



30 January 2018

PADEP TGD ID: 310-800-0810-004  
Technical Guidance Coordinator,  
Policy Office, Department of Environmental Protection,  
400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101

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**STEVEN A. BUFFONE, CHMM, QEP, GIT**  
COMPLIANCE & REGULATORY AFFAIRS

RE: Comments on the PADEP Technical Guidance Document - Guidelines for Chain Pillar Development and Longwall Mining Adjacent to Unconventional Wells (800-0810-004)

Dear Sir or Madam:

CONSOL Energy Inc. (CONSOL) supports the finalization of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) Technical Guidance Document (TGD): Guidelines for Chain Pillar Development and Longwall Mining Adjacent to Unconventional Wells (800-0810-004). CONSOL fully supports the development and implementation of this TGD. We believe that this TGD will facilitate appropriate unconventional well inactivation and re-entry procedures in advance of, and subsequent to, longwall panel removal. This will allow for the continuous isolation of gas from workable coal seams, protecting mining personnel and preventing pollution of the waters of the Commonwealth. The final version of the TGD appears to address our major concerns.

CONSOL commends the PADEP for the years of effort it put into updating the Coal Pillar Study and PADEP's Technical Advisory Board (TAB) for developing this TGD to protect mining and unconventional gas workers safety as well as the environment.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Draft TGD. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [stevenbuffone@consolenergy.com](mailto:stevenbuffone@consolenergy.com).

My best regards,

Steven A. Buffone, CHMM, QEP, GIT  
Compliance & Regulatory Affairs  
CONSOL Energy Inc.