

*Some clips may be behind a paywall. If **Regional** employees need access to these clips, please contact your **Regional Communications Manager** (NWRO – Tom Decker; NCRO – Megan Lehman; NERO – Patti Monahan; SERO – Robyn Briggs; SCRO – John Repetz; SWRO – Laina Aquiline). If **Central Office** staff (and others outside of DEP) need access to these clips, please email me at brandongla@pa.gov*

Top DEP Stories

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Officials mark completion of Frank E. Heller Dam spillway

<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2026/10/officials-mark-completion-of-frank-e-heller-dam-spillway/>

Air

Butler Eagle: States and cities sue over Trump's EPA eliminating rule that limits emissions from power plants

<https://www.butlereagle.com/20261002/states-and-cities-sue-over-trumps-epa-eliminating-rule-that-limits-emissions-from-power-plants/>

Record-Argus: States and cities sue over Trump's EPA eliminating rule that limits emissions from power plants

https://www.recordargusnews.com/ap/washington/states-and-cities-sue-over-trumps-epa-eliminating-rule-that-limits-emissions-from-power-plants/article_a3c036ad-4f36-515e-97f5-fdf50beb2a69.html

Conservation and Recreation

Daily American: Officials celebrate Garrett side of Sept. 11 NMT extension project

<https://www.dailyamerican.com/story/news/local/2026/10/02/officials-celebrate-newest-extension-of-nmt-and-gap-connection/92041088007/>

Leader Times: Armstrong Trails receives Thomas J. Allen Greenways Partner of the Year Award

https://www.leadertimes.com/news/armstrong-trails-receives-thomas-j-allen-greenways-partner-of-the-year-award/article_0921d34a-73bd-4b78-955b-68cd8b213057.html

WFMZ: Fall foliage begins to emerge in the Poconos as foresters eye mid-October peak

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/poconos-coal/fall-foliage-begins-to-emerge-in-the-poconos-as-foresters-eye-mid-october-peak/article_4b2a18fa-e26a-4082-b316-f4f93124dc42.html#tncms-source=Homepage-Top-Stories

Data Centers

WJPA: PUC Advances Consumer Safeguards On Data Centers

<https://wjpa.com/news-archive/puc-advances-consumer-safeguards-on-data-centers/>

Pennlive: Data center foes ask court to halt site work while appeal plays out in Cumberland County

<https://www.pennlive.com/news/2026/10/pax-1-data-center-foes-ask-court-to-halt-site-work-while-zoning-appeal-plays-out.html>

Lewistown Sentinel: Granville officials reschedule zoning hearing to Oct. 26

<https://www.lewistownsentinel.com/news/local-news/2026/10/granville-officials-reschedule-zoning-hearing-to-oct-26/>

WITF: Pa. House committee advances bills targeting data centers, electricity costs

<https://www.witf.org/2026/10/01/pa-house-committee-advances-bills-targeting-data-centers-electricity-costs/>

WKOK: Data center update planned by LSC, Penn State Extension

<https://www.wkok.com/data-center-update-planned-by-lsc-penn-state-extension/>

WBRE: Data center unanimously approved to move forward

<https://www.2822news.com/news/data-center-unanimously-approved-to-move-forward/>

Republican Herald: Kline Twp. supervisors vote to approve Amazon data center proposal with conditions

<https://www.republicanherald.com/2026/10/01/kline-twp-supervisors-vote-to-approve-amazon-data-center-proposal-with-conditions/>

Scranton Times: Invitium Energy power plant venture to fuel data centers lands in Fell Twp.

<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/10/01/invitium-energy-power-plant-venture-to-fuel-data-centers-lands-in-fell-twp/>

Lehighvalleylive: One of the largest data centers being built in Pa. has an end user, and it's a big name

<https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/news/2026/10/one-of-the-largest-data-centers-being-built-in-pa-has-an-end-user-and-its-a-big-name.html>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: Amazon to invest \$1B into data center communities amid backlash against data center rollouts

<https://www.inquirer.com/business/amazon-data-center-community-spending-ai-backlash-20261002.html>

WFMZ: Pa. Senate committee advances bill to prohibit NDAs in data center development

https://www.wfmz.com/news/state/pa-senate-committee-advances-bill-to-prohibit-ndas-in-data-center-development/article_774df096-3196-5f06-a04e-336a86ad5d3a.html

Energy

TribLive: Data center critics want Upper Burrell to also regulate electric plants that could power the centers

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/data-center-critics-want-upper-burrell-to-also-regulate-electric-plants-that-could-power-the-centers/>

WPXI: Duquesne Light Company strike: no deal reached on first day

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/duquesne-light-company-strike-no-deal-reached-first-day/4YSA3TPSXJF7BBIQXS5IPXNCTQ/>

Pittsburgh Business Times: Union official hopes Duquesne Light contract negotiations resume soon
<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2026/10/01/duquesne-light-union-officials-strike.html>

Pittsburgh Business Times: U.S.-South Korea framework could deploy 8 new Westinghouse reactors in U.S.
<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2026/10/01/westinghouse-electric-south-korea-united-states.html>

Pennlive: Pennsylvania has the energy and the workers — now it needs the grid
<https://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2026/10/pennsylvania-has-the-energy-and-the-workers-now-it-needs-the-grid-opinion.html>

Lancaster Online: Your UGI utility bill is going up - here are the details
https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/your-ugi-utility-bill-is-going-up---here-are-the-details/article_3d5a815d-019d-4ec0-8f16-6abb87576be7.html

Reading Eagle: Settlement reduces UGI rate increase and spreads out impact to customer bills
<https://www.readingeagle.com/2026/10/01/settlement-reduces-requested-ugi-rate-increase-and-spreads-out-the-impact-to-customer-bills/>

WFMZ: Bills are about to go up for UGI gas customers but it could have been worse, PUC says
https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/pennsylvania/bills-are-about-to-go-up-for-ugi-gas-customers-but-it-could-have-been-worse-puc-says/article_9508a169-8f3b-4c85-b646-616b165cea7f.html

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Sen. Gene Yaw pushes PJM to focus on growing state's energy capabilities
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2026/10/sen-gene-yaw-pushes-pjm-to-focus-on-growing-states-energy-capabilities/>

Scranton Times: Settlement reduces UGI rate increase and spreads out impact to customer bills
<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/10/01/settlement-reduces-requested-ugi-rate-increase-and-spreads-out-the-impact-to-customer-bills/>

Times Leader: PUC approves settlement substantially reducing rate changes for UGI gas division
<https://www.timesleader.com/news/1761300/puc-approves-settlement-substantially-reducing-rate-changes-for-ugi-gas-division>

Standard Speaker: Settlement reduces UGI rate increase and spreads out impact to customer bills
<https://www.standardspeaker.com/2026/10/01/settlement-reduces-requested-ugi-rate-increase-and-spreads-out-the-impact-to-customer-bills/>

Morning Call: Settlement reduces UGI rate increase and spreads out impact to customer bills
<https://www.mcall.com/2026/10/01/settlement-reduces-requested-ugi-rate-increase-and-spreads-out-the-impact-to-customer-bills/>

The Times Herald: Environmental groups sue Trump administration over eased vehicle fuel economy rules

<https://www.timesherald.com/2026/10/02/climate-fuel-economy-lawsuit-filed/>

Oil and Gas

Mon Valley Independent: Study of groundwater near fracking sites finds low radium levels, but raises concerns about increased salinity

<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2026/10/02/study-of-groundwater-near-fracking-sites-finds-low-radium-levels-but-raises-concerns-about-increased-salinity/>

PFAS

Allegheny Front: Researchers find microplastics in insects from Schuylkill River watershed

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/pennsylvania-microplastics-insects-schuylkill-river-watershed/>

Waste

Mon Valley Independent: Delinquent sanitation fees list leads to clash in Donora

<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2026/10/02/delinquent-sanitation-fees-list-leads-to-clash/>

Water

TribLive: Springdale Township leaning toward switching water service for some residents

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/springdale-township-leaning-toward-switching-water-service-for-some-residents/>

TribLive: Take a look inside the \$37M overhaul at MAWC's Indian Creek water treatment plant

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/take-a-look-inside-the-37m-overhaul-at-mawcs-indian-creek-water-treatment-plant/>

TribLive: Hempfield buying parcels of land for \$400K for right of way or stormwater improvements

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/hempfield-buying-parcels-of-land-for-400k-for-right-of-way-or-stormwater-improvements/>

WJPA: Efforts Continue To Address Recent Flooding

<https://wjpa.com/news-archive/efforts-continue-to-address-recent-flooding/>

NorthcentralPA.com: Susquehanna U awarded \$338K to support aquatic microorganism research

https://www.northcentralpa.com/news/susquehanna-u-awarded-338k-to-support-aquatic-microorganism-research/article_c8fc2692-4ab1-4710-bf72-9a804e8e946d.html

My Chesco.com: Study Finds Microplastics Across Delaware River Watershed

https://www.mychesco.com/a/news/pennsylvania/study-finds-microplastics-across-delaware-river-watershed/#google_vignette

Miscellaneous

Pennlive: 'Soggy September' soaked Pa. Will fall give us a break from rain?

<https://www.pennlive.com/weather/2026/10/soggy-september-soaked-pa-will-fall-give-us-a-break-from-rain.html>

ABC27: Bill would require regulators to consider 'public interest' in Pennsylvania utility decisions

<https://www.abc27.com/pennsylvania/bill-would-require-regulators-to-consider-public-interest-in-pennsylvania-utility-decisions/>

WFMZ: Crews tear down chemical plant severely damaged by fire in 2023

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/berks/reading-area/crews-tear-down-chemical-plant-severely-damaged-by-fire-in-2023/article_e2fac298-a83d-46e8-8b3c-5c1fe75ae5e3.html

Morning Call: Lehigh Valley farmers under pressure as fuel and other prices rise. 'There's not much of a profit to be made'

<https://www.mcall.com/2026/10/02/lehigh-valley-farmers-under-pressure-as-fuel-and-other-prices-rise-theres-not-much-of-a-profit-to-be-made/>