

3042

Cooper, Kathy

From: RegComments@pa.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 07, 2014 10:08 PM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; apankake@pasen.gov; IRRRC;
 RegComments@pa.gov; eregop@pahousegop.com;
 environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net
Cc: ra-epmsdevelopment@pa.gov
Subject: Proposed Rulemaking - Environmental Protection Performance Standards at Oil and Gas Well Sites



Re: Proposed Rulemaking - Environmental Protection Performance Standards at Oil and Gas Well Sites

The Environmental Quality Board (EQB) has received the following comments regarding the above-referenced proposed rulemaking.

2014 JAN -8 AM 9:28

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IRRC

Commentor Information:

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Comments entered:

First off the public comment process for this is too short. It should be extended to give people time to review the rules for themselves and scheduling the comment window over the holidays undermines people's ability to do so. The window should be extended to at least 120 days and more hearings should be scheduled throughout the state, especially in areas impacted by fracking the most. I live in chester county, where there is no fracking and there is a hearing here. The top 6 counties with the most gas drilling violations are Bradford, Susquehanna, Lycoming, Tioga, Potter, and Washington. Of the six hearings, only two are in the counties with the highest violations - the people who are being impacted need to have their voices heard!

Now to the proposed changes.

-There should be more transparency surrounding pre-drilling water testing. The public should be able to access the pre-drill water testing data (perhaps online to protect privacy) and and the DEP's parameters for testing.

-Flowback should be stored in more secure, close-loop systems to prevent groundwater and air contamination.

-Waste pits should not be buried. This is asking for trouble - over time these pits can leak and pollute groundwater.

-I support the provision in section 78.52(a). It is very important to identify the location of existing wells and to plug and seal abandoned/orphaned wells. This makes drillers responsible for footing the costs of sealing old wells, not the state.

Overall, these companies need to be forced to act responsibly - that is the DEP's job!

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Hayley Book

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