

2558

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

January 25, 2011

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Introduced by Sen. SEWARD -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to the powers and duties of the commissioner and the department of environmental conservation relating to the pollution of fresh water supplies

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Paragraph d of subdivision 8 and paragraph b of subdivision  
2     9 of section 23-0305 of the environmental conservation law, as amended  
3     by chapter 846 of the laws of 1981, are amended to read as follows:  
4     d. Require the drilling, casing, operation, plugging and replugging of  
5     wells and reclamation of surrounding land in accordance with rules and  
6     regulations of the department in such manner as to prevent or remedy the  
7     following, including but not limited to: the escape of oil, gas, brine  
8     or water out of one stratum into another; the intrusion of water into  
9     oil or gas strata other than during enhanced recovery operations; the  
10    pollution of fresh water supplies by oil, gas, salt water or other  
11    contaminants; and blowouts, cavings, seepages and fires. THE RULES AND  
12    REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO PREVENT OR REMEDY THE  
13    POLLUTION OF FRESH WATER SUPPLIES BY OIL, GAS, SALT WATER OR OTHER  
14    CONTAMINANTS SHALL APPLY EQUALLY TO ALL WELLS IN THE STATE.  
15    b. Require the drilling, casing, operation and plugging of wells in  
16    accordance with rules and regulations of the department in such a manner  
17    as to prevent the loss or escape of oil or gas reserves to the surface  
18    or to other strata; the intrusion of brine or water into commercial oil  
19    or gas reserves; the pollution of fresh water supplies by oil, gas or  
20    salt water, and to facilitate the efficient use of ground and surface  
21    waters in solution mining. THE RULES AND REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE  
22    DEPARTMENT TO PREVENT OR REMEDY THE POLLUTION OF FRESH WATER SUPPLIES BY  
23    OIL, GAS, SALT WATER OR OTHER CONTAMINANTS SHALL APPLY EQUALLY TO ALL  
24    WELLS IN THE STATE.  
25    S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

LBD07759-01-1