

# PA Environment Digest

## An Update On Environmental Issues In PA

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Winner 2009 [PAEE Business Partner](#) Of The Year Award

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### **Rendell Signs Moratorium On More State Forest Land Drilling, After Leasing 137,000 Acres**



Gov. Rendell this week signed an executive order protecting Pennsylvania's state forests from any new natural gas development activities that would disturb the surface of these areas and jeopardize fragile ecosystems.

Under Gov. Rendell's tenure, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources leased over 137,000 acres of State Forest land for Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling. Almost all of the proceeds from the leases so far have gone to balancing the state budget, not to conservation or environmental programs.

*(Photo: DCNR, Marcellus Shale gas drilling site on State Forest land.)*