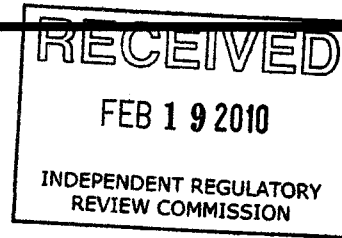


**From:** Anne Brennan [redshaleab@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 07, 2010 4:33 PM  
**To:** EP, RegComments



Sirs:

I am very concerned about the threat to our wells and streams posed by the gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale. I own property in Susquehanna Co., and I rely on well water for drinking water and other household uses. I do not believe sufficient precautions are being taken in the drilling and casing of these wells. Furthermore, I worry about the containment ponds of toxic water leaching into the aquifer.

I also have concerns about careless use and storage of fluids used in the fracking and petrochemicals needed for running and maintaining the drilling equipment. My property is located in Dimock, where there have been spills of toxic chemicals, which twice caused fish kills in a small stream.

I am concerned about the tanker trucks transporting the waste water to treatment facilities. These heavy trucks and other equipment are causing severe damage to the local roads, creating hazardous conditions. The possibility always exists that these trucks will overturn, spilling toxic waste water on the ground, and the chance of an accident happening is greatly increased by the poor condition of the roads.

I question the ability of the treatment facilities to adequately treat the waste water from the fracking. This water contains carcinogens and heavy metals. The water treatment facilities were generally designed to handle bio waste, not these sorts of chemicals. The gas companies are not even forced to reveal what is on the fracking water. The state allows them to hide by calling the chemicals "proprietary". Other states are more aggressive in protecting their citizens. Our State seems more interested in protecting the gas companies.

Finally, I am worried about the excessive demands for water required for the fracking operations. Can this demand be met, while ensuring sufficient water for the residents of the region? What if there is a drought? Who will be responsible, if our wells go dry? How will the State monitor the quality of the water emerging from the treatment plants? How will the State monitor the quality of the residents' well water? While I have read that more DEP inspectors will be hired to inspect the wells, I do not think they will be able to adequately monitor the wells, because there are so many, they are over a large area, and they are often located in remote, difficult to reach locations, making the inspectors' jobs almost impossible.

I do not think the state has been adequately reimbursed by the gas companies. IO support a Severance Tax, and think the State should be much more for their leases of the state lands. They also should get more for their royalty payments. The Philadelphia Inquirer has run articles contrasting the value of gas leases and royalties provided to states such as Texas, with the much more paltry sums offered to our State. Why are we giving our resources away? Why are we imposing the burden of subsidizing the gas industry on our citizens, forcing them to pay for maintenance of local roads damaged by the drillers, having them pay to treat the waste water, putting their wells at risk, polluting our river and streams?

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