From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Attachments: Brady Russell [brussell@cleanwater.org] Friday, February 12, 2010 12:36 PM EP, RegComments Anne Misak; Myron Arnowitt Comments on 25 PA Code Ch. 95 - 39 Pa.B.6467 Ch95CommentsFeb122010.pdf



RE: Comments on 25 PA Code Ch. 95 - 39 Pa.B.6467

In the attached PDF document, there are 12 separate testimonies that were given in person at Clean Water Action's Public Hearing on Marcellus Wastewater and the proposed new rules on Feb. 4th in Wysox PA. We transcribed the 12 testimonies. A few of them were delivered in writing beforehand. Those are included first, but the transcriptions are included as well. One of them was delivered only in writing, though one of our staff did read it aloud.

The first pages are the list of speakers on a sign in sheet. Some of it is hard to make out, but we thought you'd want to see that. Unfortunately, we lost the testimony of Carolyn Knapp due to a technical problem that I won't be able to correct in time to get it to you.

I've included a link to the videos on YouTube. I have all these set as private because the video quality is not that good (problems with moving it from film to digital). You can hear them well and see them well enough to verify the testimony, however. I'm not sure all these links are working, though, so if you have trouble with any and want to see the videos, please let me know. I can make the video public and then there won't be a problem. Most of them work, but YouTube's secret key setting is a little tricky.

The testimony of Diane Ward seems to have been lost in video form, too, but she provided a written document. This is also included.

Six people provided written testimony which is also scanned. You should find 19 total individual comments in the attached.

The videographer for all the videos was Vera Scroggins, who also testified. The event was hosted by Clean Water Action of Pennsylvania at the Bradford County Conservation District Offices. It was publicized over email, by phone and in the local press.

Best, Brady Russell Eastern Pennsylvania Director Clean Water Action of Pennsylvania 215.545.0250

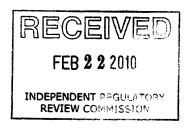
PROPOSED RULEMAKING

[25 PA. CODE CH. 95]

Wastewater Treatment Requirements

[39 Pa.B. 6467] [Saturday, November 7, 2009]

2806



DA Richard Fitzsimmons First.

Unauthorized Wastewater Regulations Hearing

Please complete if you are here to testify.

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Unauthorized Wastewater Regulations Hearing

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	13	3	DON HAVENS	RR#2-Box 3FI	JM8354@ front	297 Ex 2217	Haver Well Drilling
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	14	5	DAVID BUCK	BRI BOY 28 SOGAN BUN, DA	dbuck@PTDA	570-746- er 9140	Susquehanna GRECNWAY North BRANCH
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Unauthorized Wastewater Regulations Hearing

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Submitted testimony from Dr. Thomas Jiunta from Luzerne County 2-3-10

Natural Gas Drilling and Luzerne County

Across the country and now in Pennsylvania, there is a rush on for releasing the underground natural gas being held in our Marcellus shale deposit. The public has been informed that this natural gas is clean, plentiful and safe to extract. Actually, most people aren't aware of how this resource is released from the shale deposits underground. If they did, there would be many more opposed to having it done in their backyards, state forests, and near their clean drinking water supplies. Those who have leased their lands by signing away their rights allowing this fracking process are getting paid a handsome reward for their risk. The rest of us have to live with the consequences of their judgment and the promises of the oil and gas industry who say this activity is safe.

The process involves drilling a well 5-8,000 feet under the surface, going through natural clean water aguifers that supply our water. On average, the gas companies use a mixture of over 3-4 million gallons of water mixed with a salt solution more concentrated than ocean water along with very toxic additives and known carcinogenic compounds including hydrochloric and sulfuric acids, benzene, toluene, arsenic and various organic solvents. Without going into details, they say it is safe, but they have been exempt from the Safe Drinking Water Act and EPA monitoring and regulation of our dinking water under a loophole in a 2005 Energy Bill. There have been many known accidents around the country using this process whereby gas well casings have failed and the toxic solutions have migrated underground into private wells. There are known accounts of flammable faucet water and houses blowing up by hitting methane pockets that then seep into private wells. We are all aware of the accounts in Susquehanna where homeowners were without fresh water for over 9 months when their water was contaminated and the contamination was denied by the gas companies. These people have suffered the hazards of this activity, including the 24/7 noise pollution from sound of the well boring process taking at least 4-6 weeks per well on a platform that can include 12 wells. Once these gas companies get a foothold in an area the concentration of wells becomes astronomical and now DEP expects permits in PA to triple this year from next year. Even with the hiring of new DEP personnel, if you do the math for the amount of wells and the amount of DEP inspectors, there is no way they can monitor these activities and assure safety in and around the well site and the underground seepage of toxic chemicals. There can be over 1000 trucks transporting this water to and from each well, ruining roads, disrupting scenic quiet neighborhoods and importing crime from the outsourced workers that are brought in to work the rigs. There is still no good answer for treating or enough treatment plants for all of the waste water of which only about 20% comes back out the well, the remaining contaminated water stays underground forever.

In Luzerne County, where the EnCana gas company is seeking permits to drill wells in areas that are: less than % mile from a 150 home development, 1.7 miles from the Huntsville and Ceasetown reservoirs, which combined supply the water to over 79,000 people in the Wyoming Valley, and near the Lehman High School, and other suburban populated areas in the Back Mountain, we don't want the risk in our area. NY State had the sense to call a moratorium to halt this activity and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg has issued forceful statements urging the state to ban gas drilling in the city's upstate watershed. He has said,

"The consequences are so severe that it is not a risk that I think we should run for fear the NYC watershed would get contaminated."

Our own EPA head, Lisa Jackson and many more educated scientists and politicians have decided it is too risky at this time, and needs more study; so why do we in Luzerne county feel we can take this chance? The time is now to call your local politicians and DEP and ask them to pass state laws to guarantee no drilling is done within at least a 5-10 mile radius of Huntsville or Ceastown reservoirs or within a similar distance from any populated areas in the Back Mountain region. No amount of money can compensate for not having safe drinking water and we need our state legislators, to uphold their sworn duty to protect our right to clean air, pure water and the preservation of our environment as stated in our PA. Constitution. These natural resources are the common property of all the people, not just the landowners who signed on to make money. Join with me and the Luzerne County Citizens for Clean Water in protecting our watershed. If anyone is interested in joining the Luzerne County group email me at the address below.

Dr. Thomas Jiunta tjiunta@epix.net Testimony from a Resident of Dimock Mrs. Victoria Switzer Dimock, Pa. February 4, 2010

My name is Victoria Switzer and I live in Dimock. Some of you may know me as Yoko, a few may have seen the "map" lady on Clean Water's You Tube. At the Senate Majority Hearing for the Marcellus Shale in November of 2008, Secretary John Hangar called me "the voice they (they being the State Senators: White, Baker, Yaw) needed to hear from" after I had introduced myself to him as a concerned, alarmed, resident of Dimock, Northeastern Pennsylvania, a community that already had Marcellus wells drilled-he had not heard of Dimock, at that time. I am fairly certain that he has heard of us now! I know the Senators have.

It doesn't matter if you know me or remember me-what is important is that you do not forget Dimock. For the Dimock that once was-a rural community in the rolling hills of Susquehanna County is now a major "gas field". Depending on whose map you refer to we are the Red Zone, the Dead Zone or the pile of wells one on top of another in a 9 square mile area.

Many of us signed leases in 2006. We were uninformed and misinformed-to put it politely. A not so polite view-WE WERE FRACKED! We went from "there might be some gas out here-we're just looking" and "we're going to drill a well out here-one on 640 acres" which sounds like one well on a big area but really translates to 16 wells per square mile. We went from 1 to 27 wells in 2008 .Oh, and don't forget the "it'll be just a little pipe we call the "Christmas Tree" you'll never know we were here"! Currently we have 63 wells in 9 square miles with a plan-permitted by DEP for a more than doubling of "their efforts" in 2010. 73 more horizontals and another 10 verticals will dot our landscape-if only they were "dots". That is a total of 146 wells in hiking distance from my home. That is an average of 16 wells per square mile.

Spacing regulation or lack of it is just one of the many unfortunate details of "Marcellus Madness "in Dimock. We have been called an "anomaly" a 1 in 2 billion occurrence. Lately we have been described as victims of "odd geology". Some of our elected officials would like you to believe that nothing happened in Dimock. They are waiting for the Science to prove that the orange, blackish, foul foamy or bubbling water that spurts from our faucets existed B.C.(before Cabot). They put no faith in the violations cited or the consent order or agreement documented by THEIR own state agency-DEP. Yet they ask YOU to put your trust in that same agency. Would the science they are waiting for be the hydro geologist hired and paid for by the gas company?

Pipe line and access roads crisscross the once forested hills that surround our valley. Paths 50-75 feet wide cut across the ridges. Drilling sites perch on elevated slopes, constructed purposefully with drainage pipes that carry rain and everything else from the pad into the streams, wetlands and gullies that carry the waters of the Commonwealth.

Another detail? Compressor stations. We have one completed and in operation, another for a different gas company under construction and a plan for an additional 20 smaller compressor stations being installed. This is all in the 9 square mile area. The smaller compressor stations are the gas company's solution to the dwindling production of the 20 experimental or exploratory vertical wells that they were allowed to drill-and drill they did. "RIGS BEFORE REGS"! Fast and furious, nights, weekends and holidays-24/7. Dwindling production? Verticals do not produce the huge amount the horizontals do. Although, Cabot's own financial report on production from the Marcellus shale play boasted-90 million dollars from 9 square miles- more is better. Not bad for a fledgling business-one that can't handle a severance tax-or they'll take their rigs back to West Virginia or are they the experienced proven industry whose technology is perfectly safe since they have been doing it for decades? Which is it?

"Rigs before Regs". And that is why we are here today. What other industry is allowed to produce a product that creates millions of gallons of toxic waste without having a plan BEFORE they go into production? Who can do that? How can they be allowed to figure it out as they go? There is no room for error here. If we don't push the pause button we will be fast forwarded into a future with a horribly predictable outcome.

The gas company that occupies-yes it is an occupation- our community is permitted by the SRBC for a consumptive use of over 3.5 million gallons of water daily. That is a lot of fresh water. And although the numbers vary-depending on who you are listening tothe amounts of flow back or production water are staggering. It will only become more so as the drilling frenzy increases. This IS just the preview-the main attraction has not even begun.

I propose, as a citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who supports the State Constitution-I propose to the state, our Governor and other elected officials and the Department of ENVIRONMENTAL protection, that they hit that pause button until the regulations are in place before another well is permitted, drilled, or fracked. They have taken an oath to protect and preserve the Commonwealth –our resources-our most valuable resource-our water is at risk. They serve the constituents of the state-not the interests of the Texas based companies. I ask them "Who do you serve?"

Treatment facilities- proven safe and not just" safe enough" for the disposal or recycling of production water must be in place before continued drilling activities.Regs before rigs! A learn as you go mentality is not best practice-there will be no second chance no rewind of this nightmare or Marcellus Madness. We have to get it right.

And if I may, ask you here today to please say a prayer for Dimock-our fate has been sealed. All in the blink of an eye- a once rural community, lovely in the morning and peaceful in the evenings is now a major gas field and all that is ugly that comes with the industrialization of rural Pennsylvania on a scale never seen before. Thank you.

Chapter 95 Wastewater Treatment Standards Revision

Presented at Bradford County Conservation District 2/4/10 by Diane Ward RR #2 Box 68D Wysox PA 18854

My name is Diane Ward and I am the secretary/treasurer of Standing Stone Township. I am here to express my comments on the proposed wastewater treatment standards revisions.

I agree with implementing the proposed Chapter 95 revisions in order to protect the Commonwealth's water to a higher degree than existing regulations. Implementation of these standards on the proposed timing will go a long way toward reducing the impact of the planned Marcellus Shale drilling program on our water supplies.

I agree with the DEP's proposal to limit TDS, Sulfates and Chlorides. These proposed limits should not be weakened. I feel that the standards could be further strengthened by expressing the discharge standard as a daily maximum as opposed to a monthly average. Dilution of wastewater should not be permitted to be the means by which wastewater treatment plants attain these limits.

Additional strict limits for other contaminants that are prevalent in gas drilling wastewater should be implemented. Examples of these contaminants are arsenic, benzene, radium, bromides, and magnesium.

The DEP should not issue new drilling permits until the Chapter 95 Wastewater Treatment Standards revisions are in place. With the pace of new drilling rapidly escalating, we can soon find our state literally drowning in wastewater generated from existing and proposed wells during the period prior to the DEP's planned implementation.

Discharge of gas drilling wastewater to local streams with high seasonal flow variation should not be permitted. Stringent standards for the minimum flow of accepting streams should be set at high flow rates.

The economic benefit of the Marcellus Shale will not outweigh the negatives of insufficiently regulating the wastewater discharges from the gas drilling process.

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SOUTH BRANCH TUNKHANNOCK CREEK WATERSHED COALITION

P.O. Box 55 La Plume, PA 18440

February 4, 2010

Environmental Quality Board PO Box 8477 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

Re: PROPOSED RULEMAKING [25 PA. CODE CH. 95] Wastewater Treatment Requirements [39 Pa. B. 6467]

To whom it may concern:

We wish to submit the following comments on the proposed changes to Pennsylvania's Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) Standard.

First, we thank DEP for proposing to reduce the permitted level of Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) in wastewater discharges to 500 mg/l, and of sulfate and chloride to 250 mg/l each, and for adding barium and strontium limits to oil and gas wastewaters. These are good steps forward.

With respect to the proposed new TDS standard: While we understand that 500 mg/l TDS is not expected to negatively affect human health, there is a paucity of data to show how it will affect the survival, health and reproduction of our native aquatic organisms, from plants to invertebrates to brook trout. We request that DEP:

- gather further information, including field data, on key aquatic fauna and habitats that might be negatively affected by increased TDS loads in waterways;
- periodically review the permitted pollution levels to ensure that they do not threaten species or habitats of ecological or economic importance;
- implement a rigorous aquatic fauna and habitat monitoring program, with a commitment to revisiting permitted pollutant levels in case of documented negative effects; and
- continue to consult with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and with academic and conservation professionals on the needs of our aquatic species.

We also feel that all large dischargers, not merely wastewater sources newly created or expanded after April 1, 2009, should be covered by the new standard.

We are mindful of the importance of natural gas drilling to the economy of our region, our state and our country. However, we are convinced that gas exploration and drilling must occur under proper environmental regulation to protect the health, safety and well-being of our citizens and the natural beauty of our area.

Ellie Hyde, Chair Mary Felley, Secretary South Branch Tunkhannock Creek Watershed Coalition Hildega Mohr of Sayre, Pennsylvania Unauthorized Wastewater Hearing Comments on DEP's proposed Chapter 95 Wastewater Regulations February 4, 2010 Bradford County Conservation District Office Wysox, Pennsylvania

File Name:

HILDEGA

Transcriber

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http://tinyurl.com/yfj7bbp

HILDEGA: I'm Hildega Mohr and I live in Sayre, Pennsylvania and I have lived there over the last 40 years. And I'm here really for myself although when I was first interested in the water situation it was because I'm a member of the Geenway. And this goes back for 3 or 4 years when I first got in touch with Dave Buck and I said, this all looks fine, the drilling looks fine, however, what are they going to do with the water and nobody seem to have any idea what was going to happen with the water? As it turns out and this was just brought up in the last comments, the gas and oil companies are excluded from the Clean Water Act and that is actually named the Halliburton Loophole, which was created by our Vice President. Cheney was interested in keeping them up. I have actually written to Chris Carney a number of times and have said, what are we going to do about getting them back into the Clean Water Act, and he has said, ah! This is not such a big deal. That's basically the bottom line of his response.

We have enough rules and regulations on the book, so that we don't have to go over here, that's one way. I really would like to ask and I think this would be from you I think your name was Pat, how can we actually mount a court case because its obvious that that is where we have to go at this point. New York State as we've heard has a moratorium, they have 800 and some pages that they have to go through, and we don't know whether they are going to actually allow drilling again or not. But we have nothing in Pennsylvania so would you please explain?

That's actually all I wanted to say.

[00:02:23]

[Audio Ends]

Jay Sweeney, Green Party of Pennsylvania RR2 Box 143B Dalton, PA Unauthorized Wastewater Hearing Comments on DEP's proposed Chapter 95 Wastewater Regulations February 4, 2010 Bradford County Conservation District Office Wysox, Pennsylvania

File Name: Transcriber

JAY SWEENEY

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http://tinyuri.com/yj244j8

Jay Sweeney: My name is Jay Sweeney. I'm from the Green Party of Pennsylvania and Citizens for Clean Water, and I was recently elected to the Executive Board of the Sierra Club, Northeastern Group. And my statement is as follows. DEP has issued thousands of drilling permits before they even thought about treating wastewater that hydrofracking generates. DEP has ignored its responsibilities and Secretary John Hanger sped up the permitting process at the request of the oil and gas industry instead of seeing that safeguards were in place to protect the environment.

Hanger, Governor Ed Rendell and the General Assembly have ignored the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania they swore to uphold. The Constitution states in Article 1, Section 27—"The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the natural scenic, historic, and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public and natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people."

Hydrofracturing is incompatible with this section of the Constitution and must be banned. There must be a moratorium on the permit process and no drilling should be allowed on state-owned lands without the permission of the owners of these lands, the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. If these policies are not implemented, Pennsylvania will be turning to an uninhabitable industrial wasteland. There's no compromise. Water is essential to life; natural gas is not. Protecting our water resources is our number one priority. Thank you. Pat Carullo, Damascus Citizens for Sustainability Unauthorized Wastewater Hearing Comments on DEP's proposed Chapter 95 Wastewater Regulations February 4, 2010 Bradford County Conservation District Office Wysox, Pennsylvania

File Name:

PAT CARULLO

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Well, my name is Pat, Pat Carullo, and I'm a co-founder of DamascusCitizens.org. You all here in the State of Pennsylvania have a very unique and special constitutional right of all of which has been clearly infringed upon by the testimony here of several people thus far. These comments are intended for the PA-DEP and first, let me say that here in these comments you will be put on notice officially and publicly regarding your actions with the regard to wastewater of this intrinsically contaminating process of hydraulic fracture. Please note that your partnership with the private industry; the PA-DEP has announced a partnership with private industry, I didn't even know this was possible, but the PA-DEP and private industry have formed a formal partnership. The purpose of the partnership is "to dispose of drilling wastewater". So, that partnership will be challenged in the Pennsylvania courts, number one. Number two, any attempt by the PA-DEP to lower the TDS standards will be challenged in the PA courts.

And additionally, if there is not adequate testing put in place at the time of the issuance of these regulations, if there is not adequate testing in place for the 300 or more secret fracking chemicals and their removal from the wastewater stream, you will be challenged in a Pennsylvania court of law. If there is no testing implemented for the several and sundry byproducts of the intrinsically contaminating process of connecting 2 miles of geological structure; that is to say, what comes up out of the ground, God put that stuff 2 miles down for a good purpose, that's where it should remain, but the gas and oil industry will be bringing that back up. If there aren't tests in place with these new regulations, to test for radon radiation, heavy metals, barium, and the list goes on and on and on, you will be challenged in a Pennsylvania court of law upon issuance of these regulations.

And finally, let me really speak to you the core of this issue. You all in this room have a constitutional right under the PA constitution Article 1, Section 27; that constitutional right says you have the right to clean air, pure water, and an aesthetic and pleasing environment." One just needs to open their eyes and look at the landscape. Here in town, there's a Chesapeake billboard that says, oh, there are flowers and Chesapeake is just going to make everything beautiful. And if you drive 100 feet more, there are 47 tractor trailer trucks filled with secret toxic chemicals; you all have constitutional right. If in any way they perform, the PA-DEP lowers the TDS limits, if the PA-DEP does not institute stringent testing for what comes up out of the ground, if the PA-DEP continues their formal partnership with industry; and if the PA-DEP allows private citizens to be injured, there will be a constitutional challenge in the Supreme Court of the State and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

You are hereby put on notice that if you issue regulations which fly in face of Article1 Section 27 of the PA Constitution, you will be, PA-DEP and Secretary Hanger, you will be brought to court by a number of organizations with regard to this issue. Therefore, I urge you strongly to raise the TDS limits, to stop all issuance of permits, to begin testing for the cumulative impact of this process, and to begin--because you have not to date-begin to address the constitutional rights of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; thus far, you have totally ignored those rights. You are now being put officially and publicly on notice with regard to any issuance of permits. Thank you. Richard Fitzsimmons Unauthorized Wastewater Hearing Comments on DEP's proposed Chapter 95 Wastewater Regulations February 4, 2010 Bradford County Conservation District Office Wysox, Pennsylvania

File Name:

RICHARD FITZIMMONS

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I'm talking about two types of water. I'm talking about the "frac'ed" water and I'm also talking about the water that remains in the ground after the processing in the well. My concerns center around drinking water and recreational water. I'm unalterably opposed to having the Susquehanna River or any tributaries of the Susquehanna River being further degraded by the dumping of water in those streams. I'm also very concerned about drinking water, so much so that myself and a dear colleague have been monitoring this for quite some time. And last November, a question was asked of Dr. Terry Engelder. I think some of you may folks know him. He's the professor at Penn State University who has been talking a lot about Marcellus Shale. Specifically, the question that was asked--and I'm quoting here--whether there is 100% unfractured and impermeable layer of bed rock between the Marcellus Shale formation and the surface, and also at what pressure the water, the sand, the chemicals, the cocktail--the toxic cocktail that's going to be injected--what kind of pressure that's going to be injected on. The response from Dr. Engelder was very enlightening, has been shared but it doesn't seem to have gotten a lot of press to date and Dr. Engelder whom is highly respected by the industry, by scientists, and certainly by myself. Dr. Engelder wrote back--and again I'm quoting--that there is no, and he emphasized that, there is no such thing as a 100% unfractured impermeable rock. Very important to keep that in mind.

About 35% of that fracked water, I understand, is returned to the surface, processed to some degree, and that is what's going to wind up in the streams in the river. The 60% or so of the water remains in the ground forever. And that water will go to wherever that water wishes to go. And if anyone tells you that there is an impenetrable impermeable layer of bed rock that is absolutely positively untrue. Keep that in mind, as far as the pressure is concerned that we're talking about injecting these millions of gallons of water. You know, you hear from 3 to 6 million gallons of water per well per frac'ing, and wells can be fracked multiple times, but the pressure is anywhere from 6000 to 10,000 pounds per square inch. Okay? That is roughly 3 tons to 6 tons of pressure per square inch. The size of this postage stamp is what we are talking about with pressure. No impenetrable layer, no unfractured layer, it will go wherever it wants to go. Please believe that. Okay?

Also, you hear a lot of talk about well water commercial, you know, water systems. We're talking about rural Pennsylvania. Okay? I have seven wells, all private. I'm impacted, okay, by the underground water supply. That's not going to a treatment plant anywhere, okay, a water system anywhere. And most of my wells indeed are recharged either by creeks of by the Susquehanna River. Two of my wells, just a week ago, were under high waters of the Susquehanna River.

That's it. Thank you.

Trudy Gerlach of New Era, Pennsylvania Rural Route 2, Box 228 Wyalusing, Pennsylvania Unauthorized Wastewater Hearing Comments on DEP's proposed Chapter 95 Wastewater Regulations February 4, 2010 Bradford County Conservation District Office

File Name:	TRUDY GERLACH
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Wysox, Pennsylvania

My name is Trudy Gerlach. I'm from Wyalusing or actually New Era. I'm a private citizen and I'm not a public speaker, so this is difficult for me. I've already sent in comments on Chapter 95 Regulations to DEP. In fact, I've sent two e-mails on them, so I won't go through the things which I addressed the things in the regulations to some extent and I won't say anything about that at this point.

I just want to say that I'm really concerned about what the gas drilling could potentially do to our water here and I would like to see that the gas drilling not damage our water--both water for drinking and water in streams, rivers, ponds, water that's used by all sorts of wildlife and aquatic life. I want to see--I wish that the pristine area that we have here could stay as it has been. I doubt that that will happen but I'd like to see the DEP be able to do anything it can to have the regulations in place to make sure that we maintain some kind of pristine area here. I'd like to see the regulation strengthened. I'd like to see the Total Dissolved Solids Regulations stay as it is, and I'd really like to see that there could be a moratorium on the permits until the regulations are actually in place. I think that's all I have to say.

Thank you.

Vera Scroggins of Kingsley, Pennsylvania Unauthorized Wastewater Hearing Comments on DEP's proposed Chapter 95 Wastewater Regulations February 4, 2010 Bradford County Conservation District Office Wysox, Pennsylvania

File Name: Transcriber Vera Scroggins I - Source http://tinyurl.com/ydkoo43 00:03:33

Video Source Length of file: My name is Vera Scroggins and I'm from Brooklyn, Pennsylvania which is next to Dimock. And I'm a member of the Citizens for Clean Water which is a group that I started with a whole group of us. And we're concerned primarily, not only about the water, but also the land, the air, and our health. So, at this point we feel that we've been impacted, as Vicky says, tremendously in a way that is absolutely unacceptable in this United States. Something I would have never imagined to go to this extent, but it has. So, I would like to support what Clean Water Action is recommending and I would like to see that the DEP does not weaken any of the Discharge Standards but in fact makes it stronger.

I would love to see that the water that comes out of the waste water plants is drinkable, that it is clean. So that you can drink it before you put it back into the river. And I consider the river sacred. This is our water. It is sacred; it is holy. And I agree with the native people that this is something special and it should be taken care of. And for them to even consider having waste water facilities all along the river and other waterways and allow any kind of pollutant in there is unconscionable. So, I would like to see at least the standards maintained and strengthened. We need to protect our water.

And also, as Clean Water states, we'd like to include all of the other--we'd like to have Discharge Standards for all the other contaminants that are being found in the water and in the soil, so that we don't have any more toxicity and threats to our health and to our land, and to the animals. I mean, the animals are also there, the ecosystem is being threatened. So, I'd like to see a fuel that does not threaten at all the environment.

We should put all the millions and billions of dollars into research and technology that would ensure that there's no pollution at all. I don't see how any of it is acceptable. And we need to track whatever is happening with the waste water. We need a plan for waste waters before the permits are even issued. So, I'd like to see a moratorium on the permitting process; no more permits until there is a system to deal with this waste water, a good clean process for it. And if there isn't, then that's it, no more permits. We are not to be sacrificed for this country's need for energy. So, I am not accepting that. Right now Dimock is being sacrificed for this country's energy and they're being used as some kind of experiment, but that is totally unacceptable.

I guess I'm done. Thank you.

Victoria Sweitzer PO Box 113 Dimock, PA Unauthorized Hearing on Ch. 95 Proposed Regulations on Wastewater Bradford County Conservation District February 4, 2010 Wysox, PA

File Name: Transcriber

VICTORIA SWEITZER

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Video Source

Length of file:

http://tinyurl.com/ya8jv4g 00:06:57

My name is Victoria Sweitzer and I live in Dimock. Some of you may know me as Yoko. You may have seen me as the map lady on Clean Water in YouTube. I'm the lady holding the map. Thank you, again. Okay. At the senate majority hearings in Marcellus Shale in November of 2008, Secretary John Hanger called me the voice they-they being the state senators: White, Baker, and Yaw--needed to hear from after I had introduced myself to him as a concerned, alarmed resident of Dimock, Northeastern Pennsylvania, a community that already have Marcellus wells drilled. He had not heard of them at that time. I am fairly certain that he has heard of them now, and I know the senators have. It doesn't matter if you know me or remember me. What is important is that you do not forget Dimock, for the Dimock that once was a rural community in the rolling hills of Susquehanna County is now a major gas field. Depending on whose map you refer to, we are the red zone, the dead zone, or the pile of wells one on top of another in that Google Map in 9 square miles. Many of us signed leases in 2006. We were uninformed and misinformed, to put it politely. A not so polite view, we were frac'ed. We went from there might be some gas out here, we're just looking and we're going to drill a well out here, one on 640 acres which sounds like one well in a big area but it translates to 16 wells per square mile. We went from 1 to 27 wells in 2008. "Oh, and don't forget that it will just be a little pipe coming out of the ground we call a Christmas Tree. You'll never know we were here."

Currently, we have 63 wells in 9 square miles with the plan permitted by DEP for more than doubling of their efforts--being the gas company--in 2010. That's 73 more horizontals and another 10 vertical wells will dot our landscape. If only they were dots. That is a total of 146 wells in hiking distance from my home. That is an average of 16 wells per square mile. Spacing regulation or lack of it is just one of the many unfortunate details of Marcellus Madness in Dimock. We'd been called an anomaly, a 1 in 2 billion occurrence. Lately, we've been described as victims of odd geology. Some of our elected officials would you like you to believe that nothing happened in Dimock. They're waiting for science to prove that the orange, blackish, foul, foamy or bubbling water that spurts from our faucets existed BC, before cabinet. They've put no faith in the violations cited or the consent order or agreement documented by their own state agency--DEP. Yet they ask you to put your trust in that same agency. Would the science they are waiting for be the hydrogeologist hired and paid for by the gas company? Pipeline and access roads crisscrossed the once forested hills that surround our valley has 50, 75 feet wide cut across our ridges. Drilling sites perched on elevated slopes constructed purposefully with drainage pipes that carry the rain and everything else form the path into the streams, wetlands, and gulleys that carry the waters to the commonwealth.

Another detail, compressor stations. We have one completed and in operation, another for a different gas company under construction, and a plan for an additional 20 smaller compressor stations being installed. That's all in 9 square miles. The smaller compressor stations are the gas company's solution to the dwindling production of the 20 experimental or exploratory vertical wells that they were allowed to drill, and drill they did. Rigs before regs. Fast and furious, nice weekends and holidays, 24/7, dwindling production. Vertical wells do not produce the huge amounts that horizontals do. And although [indiscernible] [0:04:27] financial report of production in the Marcellus Shale posts \$90 million from 9 square miles, more is better.

Not bad for a fledgling business, one that can't handle severance tax or they'll take their rigs back to West Virginia. Or are they the experienced-proven industry whose technology is perfectly safe since they've been doing it for decades? Which isn't. Rigs before regs, and that is why we are here today. What other industry is allowed to produce a product that creates millions of gallons of toxic waste without having a plan before they go into production? Who can do that? How can they be allowed to figure it out as they go? There is no room for error here. If we don't push the "Pause" button, we will fast forwarded into a future with a horribly predictable outcome. The gas company occupies-yes, it is an occupation--our communities permitted by the SRBC for consumptive use of over 3.5 million gallons of water daily. That's a lot of fresh water. And although the numbers vary depending on who you are listening to, the amounts of flowback for production water are staggering. It will only become more so as the drilling frenzy increases because this is just the preview, the main event isn't even here yet.

I propose as a citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, who supports the State Constitution, I propose to the state--our governor and other elective officials and the Department of Environmental Protection--that they hit the "Pause" button until the regulations are in place before another well is permitted drilled of frac'ed. They have taken an oath to protect and preserve the Commonwealth. Our resources, our most valuable resource, our water is at risk. They serve the constituents of the State, not the interests of the Texas-based companies. I ask them who do they serve? Trigger facilities proven safe and not just safe enough for disposal and recycling of production water must be in place before continued drilling activities, regs before rigs. A learning on the go mentality is not best practice. There will be no second chance, no rewind of this nightmare or Marcellus Madness. We have to get it right. And if I may, just give me second, ask you here today to please say a prayer for Dimock. Our faith has been sealed. On the blink of an eye, a once rural community, lovely in the morning and peaceful in the evening, is now a major gas field and all this ugly that comes with the industrialization of rural Pennsylvania on a scale you have never seen before. Thank you. William Fisher of Brackney, Pennsylvania Silver Lake Association 20159 State Road 167 Brackney, PA 18812 Unauthorized Wastewater Hearing Comments on DEP's proposed Chapter 95 Wastewater Regulations February 4, 2010 Bradford County Conservation District Office Wysox, Pennsylvania

File Name:

WILLIAM FISHER

Transcriber

I – Source http://tinyurl.com/yb7bkhm

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00:04:56

Length of file:

My name is William Fisher. I live in Brackney, Pennsylvania. I represent the Silver Lake Association and over a billion gallons of pure clean drinking water, with nine species of fish in it. I'm also a professional investigator who in the past has investigated toxic spills in a number of areas in New York State.

We fully support the amendments proposed to Chapter 93 and 95 and then the further restrictions by DEP to limit discharges. However, our concern is that without enforcement, legislation is impotent. And by tightening the restrictions for discharges without providing disposal alternatives while still issuing drilling permits, the state is setting up rural counties for illegal dumping. This has a history; Smith Corona, IBM, and a number of industries that can be named. Governor Rendell, Representative Sandra Major, and Senator Yaw have sold us out. It is, "United States for big business, by big business, and of big business." I'm proposing that the state put a moratorium on any further drilling permits. However, I realize that three northern counties of Pennsylvania and the three southern counties of New York sit atop one of the largest reservoirs of natural gas in the free world, and however it comes about. It will be extracted. However, that extraction does not necessarily require pollution.

So, realistically, if a moratorium were put on any further drilling, there will be financial impetus for drilling companies to institute new technologies which would make the extraction considerably cleaner. And if the State of Pennsylvania were to option off the drilling permits, it would--by the free market system--show the true value of those drilling holes that would provide necessary money for increase monitoring and perhaps the implementation of some social programs sorely needed in Pennsylvania. Further, it would restrict the number of companies that would bid on these and the bidding could be restricted to only those companies which can demonstrate a history of compliance with laws already in place, and provide for disposal before the drilling permit is issued. I think we have to be realistic that the gas, somehow or other will not be restricted, but I agree with everything that was hereto foresaid especially Article 1 Section 27. We have a right, and we need to group together and fund a lawsuit in Federal Court to enforce this provision of our constitution.

Thank you.

Dan Hill, Cayuga Nation Unauthorized Wastewater Hearing Comments on DEP's proposed Chapter 95 Wastewater Regulations February 4, 2010 Bradford County Conservation District Office Wysox, Pennsylvania

File Name:

DAN HILL

Transcriber

I-Source

VIDEO SOURCE

http://tinyurl.com/ydxdmpf

DAN HILL: - I'm also on the National Tribal Operations Committee, 10 regions of EPA and region 2's representative for the nations. And all of the nations have requested EPA Administrator, Lisa Jackson, to try to get this exemption to the Clean Water Act and all of other acts and resented and she said she would try to push for that and she has been working that way. So we've been working its not just us that has been effective, it runs from Montana to Utah to Texas, this is the last place in the streets whether this is meant to offend people and go to Alaska where they are fighting over control of the northern reaches of the continent and they are not consulting in you, they are not letting people know what's going on.

We have responsibilities to our ancestries because all of the people that were here that were displaced came through us and then likewise. So we feel and we've given that responsibility to stand up for our ancestors not let them re-disturb, let them be dug up and just [Indiscernible] [00:01:45] are sold in the market because I've seen people selling stones, that's not right. We're just as human as everybody else and we need protection just like the grade acts the 7.30 acts all those things need to be in place and they are. But for the hydrofracking the confederacy has asked and demanding for their state to have it banned on any hydrofracking until the chemicals are cleaned up, the radium, the radioactivity of the equipment when back half down was been filmed in Somalia. They came out a couple of years later, but during that time, all of the weapons M16s and stuff were radioactive, where did that come from. Until all that radioactive material is disposed or they kept track of there is no – nothing for that, there is no regulation on dumping it in the water, you can't clean up the chemicals are going through these water treatments. And so you changed the chemistry of the knowledge, you can't throw into the streams because who will eat from the bottom and then who will eat from the top.

And so you're just going to let all the waters mix and you put 3 to 6,000 pounds per square inch down below all the old abandoned wells that are there will take the water up to the upper levels and it will mix. Its not just [Indiscernible] [00:03:34] it's going to go up and every wish way that there is a crack, it will go. So we've called for a ban that until those things are done maybe the chemicals, maybe the disposal of the radioactive materials those things need to be done so that we are not committing suicide because that's what we do. We're killing our future generations by the chemicals that can cause tumors, the bioscience in there will kill any bacteria, any life formed that's in the waters [Indiscernible] [00:04:18] and so our as a confederacy this concern we want to ban until all those things were done because that's what everybody needs to say. You can't let it go.

[00:04:36]

[Audio Ends]

David Buck of Sugar Run, Pennsylvania Rural Route 1, Box 28 Sugar Run, Pennsylvania Susquehanna Greenway – North Branch Unauthorized Wastewater Hearing Comments on DEP's proposed Chapter 95 Wastewater Regulations February 4, 2010 Bradford County Conservation District Office Wysox, Pennsylvania

File Name:

SUSQUEHANNA

Transcriber

http://tinyurl.com/yh3eu6z

Video Source

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I-Source

Length of file:

My name is David Buck. I live in Sugar Run, Pennsylvania which is just down river from here. I actually live right on the Susquehanna River. I'm representing the Susquehanna Greenway - North Branch, and I also have a private business center that I have a business that I run on the Susquehanna River. Just a couple real quick comments because the folks that were here from the Southern Tunkhannock Creek Watershed Association said exactly what I was going to say and when they left they took my Talk with them, so I can't repeat what they have to say, but I agree with everything they said. I'm working in a county here with Watershed Associations with the Wyalusing Creek Watershed Association, and I feel though that our waters are in danger with the proposals that are coming on. So, I do support what the organization [transcribers note: Clean Water Action] is doing.

I think that the--I've seen--I've been to a number of sessions and summits that were on the well drillers' sides, and I've also seen from the scientific sides, and I think there's enough danger in the near future that we must let the Susquehanna River be our guide. Thank you. Ellie Hyde of Dalton, Pennsylvania RR Box 424 Dalton, PA Unauthorized Wastewater Hearing Comments on DEP's proposed Chapter 95 Wastewater Regulations February 4, 2010 Bradford County Conservation District Office Wysox, Pennsylvania

File Name:

ELLIE HYDE

Transcriber I-Source

QA/QC Comments

Length of Interview:

Speakers not clear in many places. 00:02:36

Source Video

http://tinyurl.com/yf2j4pn

ELLIE HYDE: This is Ellie Hyde. I'm Chair of South Branch Tunkhannock Creek Watershed Coalition, and what I have to submit is – well I live in Dalton, Pennsylvania like one account. This is a testimony on behalf of the Tunkhannock Creek Watershed Coalition. First, we thank DEP for proposing to reduce permitted level of total dissolve solids and waste water discharges to 500 milligrams per liter and of sulfate and chloride to 250 milligrams per liter each. And for adding barium and strontium – well that strontium limits to oil and gas wastewaters, these are good steps forward. With respect to the proposed no TDS standard, while we understand that 500 milligrams per liter TDS is not expected to negatively affect human health. There is a positive data to show how it will affect the survival health and reproduction of our native aquatic organisms from plants to [Indiscernible] [00:01:12].

We request the DEP gather further information including field data on key aquatic fauna and habitats that might be negatively affected by increased TDS loads in the water waste. Periodically reviewed permitted pollution levels to ensure that they do not threaten species or habitats of ecological or an economic importance, implement a rigorous aquatic fauna and habitat mono green program with the commitment to revisiting permitted pollutant levels in case of documented negative effects. And finally to continue to consult with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and with academic and conservations professionals on the needs of our aquatic species. We also feel that all large dischargers not merely wastewater sources nearly created or expanded after April 1st, 2009 should be covered by the new standard.

We're mindful of the importance of natural gas drilling to the economy of our region are stake in our country, however, we are convinced that gas exploration and drilling must occur under proper environmental regulation to protect the health safety and well-being of our citizens in the natural beauty of our area.

[00:02:36]

[Audio Ends]

Dr. Gere Reisinger Seneca Nation Sacred Site Advisory Committee 25 Third Ave Kingston, PA Unauthorized Wastewater Hearing Comments on DEP's proposed Chapter 95 Wastewater Regulations

February 4, 2010 Bradford County Conservation District Office Wysox, Pennsylvania

I-Source

File Name:

GERE RIZINGER

Transcriber

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Source

http://tinyurl.com/ybn722b

GERE RIZINGER: My name is Dr. Gere Rizinger. I'm the Chairman of the [Indiscernible] [00:00:06]. I'm also on the Advisory Committee for the Sacred Site Committee for Seneca Nation. And for the last 25 years, I've worked with Congressman Kanjorski, Senator Ray Musto and just about every politician in Wyoming Valley to bring back the river in Wyoming Valley and working closely with Chief Paul Waterman from Onondaga Nation in the mid 90s and with Congressman Kanjorski and Senator Musto we're able to get an American heritage designation for the Susquehanna River and through that designation we were able to bring in about \$300 million of recreational and water cleanup for the Susquehanna River and bring it to a state of respect and dignity afterwards a sewage pit for many, many, many years.

And the day that we dedicated that river front in June I found out my neighbor next to my farm I have 100 artesian springs on my farm, it's the Seneca village, it was a medicine village and I restored the springs and I grow a lot of my herbs and medicines there in the artesian spring water. And I was appalled to think that my neighbor was now going to start drilling next to this beautiful aquifer and he has threatened my whole life and my family. And it was through that experience that I met cleaning water action and I just want to recommend them highly for the work that they do and I think with a group like that and people that are affiliated we can win this. But I think its important to state to DEP that a lot of these areas where they want to do waste treatment for the frack water and also where they want to do water withdrawal, there were all secret sites there, there are village sites and burial sites especially in Tunkhannock where they want to build the large Wal-Mart, but they also want to do a frack treatment plant.

And what they are failing to realize is that this area never stopped being [Indiscernible] [00:02:31] territories, spiritually this is our land, its still here, the water is very sacred to us, we have members from the Cayuga Nation that are here today I asked them to call them and speak and there are also people coming from the Onondaga Nation, they will be here a little bit later to emphasize to our state government that this is very sacred land to the [Indiscernible] [00:03:00], the water is very sacred, the river is sacred and its just a big base very sacred, its all interconnect and inter relates and drilling endemic will affect water to just a big bay. And this is one reason why we had the Susquehanna River elevated to the heritage designation so that we can protect these sacred sites and village sites and also burial sites through this whole process. And this is one thing that is not being addressed I know I gave a presentation in Tunkhannock where they want to do waste treatment plant and where there is an ancient burial site and this is an issue that needs to be addressed on the federal level.

I think what we need to do is elevate this whole argument and moreso a [Indiscernible] [00:03:45] argument to the federal level and because I don't think the states are honest enough to do it really and I think we need to bring the argument to a federal level and encourage the [Indiscernible] [00:04:00] Nation to become involved in federal argument with the governments of these states to protect our ancient sites and water and to bring respect to our beautiful area here, especially in those manners. I just can't imagine drilling and fracking coming into these sacred sites, I mean its just – its [Indiscernible] [00:04:30] especially all the work that we've done for the last 25, 30 years for being the

river back to where its at. And I think we really need to stay united and I'm really glad members of the [Indiscernible] [00:04:44] Nation are here today because we need their help. And so each one encourages everyone to stay in the course and we're going to win.

[00:04:58]

[Audio Ends]

Environmental Quality Board P.O. Box 8477 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

Dear Environmental Quality Board:

As a Pennsylvania resident, I would like to make the following comments on the new proposed wastewater rules (Chapter 95):

We need safe drinking water! DEP's proposal of 500 mg/L for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and 250 mg/L each for Sulfates and Chlorides will go a long way towards ensuring that our drinking water supplies will not have unsafe levels of TDS and these other contaminants. **DEP** should not weaken their proposed discharge standard for TDS.

We need these regulations to be in place as soon as possible to protect our rivers and drinking water. DEP should stop giving out more drilling permits until wastewater rules are in place. DEP should also stop allowing existing or proposed wastewater plants to pollute our rivers unless they follow these new rules.

DEP should add discharge standards for those contaminants that are frequently found in Marcellus Shale gas drilling wastewater. These would include bromides, arsenic, benzene, radium, magnesium, and possibly others. Many of these contaminants are toxic to humans and very difficult for drinking water systems to remove.

DEP needs to ensure that all aspects of the generation of Marcellus wastewater are regulated. Currently there are no requirements to track wastewater from drilling sites to treatment plants, and there is no oversight over the reuse of Marcellus wastewater.

Sincerely, itanding Zip State

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Name

SUGAR RUN

Street

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Sincerely,	·		•
Richard Santan	zelo		• •
Name			
RR1 BOX 2257	MONROFTON	ρρ.	18832
Street	City	State	Zip