

<u>Search</u>	Township of	<u>Index</u>
	Independence, PA	
Standard View	-	New Laws
	CHAPTER 279. OIL AND GAS EXTRACTION	§ 279-2. Extraction for commercial

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§ 279-1. Extraction permitted.

To the extent that oil and gas extraction is otherwise permitted by any and all other Independence Township ordinances and/or the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the same may take place subject to said ordinances, rules, regulations and/or requirements of the aforesaid.

	<u>[qU]</u>	[Next]
<u>Search</u>	[Contents]	<u>Index</u>
Terms of Service	<u>F.A.Q.</u>	<u>Privacy Policy</u>



Search

Township of Independence, PA

Index

Standard View

§ 279-1. Extraction permitted.

CHAPTER 279. OIL AND GAS EXTRACTION ... <u>inew Laws</u>

§ 279-3. Registration fee.

This electronic version is provided for informational purposes only. For the official version please contact the municipality.

§ 279-2. Extraction for commercial purposes; types of oil and gas.

Oil and gas extraction includes extraction of any oil or gas for sale or other commercial purpose which involves drilling or other means to remove such substance from the earth. The term "oil and gas" includes, but is not limited to, any crude oil, natural gas, methane gas and coal bed methane gas.

[Prev]	[<u>qU]</u>	[Next]
<u>Search</u>	[Contents]	<u>Index</u>
Terms of Service	<u>F.A.Q.</u>	<u>Privacy Policy</u>



Search

Township of Independence, PA

Index

Standard View

§ 279-2. Extraction for commercial ...

CHAPTER 279. OIL AND GAS EXTRACTION ...

New Laws § 279-4. Fee and location

requirements.

This electronic version is provided for informational purposes only. For the official version please contact the municipality.

§ 279-3. Registration fee.

Any person or entity desiring to engage in oil and gas extraction shall pay a registration fee to Independence Township for each facility in the amount of \$150.

[Prev]	<u>[UD]</u>	[Next]
<u>Search</u>	[Contents]	<u>Index</u>
Terms of Service	<u>F.A.Q.</u>	<u>Privacy Policy</u>



<u>Search</u>

Township of Independence, PA

Index

Standard View

§ 279-3. Registration fee.

CHAPTER 279. OIL AND GAS

New Laws § 279-5. Other ordinances to take ...

EXTRACTION ...

This electronic version is provided for informational purposes only. For the official version please contact the municipality.

§ 279-4. Fee and location requirements.

No oil or gas extraction device shall be installed, constructed or used until a registration fee has been paid for each of said facilities and a specific site location has been provided to the Township for each of the same.

[Prev]	[qU]	[Next]
<u>Search</u>	[Contents]	<u>Index</u>
Terms of Service	<u>F.A.Q.</u>	<u>Privacy Policy</u>



Search Township of Independence, PA

<u>Index</u>

Standard View

§ 279-4. Fee and location

CHAPTER 279. OIL AND GAS

New Laws

§ 279-6. Violations and penalties.

requirements. <u>EXTRACTION</u> ...

This electronic version is provided for informational purposes only. For the official version please contact the municipality.

§ 279-5. Other ordinances to take precedence.

A. Each person or entity constructing and/or operating an oil or gas extraction facility shall abide, and be subject to, any and all other ordinances of Independence Township that therein pertain. To the extent that any other ordinance of the Township prohibits an oil or gas extraction facility in the proposed area or on the proposed site, said other ordinance shall take precedence.

B. Any ordinance or resolution inconsistent with this chapter shall take precedence, and to the extent that the same contains stricter requirements or limitations, the same shall prevail.

 [Prev]
 [Up]
 [Next]

 Search
 [Contents]
 Index

 Terms of Service
 F.A.Q.
 Privacy Policy



Search Township of Independence, PA

<u>Index</u>

Standard View

§ 279-5. Other ordinances to take ...

CHAPTER 279. OIL AND GAS EXTRACTION ...

New Laws

§ 279-7. Enforcement.

This electronic version is provided for informational purposes only. For the official version please contact the municipality.

§ 279-6. Violations and penalties.

Any person or entity violating any provision of this chapter shall be subject to criminal prosecution for a summary offense, and therein, upon conviction, shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$500 plus court costs and any and all fees incurred by the Township in prosecuting the same.

[Prev]	[qU]	[Next]
<u>Search</u>	[Contents]	<u>Index</u>
Terms of Service	<u>F.A.Q.</u>	<u>Privacy Policy</u>



Search

Township of Independence, PA

Index

Standard View

§ 279-6. Violations and penalties.

CHAPTER 279. OIL AND GAS EXTRACTION ...

New Laws

This electronic version is provided for informational purposes only. For the official version please contact the municipality.

§ 279-7. Enforcement.

The Township Supervisors, Ordinance Enforcement Officer, and any other persons as may be designated by the Township Board of Supervisors is authorized to enforce this chapter.

 [Prev]
 [Up]

 Search
 [Contents]
 Index

 Terms of Service
 F.A.Q.
 Privacy Policy