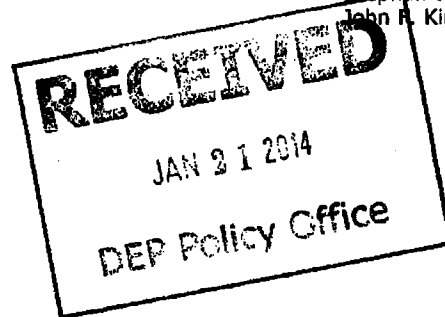


**NICKLAS KING McCONAHY**  
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January 20, 2014

Environmental Quality Board  
P.O. Box 8477  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

Dear Board Members:

This letter is regarding the revisions to PADEP's oil and gas rules that will be finalized. I'm writing as the owner of a property that had a vertical Marcellus Well drilled in 2010.

Our experience has been positive and we are thankful for the royalty income that we have received. Our property was impacted for almost one year once the site preparation began and was ultimately finalized with the re-grading of the drilling pad. We experienced an oil and gas company, BLX, which appeared to comply with all regulations and took into consideration not only our needs, but the needs of the surrounding property owners. They responded in a positive way to all complaints that they received including the construction of a sound deadening building to limit the sound that was bothering an adjoining property owner.


There is no question that the industry must be regulated, but a complete overhaul of the regulations appears to be unnecessary. Some of the more onerous regulations will affect property owners and affect the number of wells drilled and the number of people employed by the industry without improving the overall safety of the property owners. I was pleased to see how many people were employed with the drilling of one vertical well and it included excavators, line layers, drillers, security people, engineers, truck drivers, and tank contractors. The material needed to drill the well created numerous offsite jobs.

It is important that the board members take into consideration the costs and benefits of the proposed regulations which will certainly add additional costs to the well drillers and the industry, but may not provide additional safety to the community. Protecting our land, water, and resources is a necessity, but exaggerated requirements that go further than necessary, supporting a limited agenda, can only hurt land owners.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

NICKLAS KING McCONAHY

  
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Pa. Certified General  
Real Estate Appraiser GA-000099-L

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