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Cooper, Kathy

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From:

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Sent:

Wednesday, August 04, 2010 12:40 PM

To: Subject:

EP, RegComments tougher standards for oil and gas drilling

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

Please, please, please strengthen the regulations for oil and gas drilling in Pennsylvania. In particular

- Prevent the stray gas migration that contaminates local waterwells.
- Use at least the Texas standard for cementing (an additional 72-hour compressive strength standard of at least 1,200 psi across critical zones of cement).
- Ensure better cementing by documenting the chemical composition of the mixture.
- Require the operator to test the mixing water pH and temperature and note it on the cement ticket.
- Expand the cement ticket to include a record of the Waiting on Cement [WOC] time.
- Clarify what constitutes an adequately restored or replacement water supply for homeowners.
- Set a timeframe for acting upon a complaint filed by a landowner.
- Revise §78.51(c) to read: Within 24 hours of the receipt of the investigation request, the Department will send a technical team to the field site to examine the situation and determine whether immediate action is needed to shut down operations.
- Require all wells to be drilled with a Blow-Out Preventer once the surface casing is installed and cemented.

Keep Pennsylvania beautiful. Protect our air and water. Don't give them away to gas and oil drillers.

Thank you.

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