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**34 organizations and 104 individuals sign letter to Gov. Shapiro urging consideration of white paper recommendations**

*- Recommendations in “Pennsylvania’s Shale Gas Boom: What the Shapiro Administration Can Do to Better Protect Public Health” include a just transition to renewable energy*

PITTSBURGH, PA, May 8, 2025 – A total of 34 organizations and 104 individuals signed on to [a letter to Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro](#) urging adoption of recommendations the Environmental Health Project (EHP) made in its white paper, “[Pennsylvania’s Shale Gas Boom: What the Shapiro Administration Can Do to Better Protect Public Health](#).” EHP announced the paper’s release at [a virtual event](#) on April 1, 2025. The letter was sent to Gov. Shapiro on April 29 along with a copy of the paper. EHP followed up with the governor’s staff via email on May 7, requesting that the governor meet with nonprofit community groups and impacted residents.

Pennsylvania residents impacted by the vast network of shale gas infrastructure—wells, compressor stations, processing plants, pipelines, truck traffic, etc.—had every reason to expect that Gov. Shapiro and his administration, once in office, would work hard to defend their health from sources of pollution. Two years later, residents are still waiting for meaningful action. This white paper addresses progress and shortcomings of the administration while offering recommendations for what the governor and his administration can do better to protect residents’ health.

“Over the past 20 years, enough research studies and investigations have been done to clearly demonstrate many of the health risks posed by shale gas development,” said **Alison L. Steele**, EHP’s executive director. “Any call for more studies should not preclude swift and meaningful action on the part of our government. Now is the time for Gov. Shapiro and his administration to recognize the preponderance of evidence that already exists and take reasonable steps to defend the health of our residents from oil and gas pollution. In doing so, he can address legitimate concerns that exist with respect to Pennsylvania’s public health but also its environmental and economic health.”

Approximately 1.5 million Pennsylvanians live within a half mile of oil and gas wells. Millions more live within a half mile of a pipeline, compressor station, processing facility, or other shale gas infrastructure, raising health risks for those individuals, their families, and their neighbors. Yet, every Pennsylvania resident is impacted by climate change, from more frequent and intense storms and floods, to heat waves and Lyme disease. Pollution from the oil and gas industry is a major contributor to that climate change.

EHP's white paper is a call to action to the governor—and indeed to government at all levels—to heed the Pennsylvania Constitution and deliver to residents the clean air and pure water they have been promised. The recommendations laid out in this document can serve to support a much-needed transition to a renewable energy economy, which will involve creating sustainable jobs, reducing health impacts and health care costs associated with the shale gas industry, and saving lives.

### **About the Environmental Health Project**

The [Environmental Health Project](#) (EHP) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit public health organization that defends public health in the face of shale gas development. EHP provides frontline communities with timely monitoring, interpretation, and guidance while engaging diverse stakeholders: health professionals, researchers, community organizers, policy makers, and others.

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