

**Pennsylvania Public Utility  
Commission**

**S.A.V.E**

**Paul Metro**

**Chief, Gas Safety Division**

**Pennsylvania PUC**

# Gas Safety Division

- The Gas Safety Division is responsible for enforcing federal and Commission pipeline safety regulations as they apply to the certificated Natural Gas Utilities and Hazardous Liquid Lines located in Pennsylvania. Acting as an agent for the federal Office of Pipeline Safety and the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Gas Safety Division enforces the federal pipeline safety regulations as adopted by the PUC .

# Gas Safety Division

- The division monitors compliance with Federal and State regulations by conducting frequent inspections of pipeline facilities and records of regulated gas utilities. It also investigates incidents which could include fires, explosions and major outages

# Gas Safety Division

■ Types of fuels that we inspect:

- ❖ Natural Gas
- ❖ Propane
- ❖ Hazardous Liquids
- ❖ Landfill Gas

# Gas Safety Division

- Almost 4 million natural gas customers in PA
- Regulate 36 natural gas utilities, 9 intrastate pipelines, 9 hazardous liquid lines, 4 LNG facilities
- 47,000 miles of gas mains

# Gas Safety Division

## ■ Types of Inspections:

- Pipeline construction
- Corrosion
- Leakage Surveys
- Damage Prevention
- Incident Investigation

# Gas Safety Division

- 9 Inspectors across the state
- If you're not sure whether an issue is related to gas safety....call anyways....

# Gas Safety

- Gas Safety Metrics
- Emergency Dispatch - within 15 minutes
- Emergency Response - within 60 minutes
- Damage Prevention
- Unaccounted for Gas - Less than 4%
- Leak Reduction\Leak per Miles

# Gas Safety

- Risk Assessment - Reduce line hits through focused inspections, investigations, and enforcement while reducing inspections in other non-problem areas

# Gas Safety

- Risk Assessment Strategies
- Damage Prevention, Corrosion, Operator Qualification
- Through re-focused inspections reduce gas interruptions and outages
- Distribution Integrity Management

# Gas Safety

- Unaccounted for Gas - Gas lost through leaks, company use, metering problems
- Average Unaccounted for in Pennsylvania - 4%
- Reduce Unaccounted for through reduction in leaks
- Pipeline Replacement

# Gas Safety

- Pipeline Replacement
- Pennsylvania has 3,600 miles of cast iron and 9,000 miles of unprotected bare steel pipes
- Bare Steel and Cast Iron pipes account for 5% of distribution pipe and 95% of leaks
- Reliability and Safety Issue
- Replacement Costs - \$13 Billion over 20 Years

And you think your job is tough!



# **GAS RELIABILITY TASK FORCE**

- **LINE HITS ARE THE PUC'S NUMBER ONE SAFETY AND RELIABILITY PROBLEM – GAS, ELECTRIC, WATER, SEWER, TELEPHONE**
- **APPROXIMATELY 30,000 LINE HITS PER YEAR (CONSERVATIVE)**
- **APPROXIMATELY 3,500 NATURAL GAS LINE HITS ANNUALLY**

# Damage Prevention

- Moon Township Incident – US  
Congressman Tim Murphy sponsors a bill to require contractors and excavators to call 911 in the event of an emergency
- Signed into Law in Dec 06 – Pipes Act



# Damage Prevention

- New Hope, Bucks County – US Department of Transportation investigated the need for Excess Flow Valves
- Pennsylvania leads the nation in installation of excess flow valves



# REPORTABLE INCIDENTS

2009

4 TOTAL

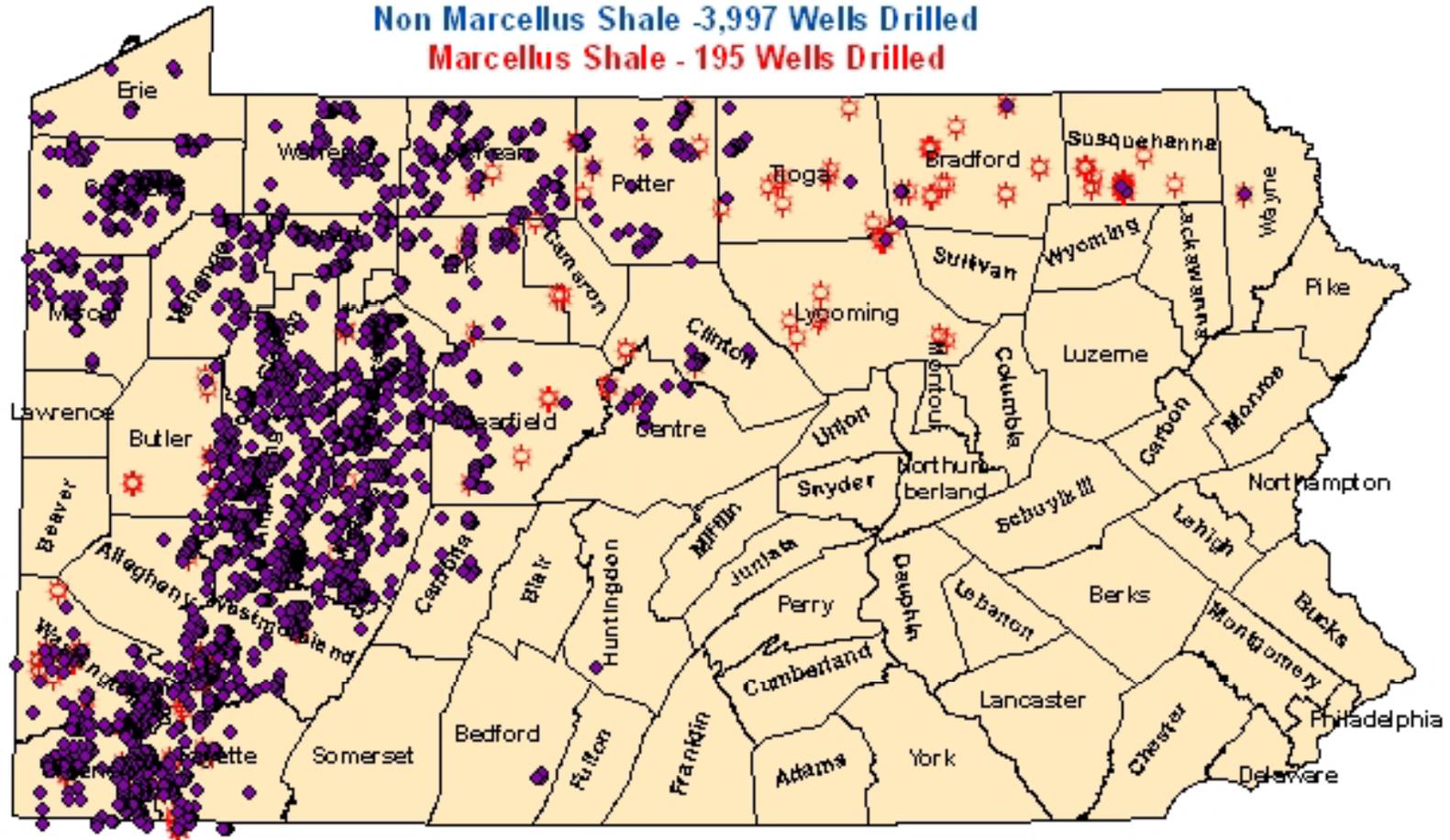
- 2 LINE HITS
- 1 CORROSION LEAK
- 1 OPERATOR ERROR

# Marcellus Shale

- En Banc Hearings
- PHMSA provided testimony
- 4 Issues Developing
  1. Siting
  2. Extended Authority
  3. Class 1 Locations
  4. Eminent Domain

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

2008 Total Wells Drilled - 4,192  
Non Marcellus Shale - 3,997 Wells Drilled  
Marcellus Shale - 195 Wells Drilled



As Reported by Operators

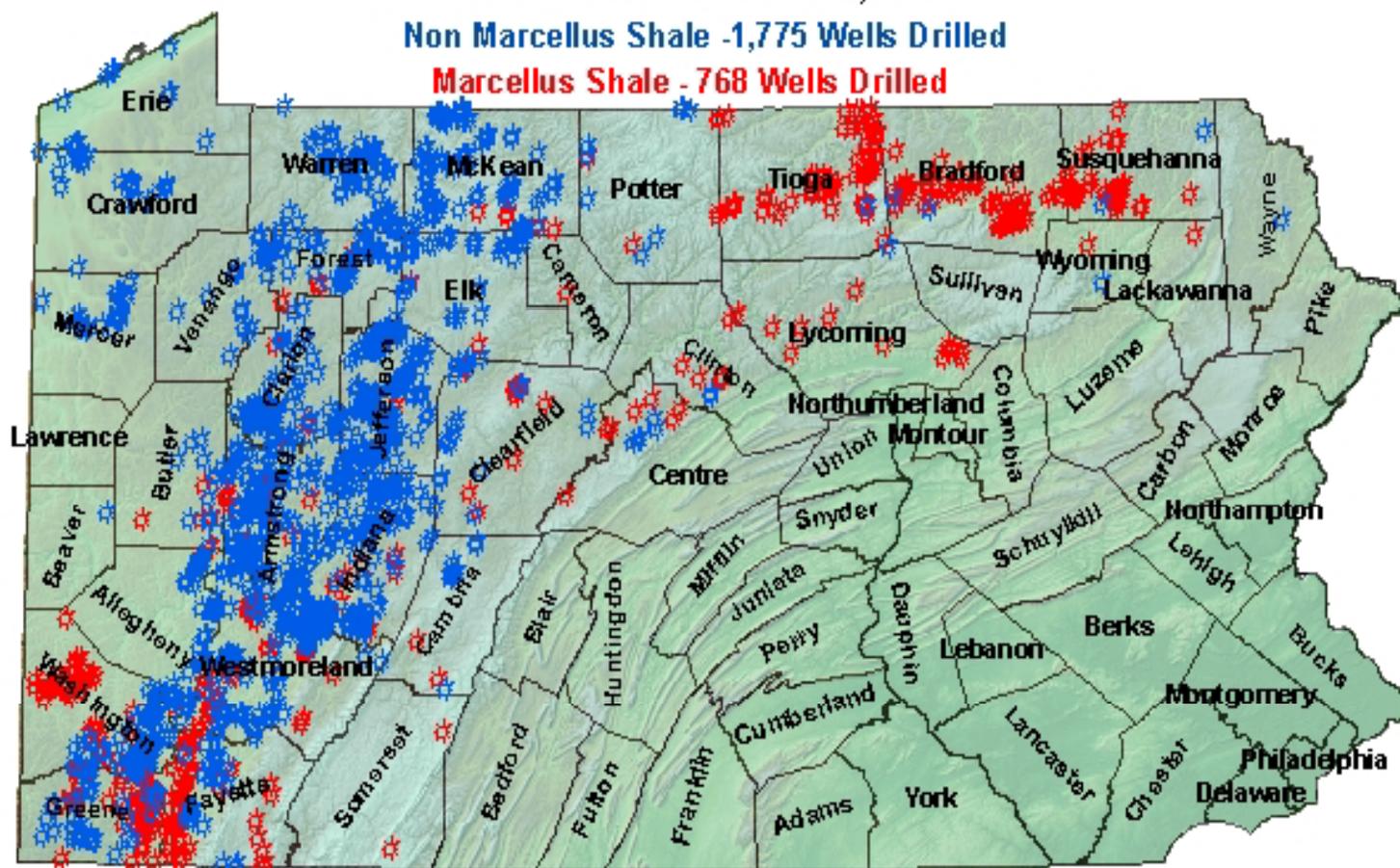
As of 12/31/2008

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

2009 Total Wells Drilled - 2,543

Non Marcellus Shale - 1,775 Wells Drilled

Marcellus Shale - 768 Wells Drilled



As Reported by Operators

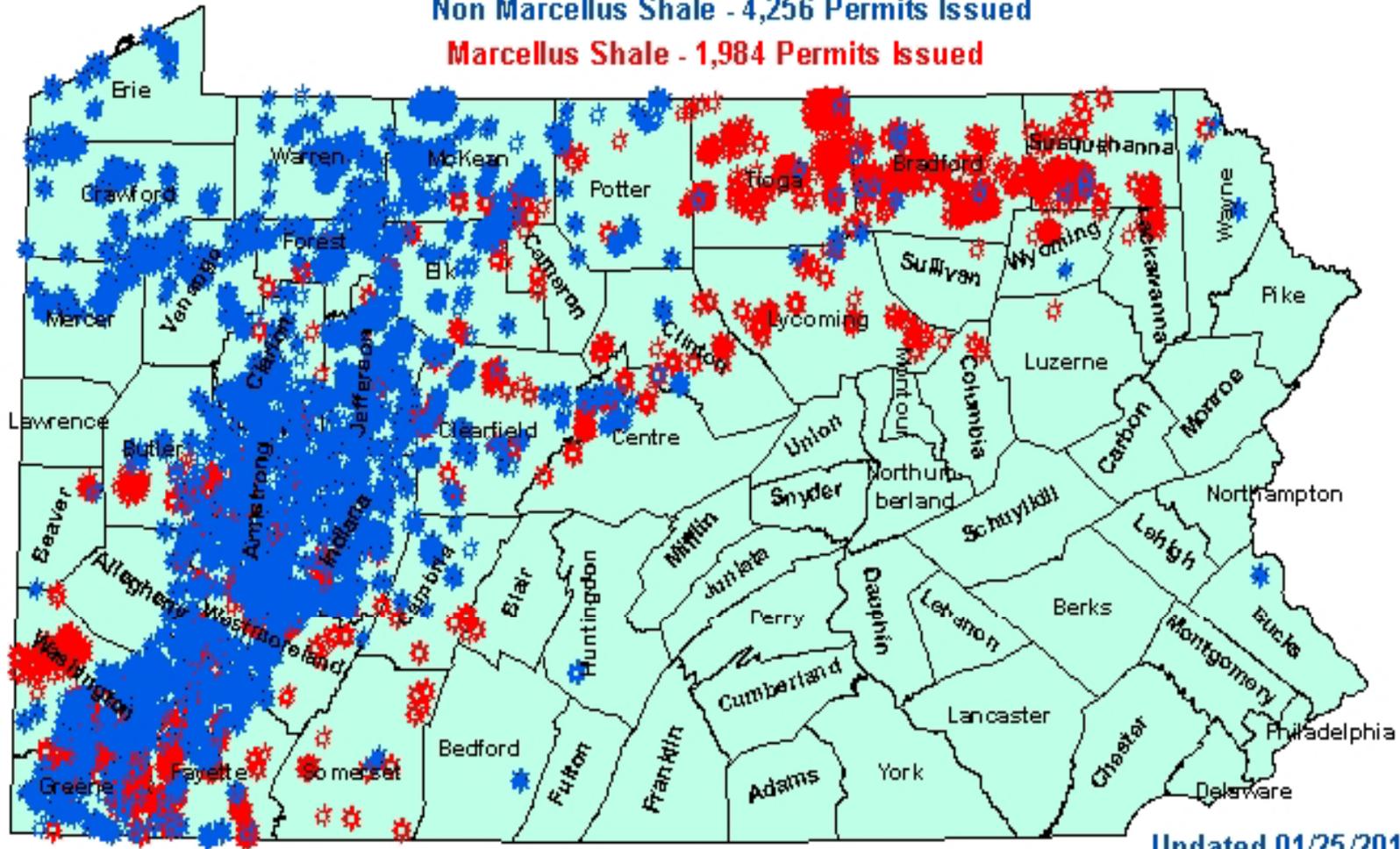
Updated 01/25/2010

# Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Oil and Gas Management Well Permits Issued

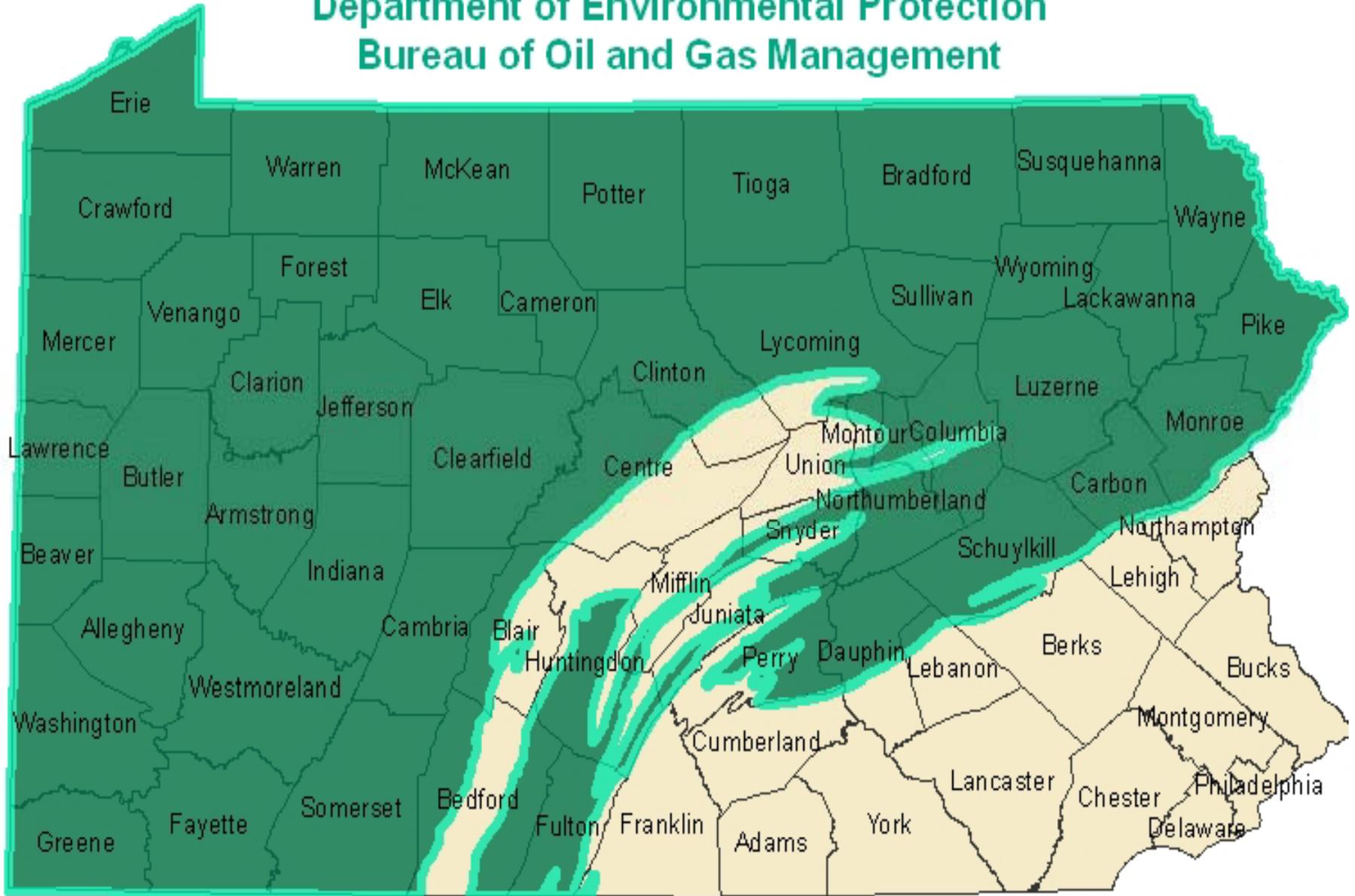
Total Permits Issued January thru December 2009 - 6,240

Non Marcellus Shale - 4,256 Permits Issued

Marcellus Shale - 1,984 Permits Issued



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Oil and Gas Management



 Marcellus Shale Formation











