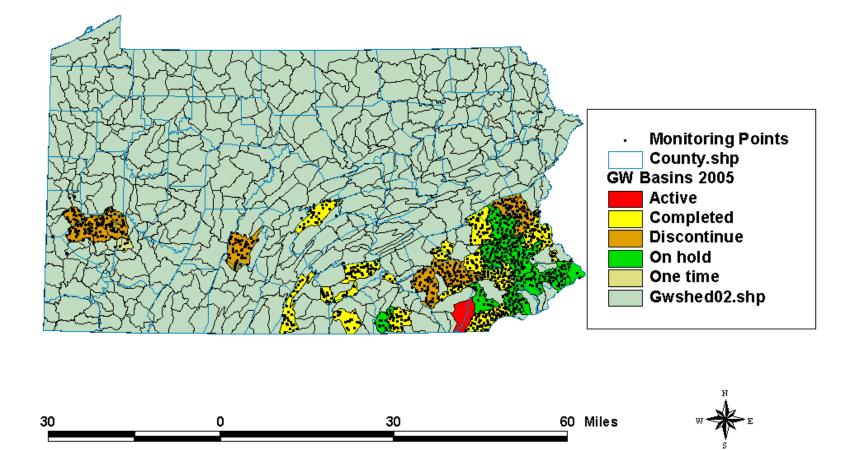




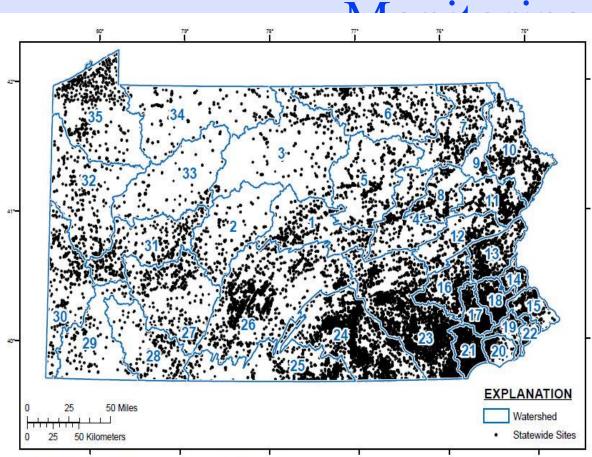
#### **Abandoned Wells**

**Orphan Wells** 

# **Ground Water Monitoring Status**



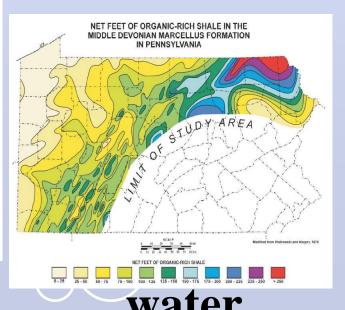
### State Ground Water Quality

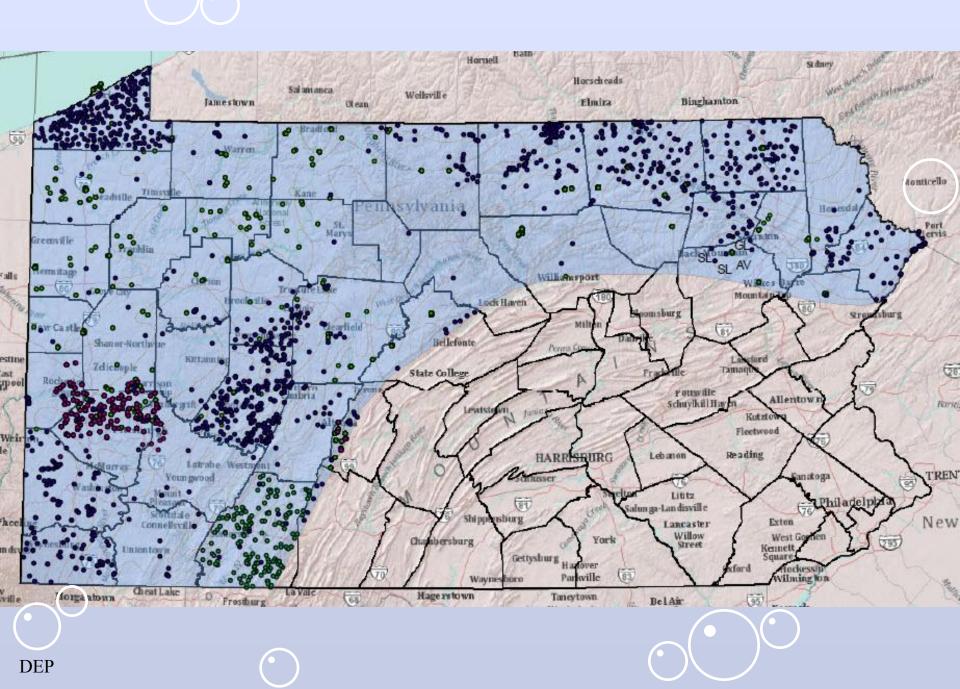


Watershed Boundaries from Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Figure 4. Well and spring locations with ground-water data compiled from 14 source agencies or programs representing the period 1979-2006 for Pennsylvania.

USGS Data Series Report 314 (2009):





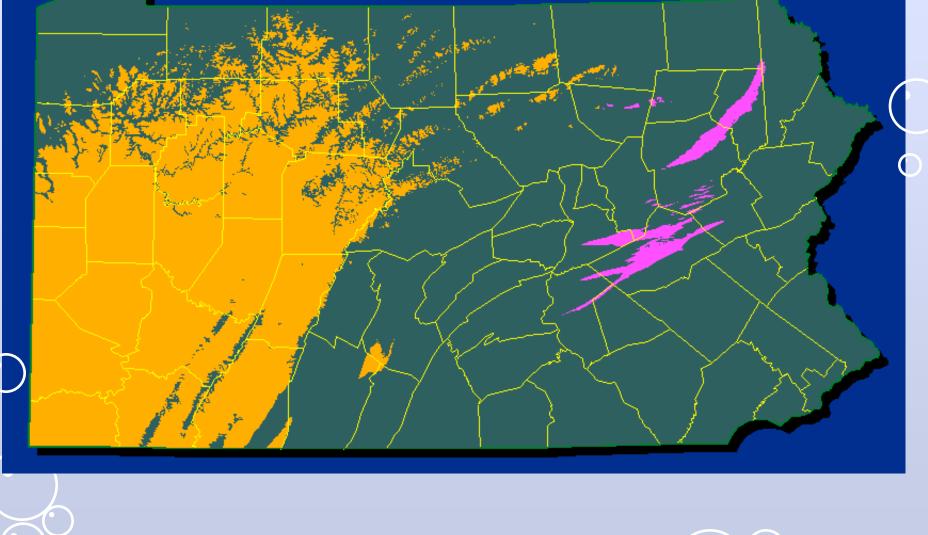


Abandoned Mine
 Drainage

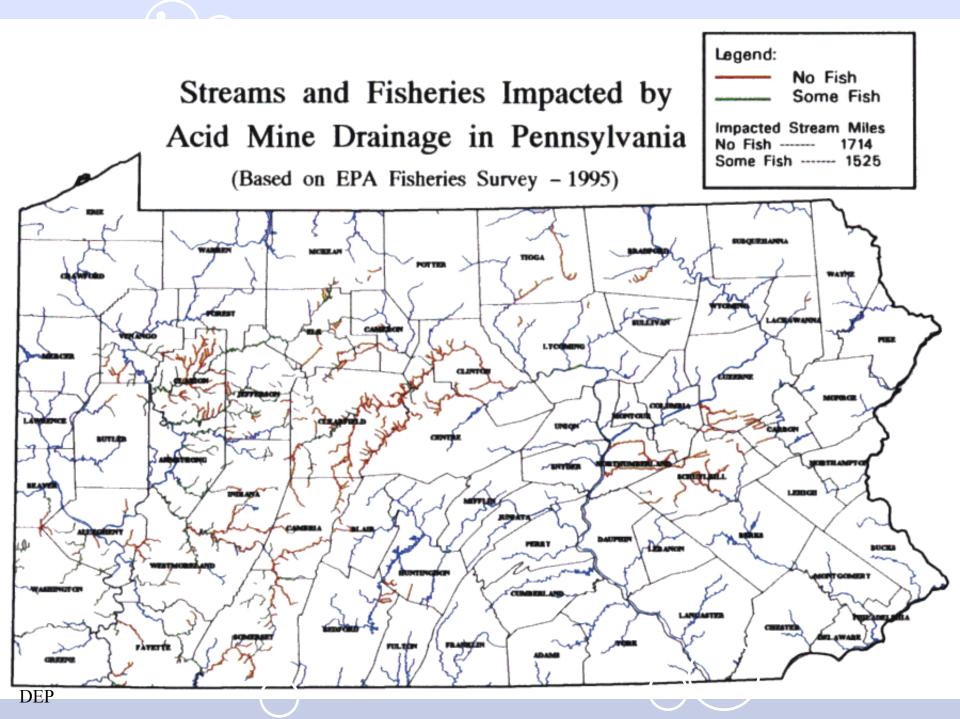
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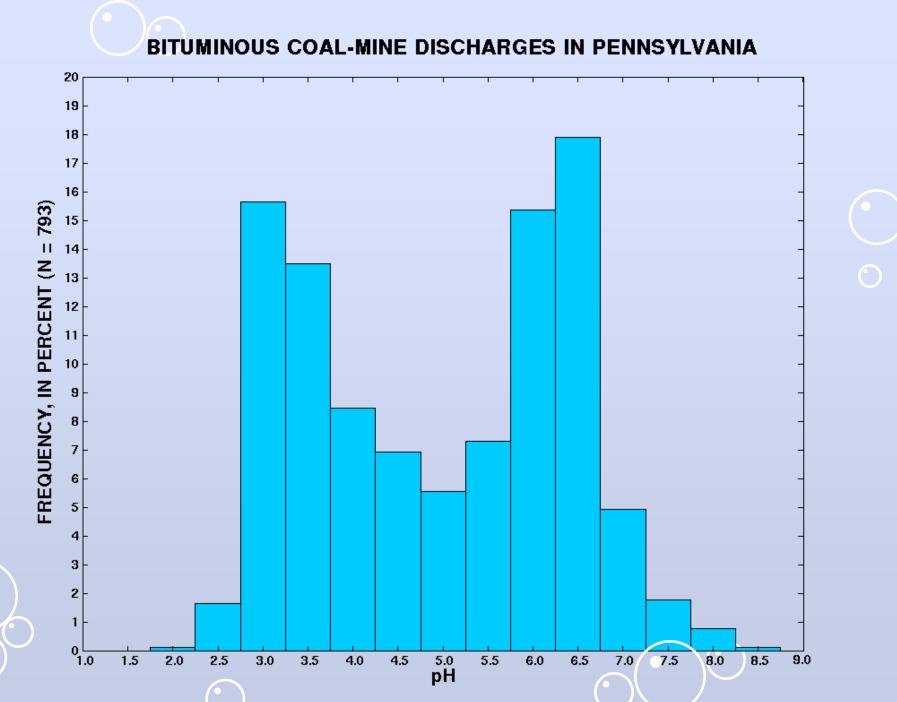


#### Anthracite Fields

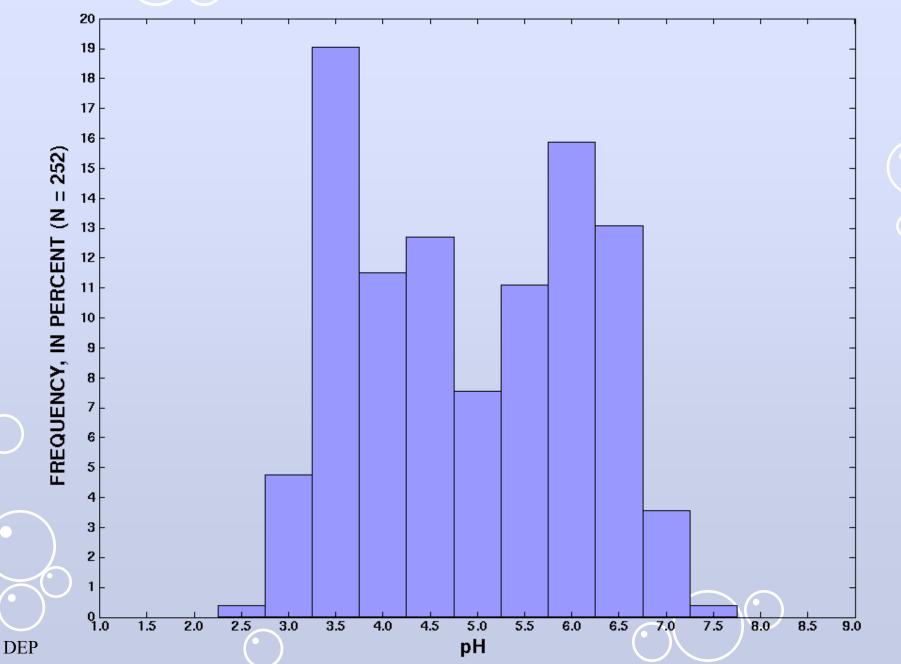








#### **ANTHRACITE COAL-MINE DISCHARGES IN PENNSYLVANIA**



# Monogahela River - Elevated TDS 2008



•10/2008 - Elevated total dissolved solids (TDS) > than SDWA standard (500 mg/l)

Potential sources of TDS in Owatershed include abandoned & active surface and deep coal mines, waste water and industrial discharges (receiving HF flow-back)
PA DEP reduced HF % flow at wastewater treatment plants

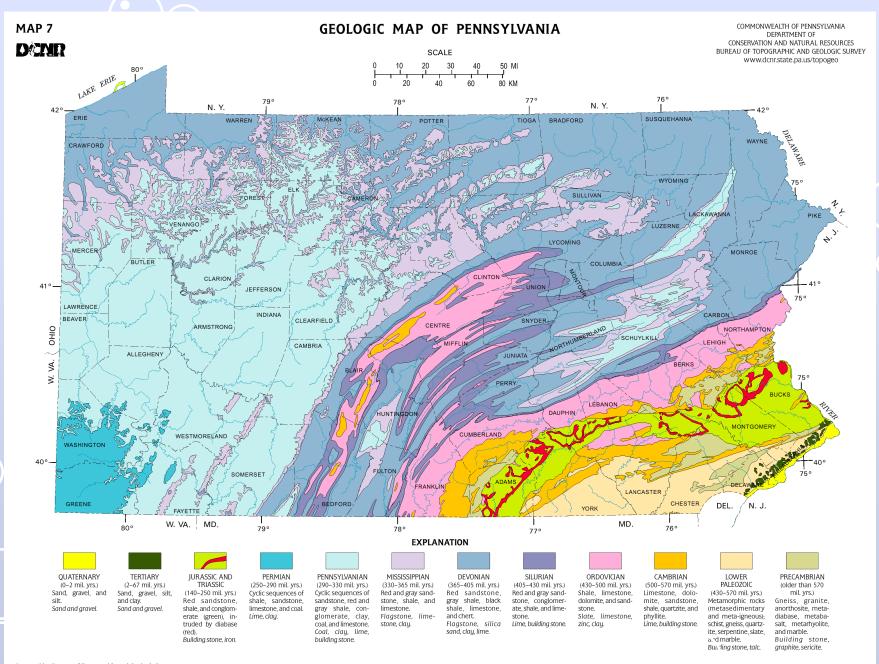
- •River under historic low flow conditions
- •TDS concentrations returned to normal in December 2008 after recovery of river flow



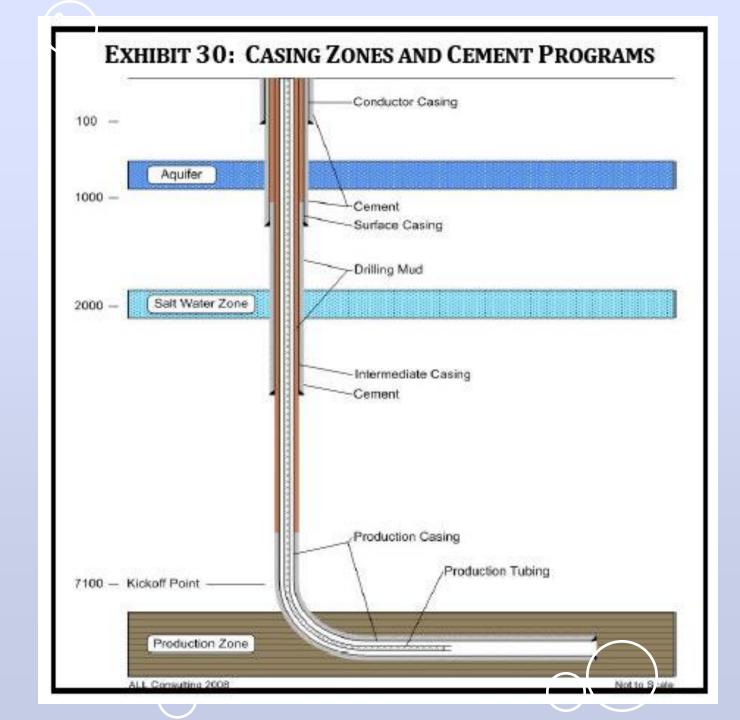
Source: Chesapeake Energy Corporation, 2008

Hydraulic Fracturing of a Marcellus Shale Well, West Virginia

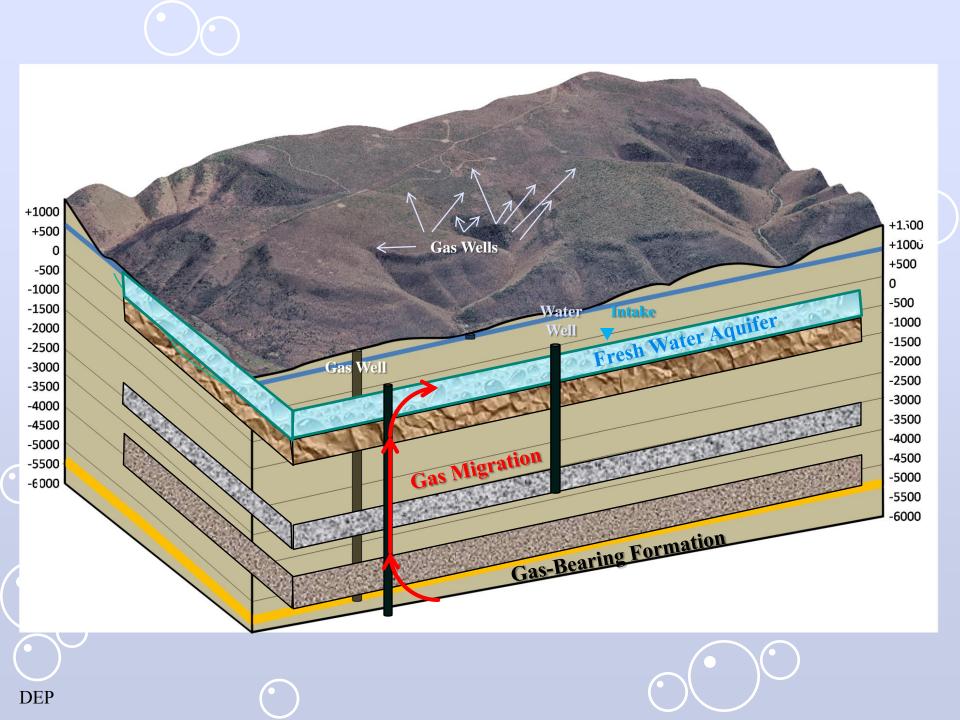




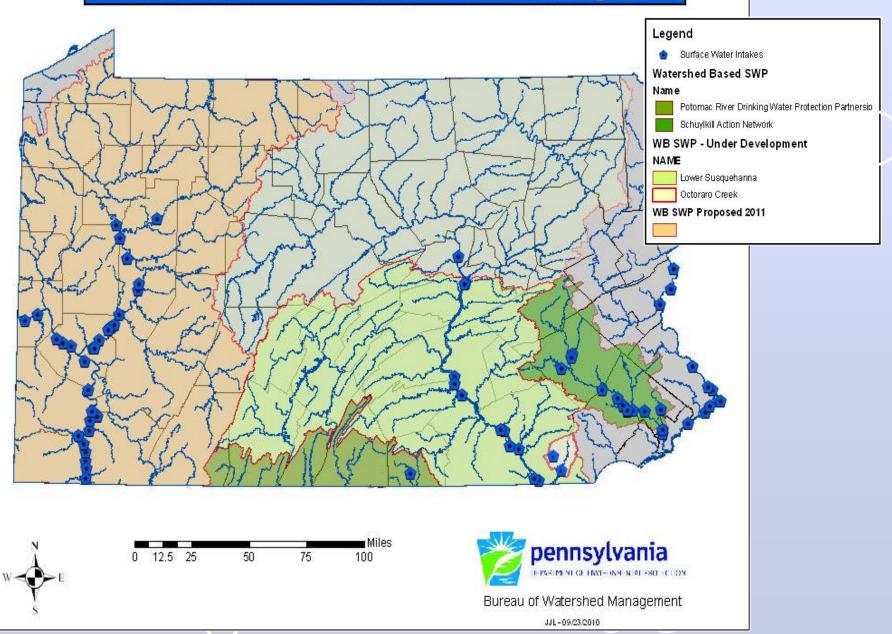
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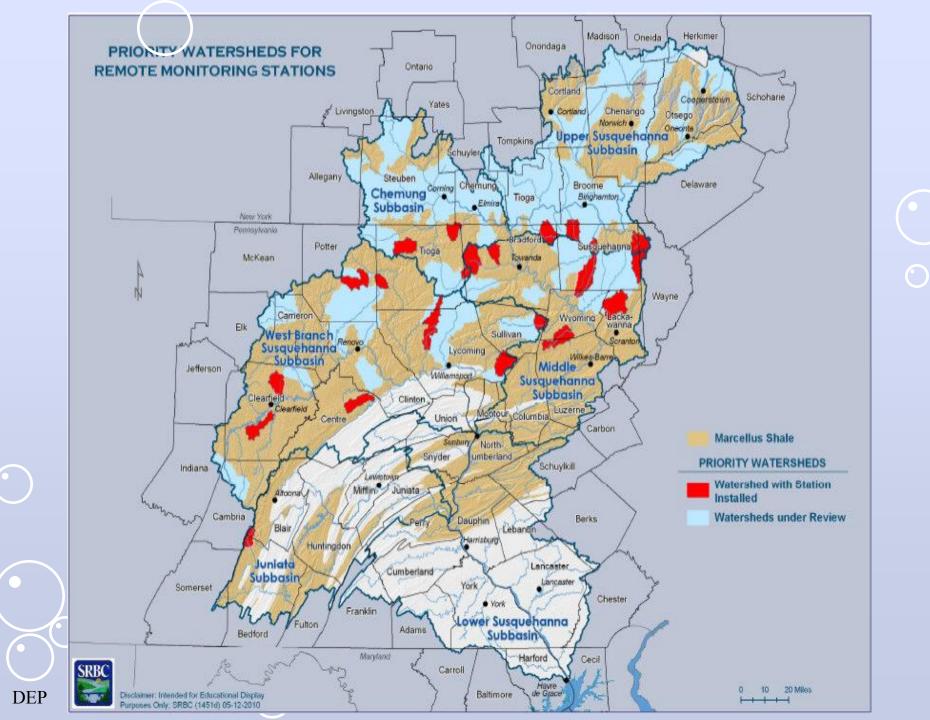


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#### PA Watershed Based Source Water Protection Program







DEP

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