Dear Operator:

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is writing to inform you about a new joint initiative that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has undertaken in coordination with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA). Per Act 9 of 2012 (P. L. 67, No. 9), operators of unconventional wells are to develop and submit emergency response plans (ERPs) to DEP, PEMA, the county emergency management agency, and the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) with jurisdiction over the well site. As you are aware, in February 2016, DEP began requiring all operators of unconventional wells in Pennsylvania to electronically submit ERPs through the Oil and Gas Reporting Electronic (OGRE) system via the DEP Greenport web portal. To further streamline the overall ERP submittal process and to comply with Act 9 requirements, a submission through DEP’s OGRE will now also be considered a submission to PEMA, the county EMA, and the PSAP. If county EMAs or PSAPs are unable to access the plans electronically through the DEP Oil and Gas Mapping portal (link to website provided below) we have advised that they make a specific request to the operator for a paper copy or request technical assistance through the below state agency program facilitators. DEP and PEMA hopes you’ll find this a time and cost saving initiative. Thank you for your engagement with the Commonwealth’s local communities and first responders and for your continued partnerships and efforts in protecting the citizens of the Commonwealth.

For more information on submitting your plans using the OGRE system please see DEP’s Office of Oil and Gas Management Act 9 Emergency Response Plan Online Submission Guide (dated May 02, 2016 V.1.1) located at:


ERPs as submitted through OGRE can be viewed on the DEP Oil and Gas Mapping Website:

http://www.depgis.state.pa.us/PaOilAndGasMapping/
Should you have any questions please contact:

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Sincerely,

Scott R. Perry  
Deputy Secretary  
Office of Oil and Gas Management  
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Sincerely,

Martyn R. Nevil  
Deputy Director For Preparedness  
Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency