



3. The current “boom” in natural gas development in West Virginia and Pennsylvania is a tremendous economic benefit to our States. This “boom” can and should provide the financial resources to maintain and protect the public roads, the public and private lands, the waterways and the atmosphere throughout the States. The public health is at risk in some areas as are the drilling team workers and the supporting work force personnel. We call upon state and federal governmental bodies to address these problems. In addition to legislation and regulations, an adequate number of inspectors and enforcement staff must be assigned to these problems as soon as it is possible to do so.

4. The drilling, transportation and processing of Marcellus Shale gas in West Virginia and Pennsylvania will require the investment of billions of dollars and result in billions of dollars worth of gas being produced while generating thousands of jobs in both States. In order to ensure that the process is accomplished in an environmentally sound and safe manner that benefits the people and the economies of both WV and PA, the WV/PA Monongahela Area Watersheds Compact herewith endorses and promotes the hiring of fully-trained local workers with competitive wages and full benefits for work in Marcellus related projects. The Compact further supports apprenticeship and training programs for workers and contractors and for programs to ensure the health and safety of the workers involved. Worker training is tied to the public health.

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