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Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2010 3:51 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: PROPOSED RULEMAKING 25 PA Code CH. 95 [39 Pa.B. 6467]

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

To Whom It May Concern,

I am an extremely concerned citizen who owns property in Clinton County, seven miles north of Haneyville where a number of new gas wells are being drilled. Not only do I see new roads being cut through pristine forest lands, but a constant and never ending flow of tanker trucks hauling frac water and equipment to and from these wells. As I understand it, additional wells are scheduled to be drilled soon.

I and my neighbors are very concerned about the ecological damage these drillers are doing to our pristine area. Further, we are equally concerned about the probable damage to underground water on which we depend for drinking and general household use.

This proposed rulemaking is a good start to controlling drilling activity and holding these companies accountable for any damage they cause. However, once the damage is done, it is done. Why not regulate them to a much greater extent to begin with, attempting to control the following:

- ***Go much further to control release of TDS or any other pollutants. Require them to pay for sewage plant upgrades immediately rather than over time at \$0.25 per gallon. It will take years until these plants can upgrade and accommodate the amount of frac water they create. Most do not have the money to begin with and the taxpayers will have to pay for the bonds to provide for the upgrades.***
- ***Severely limit the number of wells in one area. Drilling the number of wells that they are drilling significantly dilutes the environmental quality of these pristine lands. Once damages, it may take decades or centuries for them to return to their former state, if ever.***
- ***Provide for severe penalties and protections for citizen residents or property owners whose water wells are contaminated. Craft legislation such that these companies are forced to pay all costs for repair, replacement or even purchase of properties whose value is diminished by damage to water wells.***
- ***If gas wells nearby diminish property value, require these drilling companies to provide compensation to current owners equal to or greater than the value lost to the property owner.***

The vast majority of us do not want these wells in our extended neighborhoods. They are noisy, dirty and pollute. It is not worth the token and temporary wealth that the area receives. Once the wells are depleted, we will be left with the cost of the repair of the damage they leave behind and an area now blighted with the left behind unsightly well equipment. These companies are only after the money and care little about the ecological damage they leave behind.

For the most part, we are powerless to do anything about it except imploring you to do the right thing. Craft legislation that protects us, our way of life and the environment we seek to protect.

Please respond to this email as to how you seek to protect us and our properties.

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