

Hoffman, Stephen F.

From: RegComments@pa.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 1:56 PM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; apankake@pasen.gov; IRRC; 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.

Commentor Information:

Karen Barton
 Conservation Voters of PA (astrique@aol.com)
 714 Old Lancaster Road
 Bryn Mawr, PA 19010-3109 US

RECEIVED
 IRRC
 2014 JAN -9 PM 2:34

Comments entered:

Thanks for taking public comments on the state's oil and gas regulations, known as Chapter 78 of the Pennsylvania Code. I want to make sure that the new regulations protect the air, water, and health of everyone in PA.

Here are my recommendations:

The DEP should require drilling company operators to restore contaminated drinking water to a quality that meets Safe Drinking Water Act standards, no matter what the quality of the water prior to drilling.

Drilling company operators should be prohibited from using open pits for storage waste. Many spills, leaks, and other problems involving open pits have occurred statewide that contaminate water, soil and air.

When it comes to waste disposal, drilling company operators should follow the federal regulation of hazardous substances that other industries have to follow.

Drillers must identify existing wells before site and well construction and drilling (not just fracking), so that the location of a new well can be changed if needed. Drillers should then be responsible to plug and seal or otherwise appropriately address abandoned and orphaned wells according to state safety standards prior to well site construction.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Hayley Book

Hayley Book
Director, Office of Policy
PA Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 2063
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063
Office: 717-783-8727
Fax: 717-783-8926
RegComments@pa.gov