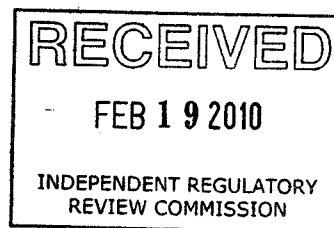


George Yeckel  
65 Orale Blvd.  
Pittsburgh,, PA 15228

2806



Dear Pennsylvania Environmental Quality Board,

As the Department of Environmental Protection considers new wastewater regulations, I urge you to include the following points:

- \* Set health-based standards for contaminants including arsenic, benzene, radium and magnesium that may be found in wastewater gas drilling.
- \* Approve and implement these standards as soon as possible in order to protect public health and our environment.
- \* Stop all new gas drilling operations until these new health-based standards are set and require all sewage treatment plants to follow these proposed standards immediately.
- \* Require drilling companies to track and report all of their pollution from drilling sites to treatment plants, and establish regulations to oversee the reuse of gas drilling wastewater.

The public has a right to know about pollution being released into our environment or shipped into our communities.

I call upon you to demonstrate by your actions that the Environmental Protection Agency is indeed acting to protect the environment and the public welfare, rather than pockets of the companies that would run rough shod over the public good. I know you have to balance the needs of the public for a healthy environment against the needs of the public for fuel and energy, but in doing that balancing please give at least equal weight to the public health issue. Too often the companies doing the damage are considered more important than the public, but I'm asking you to see that that does not happen in this case.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,