



# **DEP Funding Decline**

## **Precipitous drops in Pennsylvania's support for environmental protection, inspection and enforcement, since 2000.**

**A Clean Water Action Report**

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## State support for core environmental protection halved

When adjusted for inflation, state support for environmental protection has dropped from \$340,000,000 in 2000-2001 to approximately \$160,000,000 today (see General Fund line item in following tables and charts, this represents what the state allocates to DEP). The 2010 – 2011 state budget is projecting to lower this even further to \$145,000,000. The story is much worse when you adjust for inflation. If the state spent as little on environmental protection in 2000 as it does today, the agency would only be receiving \$130,000,000. In other words, **the DEP budget is 2/5s today of what it was midway through the Ridge Administration.**

Much has been made of the tragic 26% cut in the 2009 budget debates, but **Clean Water Action urges lawmakers to consider the even more dramatic impacts on environmental protection over time.** DEP has been able to increase fees in certain divisions thanks to the growth of natural gas drilling, however this has neither been able to meet the inspection needs for the five fold increase in Marcellus Shale gas wells in the past two years, nor has it been able to meet the overall monetary needs of the DEP as a whole.

Worse, even when inspectors find egregious violations of the law, DEP is often forced to negotiate fines and enforcement actions with them because its legal staff does not have the capacity to fight expensive challenges by fossil fuel industry lawyers.

Meanwhile, other areas of environmental protection work recede. Publicly available records show that discretionary inspections of water facilities by DEP inspectors has **dropped by 60%** (from 3905 in '00 to 1542 in '09). Administrative file reviews have **dropped by 67%** (from 877 in '00 to 292 in '09). Administrative file reviews are internal DEP checks to make sure polluters are filing all the relevant reports filed under their permits.

## Consequences

Perhaps with more consistent checks on reports, the JBS Souderton plant in Montgomery County would not have discharged pollutants illegally into the Skippack Creek for seven years. Perhaps with a more robust enforcement staff, it could have been the Department of Environmental Protection and not the Federal Department of Justice that brought this suit. Perhaps with more frequent discretionary inspections, the Green Lane Marlborough Joint Authority's sewage treatment plant would not have been discharging raw sewage into the Perkiomen creek.

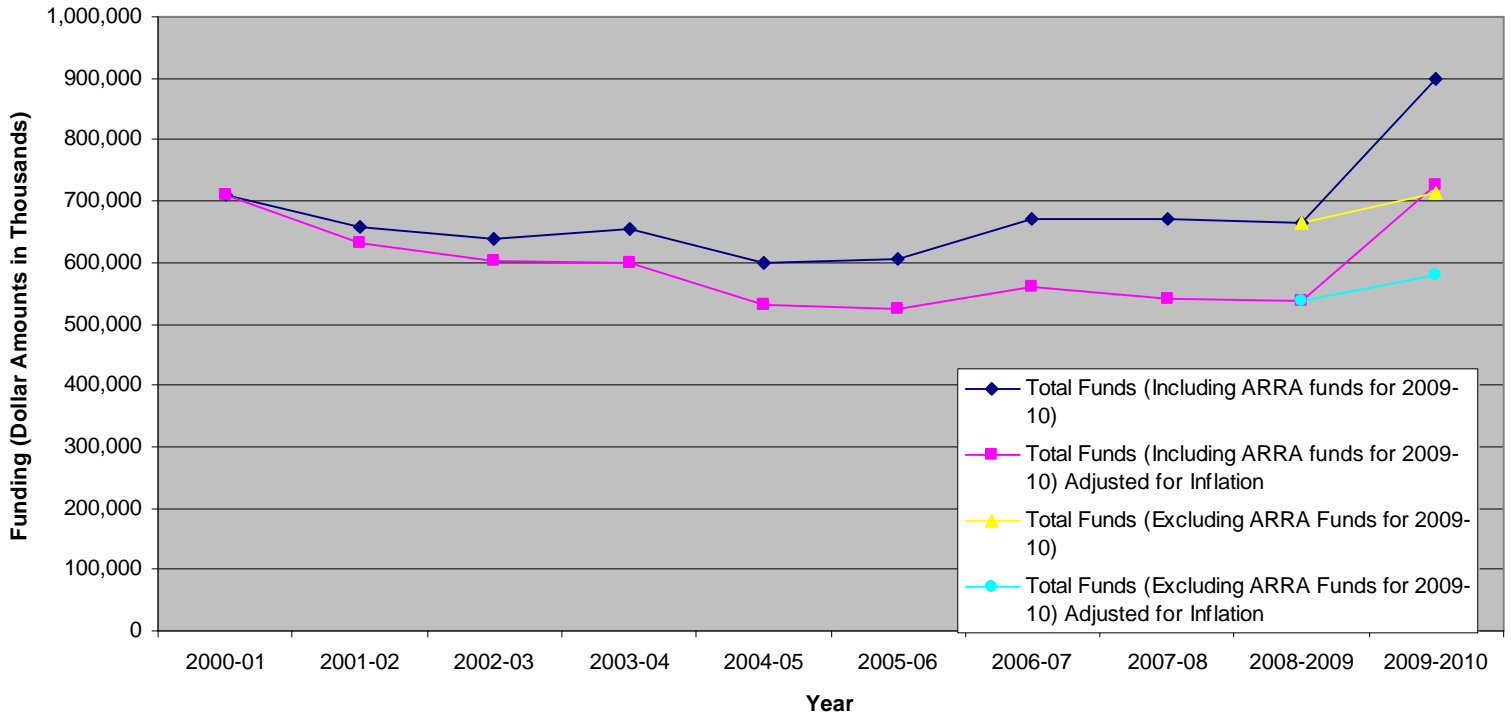
This week, two employees from Swamp Angel Energy were arraigned for illegally dumping natural gas drilling wastewater untreated in Pennsylvania. In a context where less than 1000 wells have already had over 400 toxic spills that they have reported, **it is logical to suspect both that there have been far more spills and far more illegal dumping.** It is quite possible that Swamp Angel Energy staff were operating under the assumption that they could simply get away with this kind of illegal disposal.

## No substitute for Pa. support

While Federal funds have supplemented our clean energy funds and fees have improved the permitting staff, **core environmental protections by the Department have withered away.** While the total 2009-2010 budget increased due to an infusion of federal stimulus funds, these dollars are both short term and could not be used for core environmental protection operations. As of this writing, it appears that there will be further cuts to what is already one of the state's smallest agencies. **In a context where the major new industry in our state is also known nationwide as a major polluter of air, water and land, this seems shortsighted to point of negligence.**

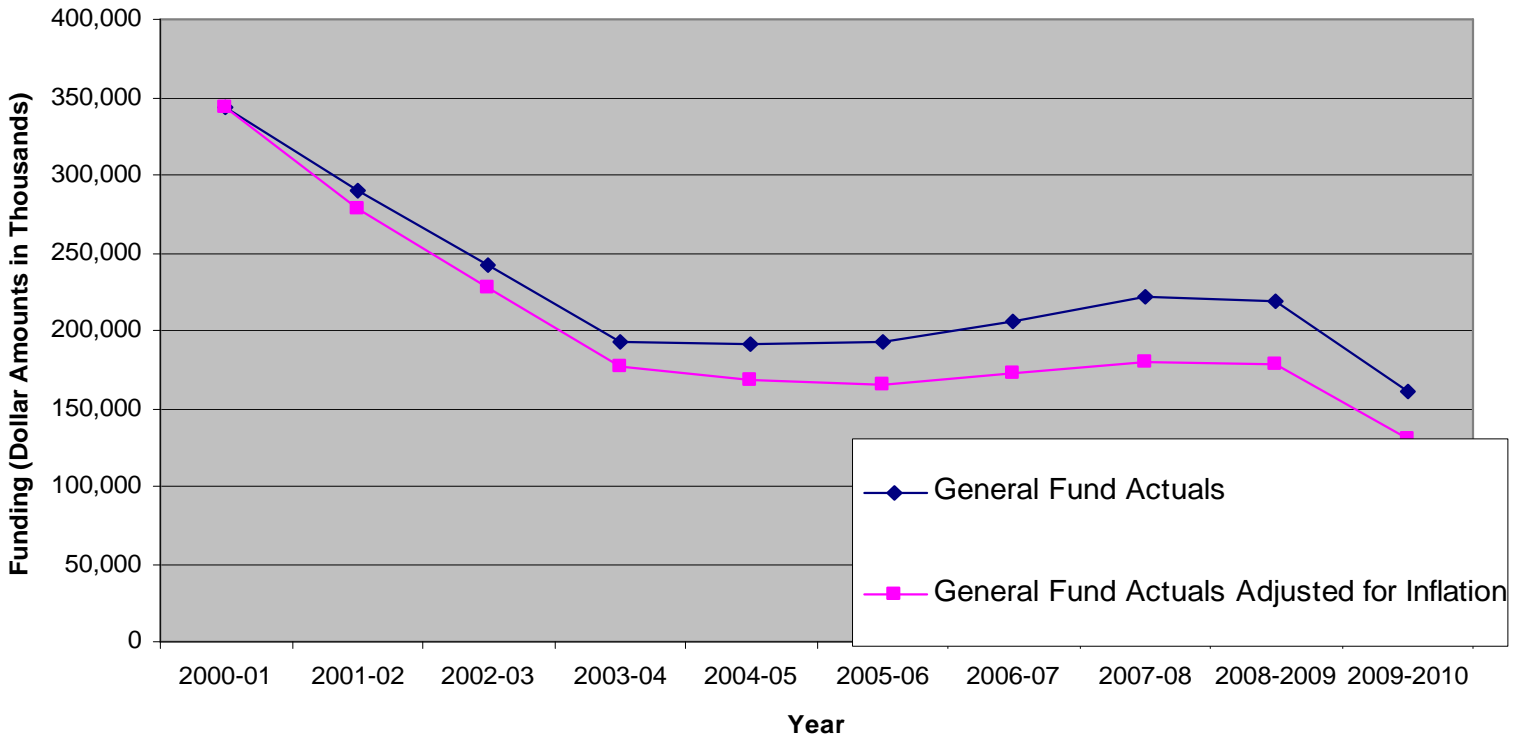
## DEP Total (All Program) Budget 2000-2010, Including & Discluding the 2009 Federal ARRA Stimulus Funds

\*numbers based on actuals for all years except 2010- (based on available funds)



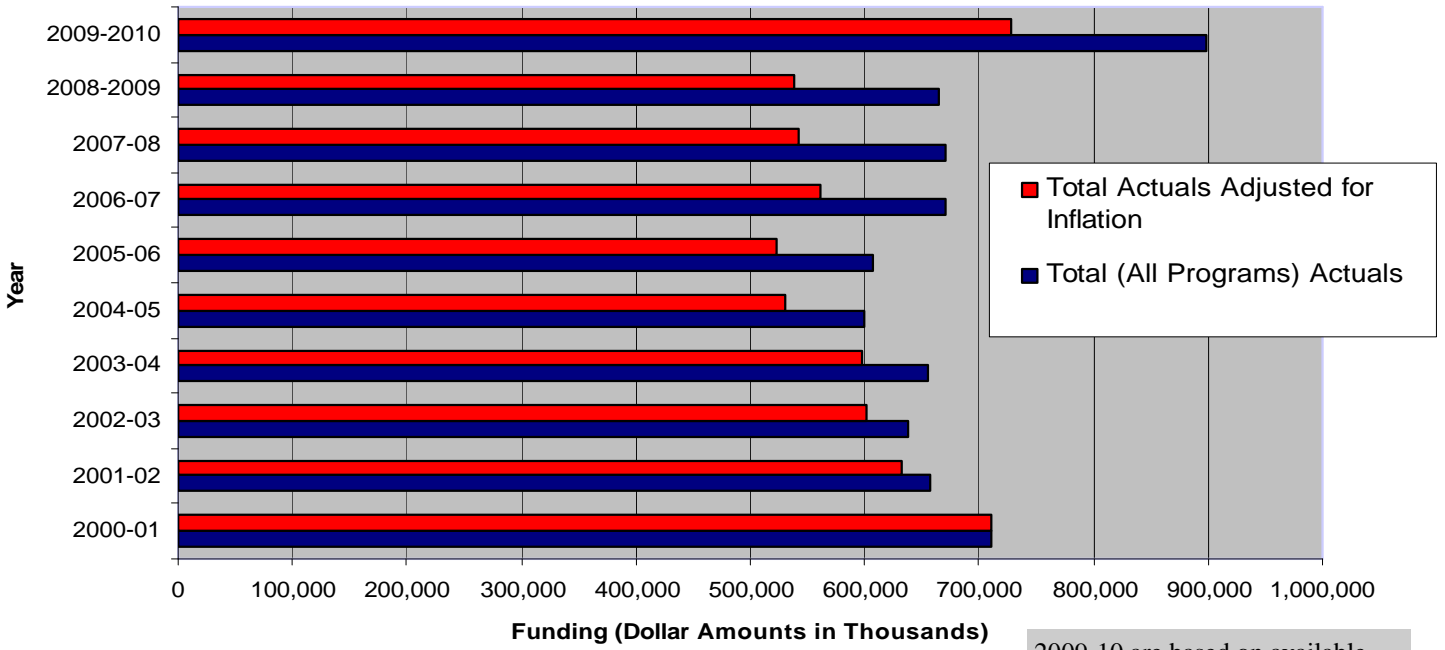
## DEP General Fund Budget 2000-2010

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### DEP Total (All Programs) Budget 2000-2010

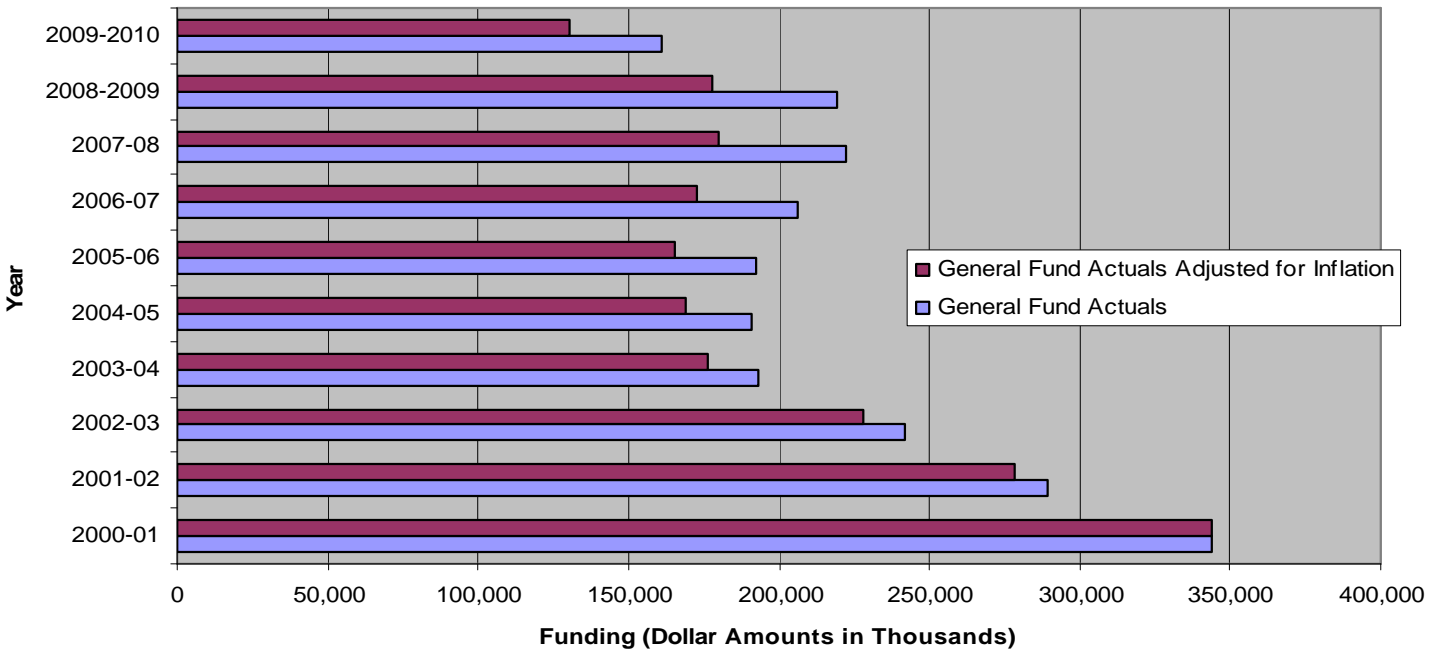
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2009-10 are based on available numbers. This year includes \$184M in stimulus funds.

### DEP General Fund Budget 2000-2010

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**PROGRAM FUNDING SUMMARY - Dept of Enviro Protection Budget**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>2000-01</u>	<u>2001-02</u>	<u>2001-02 Adjusted</u>	<u>2002-03</u>	<u>2002-03 Adjusted</u>
Environmental	General Fund	21,441	20,581	19,782	21,892	20,649
Support Ser-	Special Funds	0	0	0	0	0
vices	Federal Funds	350	94	90	227	214
	Other Funds	<u>15,934</u>	<u>16,039</u>	<u>15,416</u>	<u>16,411</u>	<u>15,479</u>
	ALL - total	37,725	36,714	35,288	38,530	36,342
Environmental	General Fund	322,270	268,828	258,389	219,943	207,454
Protection	Special Funds	54,110	38,402	36,911	37,695	35,555
& Mgmt	Federal Funds	77,788	91,143	87,604	109,235	103,032
	Other Funds	<u>218,301</u>	<u>221,715</u>	<u>213,106</u>	<u>232,592</u>	<u>219,385</u>
	ALL - total	672,469	620,088	596,009	599,465	565,426
All Programs	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>343,711</b>	<b>289,409</b>	<b>278,171</b>	<b>241,835</b>	<b>228,103</b>
	Special Funds	54,110	38,402	36,911	37,695	35,555
	Federal Funds	78,138	91,237	87,694	109,462	103,247
	Other Funds	<u>234,235</u>	<u>237,754</u>	<u>228,522</u>	<u>249,003</u>	<u>234,864</u>
	<b>ALL - total</b>	<b>710,194</b>	<b>656,802</b>	<b>631,298</b>	<b>637,995</b>	<b>601,769</b>

<u>Program</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>2003-04</u>	<u>2003-04 Adjusted</u>	<u>2004-05</u>	<u>2004-05 Adjusted</u>	<u>2005-06</u>
Environmental	General Fund	23,904	21,828	20,560	18,156	20,033
Support Ser-	Special Funds	0	0	0	0	0
vices	Federal Funds	1,886	1,722	413	365	413
	Other Funds	<u>17,291</u>	<u>15,789</u>	<u>7,973</u>	<u>7,041</u>	<u>8,698</u>
	ALL - total	43,081	39,340	28,946	25,562	29,144
Environmental	General Fund	169,430	154,716	170,545	150,605	172,066
Protection	Special Funds	44,055	40,229	38,022	33,576	51,161
& Mgmt	Federal Funds	145,231	132,619	140,347	123,938	148,073
	Other Funds	<u>252,958</u>	<u>230,991</u>	<u>222,502</u>	<u>196,487</u>	<u>206,555</u>
	ALL - total	611,674	558,555	571,416	504,606	577,855
All Programs	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>193,334</b>	<b>176,545</b>	<b>191,105</b>	<b>168,761</b>	<b>192,099</b>
	Special Funds	44,055	40,229	38,022	33,576	51,161
	Federal Funds	147,117	134,341	140,760	124,302	148,486
	Other Funds	<u>270,249</u>	<u>246,780</u>	<u>230,475</u>	<u>203,528</u>	<u>215,253</u>
	<b>ALL - total</b>	<b>654,755</b>	<b>597,895</b>	<b>600,362</b>	<b>530,168</b>	<b>606,999</b>

<u>Program</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>2005-06 Adjusted</u>	<u>2006-07</u>	<u>2006-07 Adjusted</u>	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2007-08 Adjusted</u>
Environmental	General Fund	17,259	20,139	16,878	20,891	16,868
Support Ser- vices	Special Funds	0	0	0	0	0
	Federal Funds	356	413	346	413	333
	Other Funds	<u>7,494</u>	<u>8,549</u>	<u>7,165</u>	<u>8,837</u>	<u>7,135</u>
	ALL - total	25,109	29,101	24,389	30,141	24,337
Environmental	General Fund	148,243	185,911	155,809	201,568	162,752
Protection	Special Funds	44,078	54,748	45,883	21,943	17,717
& Mgmt	Federal Funds	127,572	163,806	137,283	162,569	131,263
	Other Funds	<u>177,957</u>	<u>236,447</u>	<u>198,162</u>	<u>254,068</u>	<u>205,142</u>
	ALL - total	497,850	640,912	537,137	640,148	516,874
All Programs	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>165,503</b>	<b>206,050</b>	<b>172,687</b>	<b>222,459</b>	<b>179,620</b>
	Special Funds	44,078	54,748	45,883	21,943	17,717
	Federal Funds	127,928	164,219	137,629	162,982	131,596
	Other Funds	<u>185,451</u>	<u>244,996</u>	<u>205,327</u>	<u>262,905</u>	<u>212,277</u>
	<b>ALL - total</b>	<b>522,959</b>	<b>670,013</b>	<b>561,526</b>	<b>670,289</b>	<b>541,210</b>

<u>Program</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>2008-09</u>	<u>2008-09 Adjusted</u>	<u>2009-10*</u>	<u>2009-10 Adjusted</u>
Environmental	General Fund	19,452	15,768	16,153	13,094
Support Services	Special Funds	0	0	0	0
	Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
	Other Funds	<u>8,250</u>	<u>6,688</u>	<u>9,156</u>	<u>7,422</u>
	ALL - total	27,702	22,456	25,309	20,516
Environmental	General Fund	199,773	161,943	144,611	117,227
Protection	Special Funds	20,759	16,828	17,463	14,156
& Management	Federal Funds	173,207	140,408	384,719	311,867
	Other Funds	<u>242,433</u>	<u>196,525</u>	<u>325,761</u>	<u>264,073</u>
	ALL - total	636,172	515,704	872,554	707,323
All Programs	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>219,225</b>	<b>177,712</b>	<b>160,764</b>	<b>130,321</b>
	Special Funds	20,759	16,828	17,463	14,156
	Federal Funds	173,207	140,408	384,719	311,867
	Other Funds	<u>250,683</u>	<u>203,213</u>	<u>334,917</u>	<u>271,496</u>
	<b>ALL - total</b>	<b>663,874</b>	<b>538,160</b>	<b>897,863</b>	<b>727,840</b>

[Clean Water Action](http://www.cleanwater.org) is an organization of 1.2 million members working to empower people to take action to protect America's waters, build healthy communities and to make democracy work for all of us. For 36 years Clean Water Action has succeeded in winning some of the nation's most important environmental protections through grassroots organizing, expert policy research and political advocacy focused on holding elected officials accountable to the public.

<http://www.cleanwater.org/pa>

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