

ESTABLISHING THE "OIL AND GAS LEASE FUND"

Act of Dec. 15, 1955, P.L. 865, No. 256

Cl. 32

AN ACT

Requiring rents and royalties from oil and gas leases of Commonwealth land to be placed in a special fund to be used for conservation, recreation, dams, and flood control; authorizing the Secretary of Forests and Waters to determine the need for and location of such projects and to acquire the necessary land.

Compiler's Note: Section 304(c) of Act 18 of 1995, which created the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and renamed the Department of Environmental Resources as the Department of Environmental Protection, provided that the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources shall exercise the powers and duties conferred upon the Department of Forests and Waters and the Secretary of Forests and Waters by Act 256 of 1955.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. All rents and royalties from oil and gas leases of any land owned by the Commonwealth, except rents and royalties received from game and fish lands, shall be placed in a special fund to be known as the "Oil and Gas Lease Fund" which fund shall be exclusively used for conservation, recreation, dams, or flood control or to match any Federal grants which may be made for any of the aforementioned purposes.

Section 2. It shall be within the discretion of the Secretary of Forests and Waters to determine the need for and the location of any project authorized by this act. The Secretary of Forests and Waters shall have the power to acquire in the name of the Commonwealth by purchase, condemnation or otherwise such lands as may be needed.

Section 3. All the moneys from time to time paid into the "Oil and Gas Lease Fund" are specifically appropriated to the Department of Forests and Waters to carry out the purposes of this act.