



# Elections for Shale

EQT and the fracking industry are starting to dominate the Pennsylvania political landscape, spending millions on electoral politics at both the state and federal level and making it more difficult for ordinary citizens to be heard.

The industry exploits loopholes which allow it to pay extremely low taxes, receives thousands of permits to drill on public lands, and is exempted from many basic environmental standards.

## EQT's Environmental Violations<sup>3</sup>

2009	1
2010	19
2011	19
2012	42
Total Violations	81

1 Sources: PA spending: <http://www.marcellusmoney.org/companies>; Nationwide state spending: <http://followthemoney.org>; Federal Spending: <http://fec-committee-contributions.theblaze.com/l/11912/Eqt-Corporation-Pac>

2 Source: Citizens for Tax Justice, [www.ctj.org](http://www.ctj.org)

3 Source: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Oil and Gas Compliance Reports, accessed on April 15, 2013 at: [www.depreportingservices.state.pa.us/ReportServer/Pages/ReportViewer.aspx?/Oil\\_Gas/OG\\_Compliance](http://www.depreportingservices.state.pa.us/ReportServer/Pages/ReportViewer.aspx?/Oil_Gas/OG_Compliance)

## EQT's Campaign Spending<sup>1</sup>

Pennsylvania State Campaign Spending (2000-2011)	<b>\$172,810</b>
Nationwide State Race Spending (2003-2012)	<b>\$475,679</b>
Federal Campaign Spending (2011-2012)	<b>\$113,353</b>

## EQT's Effective Tax Rate (In millions)<sup>2</sup>

	EQT Corp.	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	5 Year Total
Federal	US pretax profit (after subtracting state)	302.02	753.05	355.61	256.31	411.14	2,078.13
	Current federal tax	10.90	39.87	-25.38	-134.76	89.63	-19.75
	<b>Effective tax rate</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>	<b>-52.6%</b>	<b>21.8%</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>
State	US profit before state tax	301.71	759.13	355.22	253.60	410.52	2,080.18
	State tax	-0.31	6.08	-0.39	-2.71	-0.61	2.05
	<b>Effective state tax rate</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>

Our publicly-owned natural resources should be for common use, enjoyment and held in trust for future generations. Yet, to date, the state of Pennsylvania has leased 47% of state forest lands above shale to drillers and 80% of mineral rights in state parks are already in private hands.

**It's time to put an end to the fracking industry's exploitation of our elections and ultimate distortion of our democracy.** EQT's shareholders should push for a company policy against spending on elections.

Ultimately, Congress and the states must overturn the Supreme Court's decisions in *Citizens United* and related cases to allow for limits on special interest spending and to ensure that all citizens can be heard equally.