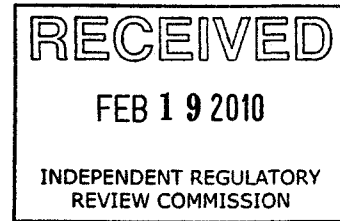


Mary Paxton-Boeni
756 Potter Drive
Kennett Square, PA 19348

2806



Dear Pennsylvania Environmental Quality Board,

Thousands of households, just like mine, in our state rely on wells for their drinking water. Even homes in 'less rural areas' such as my Chester County have a vast percentage of homes and families who rely on the DEP to protect our health. 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 as well as standards for additives that may be found in existing gasoline tanks and storage facilities.

* 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.

Furthermore, as a teacher, I think it is of critical importance that we educate our residents about the dangers to which their wells are exposed and their rights as citizens. The average person's ability to comprehend some of what seems like chemical 'mumbo-jumbo' is limited at times; this is especially true for some of our senior citizens.

I urge you to protect me, my family, our water and all of the rights of the citizens in this state.

Sincerely,