



Office of Water Management

# **Update Utilization of AMD in Well Development for Natural Gas Extraction**

May 16, 2012

# White Paper Process and Goals

- Review Team consisting of cross-deputate DEP staff tasked with developing draft White Paper
- White Paper published on Nov. 18, 2011
- Conducted internal & external discussions for feedback
- Approvals to use AMD during review
- Define the roles of various department programs.
- Establish process for the oil & gas industry to integrate the use of AMD.
- Establish process for DEP to facilitate review, evaluate and approve proposals for use of AMD

# Applicant Preliminary Assessment

- The end use of the AMD water will determine the treatment requirements of the AMD or mine drainage, if necessary, at each AMD and active mining site. This information will be provided to the oil & gas industry representative.

# Summary of Changes

- Broadened AMD to Mine-Influenced Water
- Clarifications to process
  - Changed proposal review time
  - All parties can apply for approval
  - BAMR changed to BCR
  - Clarify pre-treatment & secondary treatment
  - Transportation and spill concerns
  - Possible permitting needs

# Summary of Changes cont.

- Clarifications to Storage Options
  - Mine water is not waste, unless mixed with it
  - Included other specific storage options for AML pits and ponds/wetlands that are part of the treatment system
- Recommendations
  - Expanded discussion to encourage trust funds for long-term treatment

# Liability

- No major revisions to original draft.
- DEP proposed revisions:
  - Language to include watershed groups.
  - Incorporated references to better coordinate with Environmental Good Samaritan Act
- Senate Bill 1346 - Use of drainage water for hydraulic fracturing
- EPA – Industry concerns, DEP outreach



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# Remaining Steps

- Circulate DEP Executive Staff
  - 5/8
  - 5/16
- Finalize forms and fact sheet



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# QUESTIONS?