

Some clips may be behind a paywall. If you need access to these clips, email me at djagiela@pa.gov.

Top DEP Stories

WJET-TV: City assists Erie Coke employees after plant closes unexpectedly

<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/city-assists-erie-coke-employees-after-plant-closes-unexpectedly/>

WJET-TV: Employee's react to Erie Coke Plant closure

<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/employees-react-to-erie-coke-plant-closure/>

WJET-TV: Gov. Wolf's administration assisting workers of Erie Coke

<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/gov-wolfs-administration-assisting-workers-of-erie-coke/>

WJET-TV: Erie Mayor Joe Schember reacts to closure of Erie Coke

<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/erie-mayor-joe-schember-reacting-to-closure-of-erie-coke/>

WJET-TV: Department of Environmental Protection weighs in on Erie Coke decision to close plant

<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/department-of-environmental-protection-weighs-in-on-erie-coke-decision-to-close-plant/>

WJET-TV: City assists Erie Coke employees after plant closes unexpectedly

<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/city-assists-erie-coke-employees-after-plant-closes-unexpectedly/>

WJET-TV: A closer look at the battle between Erie Coke and state and federal regulators

<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/a-closer-look-at-the-battle-between-erie-coke-and-state-and-federal-regulators/>

WICU-TV: 'These People Deserve Better': Neighbor, Erie Coke Employee React to Plant's Sudden Shutdown

<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/41477018/these-people-deserve-better-neighbor-erie-coke-employee-react-to-plants-sudden-shutdown>

WICU-TV: Erie Mayor: City Concerned about Erie Coke Workers Now without Jobs Before Christmas

<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/41476911/erie-mayor-city-concerned-about-erie-coke-workers-now-without-jobs-before-christmas>

WICU-TV: State Lending Assistance to Erie Coke Plant Workers

<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/41476822/state-lending-assistance-to-erie-coke-plant-workers>

WICU-TV: Erie Coke Issues Statement, Calls Decision to Shut Down 'Truly a Sad Day for All'

<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/41476681/erie-coke-issues-statement-calls-decision-to-shut-down-truly-a-sad-day-for-all>

WICU-TV: Plans Underway to Shut Down Ovens at Erie Coke, Union Representative Says

<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/41476567/plans-underway-to-shut-down-ovens-at-erie-coke-union-representative-says>

WICU-TV: Environmentalists Have Mixed Emotions About Erie Coke Closing

<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/41479295/environmentalists-have-mixed-emotions-about-erie-coke-closing>

WICU-TV: Late Afternoon Meeting Fails to Halt Shutdown of Erie Coke Plant

<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/41478603/late-afternoon-meeting-fails-to-halt-shutdown-of-erie-coke-plant>

Erie-Times: 'No turning back' as Erie Coke ends operations

<https://www.goerie.com/news/20191219/lquo-no-turning-back-quo-as-erie-coke-ends-operations>

Record Argus: Coke plant's closure shows mounting pollution concerns

<https://www.recordargusnews.com/articles/coke-plants-closure-shows-mounting-pollution-concerns/>

APnews: Coke plant shuts down amid mounting pollution concerns

<https://apnews.com/d9bdf33fc023d01b161f9e6ff7c28c35>

Titusville Herald: Erie Coke plant closes shuts down mounting pollution concerns

https://www.titusvilleherald.com/eedition/page_39a497ef-1e50-537f-bcd7-f9cd6cc7fad4.html

Citizens' Voice: Cartwright expands on plan to fund stormwater infrastructure improvements

<https://www.citizensvoice.com/news/cartwright-expands-on-plan-to-fund-stormwater-infrastructure-improvements-1.2573510>

Beaver County Radio: PA Methane Rule Advances

<https://beavercountyradio.com/news/pa-methane-rule-advances/>

Mentions

PublicSource: Coraopolis approves additional testing and upgrades to address PFAS chemical presence in its drinking water

<https://www.publicsource.org/coraopolis-approves-additional-testing-and-upgrades-to-address-pfas-chemical-presence-in-its-drinking-water/>

WPXI: DEP orders Aliquippa to address 'dirty water' concerns

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/top-stories/dep-orders-aliquippa-address-water-concerns/DFIMNL42IRETNKWGOC74CQQHW4/>

KDKA: Department Of Environmental Protection Notifies Aliquippa Of Water Violations

<https://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/2019/12/19/dep-orders-aliquippa-to-monitor-water-quality/>

Beaver County Times: DEP orders Aliquippa to better monitor drinking water contaminants

<https://www.timesonline.com/news/20191219/dep-orders-aliquippa-to-better-monitor-drinking-water-contaminants>

Gant News: CMA Board Hears Updates on Various Projects

<https://gantdaily.com/2019/12/20/cma-board-hears-updates-on-various-projects/>

Gant News: CMA To Rejuvenate Water Filters at Montgomery Dam

<https://gantdaily.com/2019/12/18/cma-to-rejuvenate-water-filters-at-montgomery-dam/>

Shamokin News Item: Deputy fire chief: Crash scene 'overwhelming'

https://www.newsitem.com/news/local/deputy-fire-chief-crash-scene-overwhelming/article_84b08a7a-82e7-5c77-8662-9b0e7d9b5d57.html

Air

Environmental Health News: 7 things residents of Clairton, McKeesport, and Elizabeth need to know about the proposed settlement with U.S. Steel

<https://www.ehn.org/clairton-us-steel-settlement-2641652627.html>

Environmental Health News: Clairton residents on the proposed U.S. Steel class action settlement: "It's not enough."

<https://www.ehn.org/us-steel-clairton-lawsuit-settlement-air-pollution-2641652230.html>

Pittsburgh Business Times: U.S. Steel to lay off workers, slash dividend and stop stock buybacks

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2019/12/20/u-s-steel-to-lay-off-workers-slash-dividend-and.html>

Conservation & Recreation

Citizens' Voice: Earth Conservancy awarded grant

<https://www.citizensvoice.com/news/earth-conservancy-awarded-grant-1.2573429>

Centre Daily Times: Penn State Musser Gap project moves forward with plans for outdoor recreation and conservation

<https://www.centredaily.com/news/local/education/penn-state/article238501418.html>

Towanda Daily Review: Stream buffer funding to benefit Susquehanna in Sullivan, seven other counties

https://www.thedailyreview.com/news/local/stream-buffer-funding-to-benefit-susquehanna-in-sullivan-seven-other/article_8985361f-9b43-50e2-b2ad-5e9e19329fde.html

Milton Standard-Journal: Stream buffer funding to benefit area counties

http://www.standard-journal.com/news/local/article_f0c15bb6-a79e-5df0-ba91-83c5f8c7e166.html

Energy

Republican Herald: New Hegin's Twp. board will decide wind energy zoning fix

<https://www.republicanherald.com/news/new-hegins-twp-board-will-decide-wind-energy-zoning-fix-1.2573571>

Standard Speaker: HPT nearer to its goal of energy efficient fleet

<https://www.standardpeaker.com/news/hpt-nearer-to-its-goal-of-energy-efficient-fleet-1.2573047>

Inside Climate News: Energy Regulator's Order Could Boost Coal Over Renewables, Raising Costs for Consumers

<https://insideclimatenews.org/news/19122019/ferc-pjm-grid-coal-subsidy-ruling-renewable-energy-nuclear-illinois-pennsylvania-climate-change>

Environmental Cleanup & Brownfields

PublicSource: URA board approves funds for affordable housing in Larimer, Hill District

<https://www.publicsource.org/meeting-highlights-pittsburgh-urban-redevelopment-authority/>

Post-Gazette: Hunt Armory, Lexington Technology Park projects advance

<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/development/2019/12/19/Hunt-Armory-Shadyside-Lexington-Technology-Park-North-Point-Breeze-URA/stories/201912190206>

Oil and Gas

Pittsburgh Business Times: Equitrans hopes fair deal with EQT coming over contract renegotiation

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2019/12/19/equitrans-hopes-fair-deal-with-eqt-coming-over.html>

Beaver County Times: Study: Hydraulic fracturing ban would be costly to Pennsylvania

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2019/12/19/study-hydraulic-fracturing-ban-would-be-costly-to.html>

Observer-Reporter: Study claims fracking ban would be 'catastrophic'

https://observer-reporter.com/business/study-claims-fracking-ban-would-be-catastrophic/article_95abd39a-2283-11ea-ac02-ffdb79d3760d.html

Towanda Daily Review: Bradford County approves subsurface lease with Chief Oil and Gas

https://www.thedailyreview.com/news/local/commissioners-nd-amendment-resolution-passes-on-split-vote/article_9ef566a4-6b90-5530-a54a-bce42c5a5575.html

Waste

My ChesCO: PA Department of Environmental Protection Obtains \$400,000 Civil Penalty Against Covanta Environmental Solutions, LLC For Waste Violations

<https://mychesco.com/a/news/pennsylvania/pa-department-of-environmental-protection-obtains-400000-civil-penalty-against-covanta-environmental-solutions-llc-for-waste-violations/>

Ridgway Record: Recycling Center offers holiday tips ahead of weeklong closure (pg 1)

<https://www.ridgwayrecord.com/sites/default/files/RR-12-20-19.pdf>

Wall Street Journal: Recycling Rethink: What to Do With Trash Now That China Won't Take It

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/recycling-rethink-what-to-do-with-trash-now-china-wont-take-it-11576776536>

Pittsburgh City Paper: Opinion: Wrapping paper is bad and wasteful

<https://www.pghcitypaper.com/pittsburgh/opinion-wrapping-paper-is-bad-and-wasteful/Content?oid=16393585>

Post-Gazette: Karen Kane: Musings on change and community

<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/karen-kane/2019/12/20/Giant-Eagle-blue-plastic-bags-recycle-musings-change-community/stories/201912200038>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Dirty, dirty everywhere: Litter is getting worse (LTE)

<https://www.sungazette.com/opinion/letters/2019/12/dirty-dirty-everywhere/>

Water

Scranton Times: Scranton Sewer Authority close (or not) to resolving lawsuit over missing easements

<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/news/scranton-sewer-authority-close-or-not-to-resolving-lawsuit-over-missing-easements-1.2573537>

Latrobe Bulletin: LMA downtown water line replacement project to continue through winter

https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/lma-downtown-water-line-replacement-project-to-continue-through-winter/article_d5e98e15-2062-5364-a3e1-0e43fc0e650f.html

Latrobe Bulletin: DTMA approves resolution for bond refinancing

https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/dtma-approves-resolution-for-bond-refinancing/article_1d4e8281-dcfd-5105-9983-3d70596dde5e.html

Latrobe Bulletin: UTMA board approves sewer line transfer pact with LMA

https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/utma-board-approves-sewer-line-transfer-pact-with-lma/article_659e9c81-c14b-53b2-b8b2-435dd02a4ebd.html

Latrobe Bulletin: LTMA board sets meeting dates, still mulling 2020 budget

https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/ltma-board-sets-meeting-dates-still-mulling-budget/article_20970ee6-8954-5778-b3a4-f4bc5e98328b.html

Tribune-Review: Mon Wharf remains closed as cold prevents flood cleanup

<https://triblive.com/local/pittsburgh-allegheny/mon-wharf-remains-closed-as-cold-prevents-flood-cleanup/>

Sunbury Daily Item: Snyder County authority lifts ban on new sewer hookups

https://www.dailyitem.com/news/snyder_county/snyder-county-authority-lifts-ban-on-new-sewer-hookups/article_70feb24-473b-5662-b689-5fc671eb1852.html

Clearfield Progress: CKG Authority discusses Eden water line

http://www.theprogressnews.com/news/local/ckg-authority-discusses-eden-water-line/article_dd253ec9-9024-567e-b4f5-3b54b3d5fdd9.html

Bloomsburg Press-Enterprise: Frosty Valley is closer to building cottages; variance is granted in Mahoning Township

<https://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/daily/122019/page/1/story/frosty-valley-is-closer-to-building-cottagesheadline>

Miscellaneous

Wall Street Journal: After String of Rare Cancer Cases, Pennsylvania Investigates Potential Link to Fracking

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/after-string-of-rare-cancer-cases-pennsylvania-investigates-potential-link-to-fracking-11576837802>

KDKA: Part Of Westmoreland Co. Evacuated After Tractor Trailer Hauling Propane Overturns

<https://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/2019/12/19/westmoreland-county-evacuated-for-overturned-tanker/>

Tribune-Review: Propane tanker overturns in South Huntingdon prompting evacuation of homes, business

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/propane-tanker-overturns-in-south-huntingdon-prompting-evacuation-of-homes-business/>

WPXI: Part of Ruffs Dale evacuated for hours for overturned tanker

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/westmoreland-county/part-ruffs-dale-evacuated-hours-overturned-tanker/B5TAJWXJYBAQFNTXI5BWNOMWUQ/>

WESA: RiverWise Brings Sustainability To Beaver County

<https://www.wesa.fm/post/riverwise-brings-sustainability-beaver-county>

Towanda Daily Review: Canceled meetings and finger-pointing plague Commonwealth Financing Authority

https://www.thedailyreview.com/news/local/canceled-meetings-and-finger-pointing-plague-top-pa-economic-development/article_6c6b0f83-3893-5043-b5dd-7872e019bff0.html

Sunbury Daily Item: Interstate 80 in Union County now open; 60 vehicles in fatal pileup

https://www.dailyitem.com/news/local_news/interstate-in-union-county-now-open-vehicles-in-fatal-pileup/article_dad4679f-9ff8-560c-8ab9-c0571bfb24e2.html

Bloomsburg Press-Enterprise: Business park booming near I-80

<https://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/daily/122019/page/1/story/business-park-booming-near-i-80>