



PA Environment Digest

An Update On Environmental Issues In PA

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

Harrisburg, Pa

November 28, 2011

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Analysis: Should Taxpayers Spend \$75 M A Year To Subsidize Zack & Mira Make A Porno?

There is no doubt the public and therefore politicians are in a "no tax increase," "cut the size of government" mood these days. They want every dollar spent to go to a valid public purpose and to create some lasting public value.

So, many taxpayers are surprised when they learn \$75 million a year of their tax money has gone to support the production of movies like *Zack and Mira Make a Porno* ([\\$5.7 million](#) in 2008), has subsidized Danzel Washington in *Unstoppable* (\$20.8 million) and supports TV productions like the **QVC home shopping network** (\$3.7 million).

Since the [PA Film Production Tax Credit Program](#) was adopted in 2007 at the urging of Gov. Rendell, some \$242.5 million in taxpayer dollars have gone to subsidize productions like Russell Crowe in *The Next Three Days* (\$7.3 million), Sigourney Weaver and Twilight's Laylor Lautner in *Abduction* (\$8.9 million) and the **Restaurant Impossible** TV show on the Food Network (\$1.3 million).