



DEP Hearings January 27, 2014

Dear members of this hearing,

I am David A Buck 7417 Route 187 Sugar Run PA 18846.

I live and my occupation is on the Susquehanna River. I own a canoe kayak livery business and we are in our 15th year of business. The Susquehanna River is a National Recreational Water Trail and is a National Historic Water Trail as a Connector to the Capt. John Smith Historic Water Trail. *HAS NATURAL RECOGNITION BUT NOT SCENIC DESIGNATION*

The water quality of the River is also the quality the life of the Chesapeake Bay.

On January 23, 2014 our water quit flowing into our house from our well. Our water lines had frozen, but it was a short time without water that it makes one realize how important our water really is. The contamination of a river in West Virginia is a large wakeup call when thousands of people lose their water to a chemical spill. How long after an event like that does it take before one can allow their children to drink and bathe in once contaminated water?

A methane leak from a gas well being drilled almost two-miles from my home contaminated the water wells of nearby residents and my neighbors. I have two residential wells that were contaminated that Chesapeake Energy had to install expensive water treatment systems on. I want to sell both these properties and having had water problems reduces the value and number of possible buyers. The methane problem seems to be going away; the methane bubbles in the river have diminished. But the threat lingers. A neighbor, Ed Bidlack, who owns a business, Ed's Heating is not as fortunate. His well water is polluted so bad he does not have any water that is safe to use. He has water bottles brought in his residence. He spoke to me about this problem. I am sure those of you sitting on this panel are aware of this. Here is a home and business with no water. How does that diminish the value of his investment property? Who makes up the difference in money? There are others that have buyouts because of improper drilling activities that had totally polluted their water supply. If chemicals are in the aquifers of our drinking water, it is only a matter of time before it is in the Susquehanna River.

DEP was proud to release a short documentary last week about the research they are doing on the lower Susquehanna, to maybe find out what is causing the smallmouth bass to be scared with sores and black marks. If you have not seen this here is the link.

<http://youtu.be/oYYS7Ok0eag>

You should be ashamed to even show this. It is the biggest piece of crap I have seen about the Susquehanna River. If it is anti-bacterial soaps and personal hygiene cleansers that are polluting the river, then ban them from use in the watershed. Little mention of sewage released in the River every day. Now, on top of that, drilling chemicals are being left in underground areas all throughout northern Pennsylvania. It will surface someday and may go undetected in our drinking water and in the River until is detected by sickness or death.

Our forefathers who burned and destroyed the Indian villages along our beautiful Susquehanna River, did, when the dust settled, guarantee the residents of this state clean air and clean water. YOU, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection are Not doing your job. Whether you are under staffed, re-regulated, or somewhere along the line bought out, the citizens can only throw their hands up in the air. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.....DO YOUR JOB. When the big gas corporations have drilled and gone away, who pays the Pennsylvania citizens for their loss of clean water?

With that being said, do not weaken proposed regulations and our standards of living by pressures from the gas and oil industry.

*200' IS NOT ENOUGH DISTANCE
FROM IMPORTANT LANDS OR STRUCTURES*