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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **OVERWHELMING ATTENDANCE AT THE PENNSYLVANIA DEP REGULATORY TRAINING FOR OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY**

(Hermitage, PA)— Josh Noble, Sr. Environmental Scientist at Wallace and Pancher, Inc., attended Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Regulatory Training for the Oil and Gas Industry, in State College, Pennsylvania, January 11 and 12, 2010.

Over 600 eager participants in Pennsylvania's rapidly growing oil and gas industry assembled in State College, Pennsylvania to take part in the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (PADEP) Regulatory Training for the Oil and Gas Industry. The main goal of the presentation was to provide industry training and updates on permitting, policy, and regulations in Pennsylvania pertaining to the oil and gas operations.

The DEP provided regulatory training for the oil and gas well industry on the following topics:

- Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit
- Dam Safety Permit
- Chemical Analysis of Residual Waste
- Request for Approval of Alternative Waste Management Practices
- Protecting Streams and Wetlands
- Spill Reporting Requirements
- Water Management Plans
- Transportation Requirements
- Blasting Requirements

The development of oil and gas resources has increased significantly in Pennsylvania, particularly in regard to mining and extraction of natural gas from Marcellus Shale formations, which have exponentially higher yields of natural gas in comparison to other "conventional" natural gas sources, and the reason for this year's vast attendance at the conference.

The regulatory requirements for oil and gas exploration and mining established by the PADEP have been rapidly evolving in the last several years in response to the massive influx of well permits throughout the state.



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The DEP held this conference in order to present the most current revisions to state regulatory policy for the protection of water and natural resources in terms of oil and natural gas exploration, extraction, storage, and transmission.

Having attended a regional workshop in the summer of 2009 and submitted several natural gas permits, Mr. Noble was familiar with most of the issues that were discussed. However, DEP has revised many of the application forms and has added new requirements for applicants, including a requirement that parties which produce permit applications verify that they have recently attended DEP trainings. DEP has also revised their requirements for phased projects which will reduce paperwork and the will limit the number of permit submittals for successive phases of a project.

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