

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2017 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2510

BY DELEGATES ELDRIDGE AND HICKS

[Introduced February 16, 2017; Referred
to the Committee on Energy then the Judiciary.]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §36-3-8a, relating to permitting surface owners on whose properties natural
 3 gas producing wells are drilled and surface owners on whose property natural gas
 4 pipelines cross to purchase gas at market rates.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new
 2 section, designated §36-3-8a, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 3. FORM AND EFFECT OF DEEDS AND CONTRACTS.

§36-3-8a. Natural gas leases; wells; pipelines; who may purchase gas.

1 (a) A natural gas company who drills a natural gas-producing well shall permit the owner
 2 of the surface on whose property the well is drilled to purchase gas, at the market rate, from that
 3 well, in addition to any free gas to which he or she may be entitled.

4 (b) A natural gas company shall also permit the surface owners on whose properties a
 5 natural gas pipeline crosses to purchase gas, at the market rate, from that pipeline, in addition to
 6 any free gas to which they may be entitled.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to permit surface owners on whose properties natural gas- producing wells are drilled and surface owners on whose property natural gas pipelines cross to purchase gas at market rates.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.