

# NATURAL GAS AND THE ENVIRONMENT: 8 FAST FACTS

1  
Carbon emissions are at their lowest levels in two decades thanks to increased natural gas development, says the Environmental Protection Agency.

2  
Increased natural gas usage is slowing global warming, potentially doubling the time it will take the world to reach twice its preindustrial carbon levels.

3  
Vehicles powered by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) produce 29 percent fewer greenhouse gas emissions than gasoline-powered vehicles per full fuel cycle.

4  
New horizontal drilling technology allows well operators to tap a much larger resource base from one location rather than dozens – a dramatic improvement in energy technology for the environment.

5  
State regulators require a water management plan for the development of any natural gas well, along with a number of environmental safeguards to protect drinking water.

6  
At least 14 different state and federal agencies and commissions regulate every stage of natural gas production in order to protect Pennsylvania's air, water, natural species and residents. And the independent State Review of Oil and Natural Gas Environmental Regulations (STRONGER) has deemed Pennsylvania's shale development regulatory program "well-managed and meeting program objectives."

7  
Impact fees paid by natural gas producers have been earmarked to protect streams, wetlands and other environmental features.

8  
Post-drilling restoration projects minimize the natural gas industry's footprint, using landscaping to return sites to pre-drilling condition while ensuring habitats are left fruitful for bird and animal nesting.