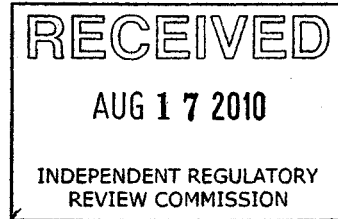


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RECEIVED

AUG - 9 2010

August 2, 1010

Environmental Quality Board  
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection  
P.O. Box 8477  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

RE: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Environmental Quality Board (EQB) proposed amendment to the regulations on Oil and Gas Casing and Cementing. Chapter 78

Dear Members of the Environmental Quality Board:

I Agree with the recommendations by the EQB to update the existing requirements regarding the drilling, casing, cementing, testing, monitoring and plugging of oil and gas wells, and the protection of water supplies.

Additional Comments:

Water must be protected. It is essential for human existence. The Marcellus Shale coalition issued an alert on July 9, 2010 that stated a percentage of well contamination is due to E.coli in the existing wells. They also stated that there is not, and has never been, any well water contamination from fracturing. They say it never happened. Continuing, the article further stated that if fracturing contamination did occur, the first noticeable product would have been salt water. I disagree with this. The first noticeable effect would be gas in the water. Gas can move more easily through the Earth's crust than water. My questions then are, "What happened in Dimock, PA?" What about all the testimony found in the movies "Gaslands" and "Split/Estates?" I guess the industry wants us to believe that all those people are lying? Other questions have also arisen. "What happened in Dunkard Creek, Greene County, Pennsylvania?" Where did all the salt come from?" "What about all the old abandoned gas wells that dot Washington and Greene Counties (PA)?" These wells may reach a depth of over 3,600 feet, and thus provide easy conduits for Marcellus fracking fluids to reach the surface. This cuts the buffer between ground water and fracking fluids by 1/2. If the "flow back water" reaches one of these old wells, there is definite danger that frac fluid will enter ground water / drinking water supplies.

The idea of updating the requirements on well casings is a step in the right direction, but more factors must also be addressed. Thank you.

Sincerely,

