

3042

Cooper, Kathy

From: EP, RegComments <ra-epregcomments@pa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 08, 2014 9:53 AM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; apankake@pasen.gov; IRRRC; EP, RegComments; eregop@pahousegop.com; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net
Cc: EP, MS Development
Subject: Proposed Rulemaking 7-484 - Slabe Form Comment

Good morning,

Below is an email we received from Ron Slabe on 3/13/14 regarding Proposed Rulemaking 7-484 Environmental Performance Standards at Oil and Gas Well Sites. I followed up with him for addresses of all of the signatories and he never responded.

Jessica Shirley | Executive Policy Specialist
 Department of Environmental Protection | Policy Office
 Rachel Carson State Office Building
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2014 APR -8 AM 10:06

RECEIVED
IRRRC

From: Ron [<mailto:rslabe6041@msn.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2014 11:07 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: New Regs & Banning the Frack Pit

March 13, 2014

Dear Environmental Quality Board:

On Tuesday, March 11, 2014, a group of concerned citizens brought petitions and letters to Harrisburg and presented them to you as part of the PA DEP. Those petitions and letters, gathered with the help of such groups as Clean Water Action, PennEnvironment, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, the Sierra Club, and Upper Burrell Citizens Against Marcellus Pollution, had over 17,000 signatures demanding an end to open impoundments or what is commonly known as frack pits. We who delivered those messages and the signers of those letters and petitions, spoke for the countless number of Pennsylvanians who are tired and fed up with the environmental degradation caused these open impoundments or frack pits.

The signers of those letters and petitions all agreed that the existence of the frack pit is an environmental travesty and a source of toxic waste-water and cancer causing agents, such as strontium, barium, heavy metals, and radioactive substances brought back from the shale layer, polluting our environment through leakage, spillage, and the evaporation of toxic VOCs, thus contaminating water, soil, and the air we breathe. And to allow the continued existence of frack pits in our Commonwealth is unconscionable.

I am sure that many of you in the DEP are aware of the many dangers associated with the Frack Pit. One of your own, Alan Eichler, manager of the Oil and Gas program at the southwest office, described these pits as "the most serious issue we've encountered with pollution..." Yet the frack pit continues to exist!

What is even more troubling is that there are other means of storing frack wastewater other than using an open pit. Many oil and gas companies already use what is known as the closed loop system, which I am sure you are aware of. The U.S. Interior Dept. has encouraged the use of such closed systems and tanks since they minimize waste and danger to wildlife while reducing emissions that affect air quality as well as risks to polluting soil and groundwater. Both New Mexico and Illinois have either banned the use of open storage pits or require closed loop systems. Why then cannot PA also be on the cutting edge of such regulatory foresight by simply banning the frack pit forever? We simply can no longer tolerate the existence of these open cesspools!

So today, and as we did on March 11, we demand action by the Environmental Quality Board to take the bold step, the courageous step, and the correct step in banning forever the frack pit and all its hazardous ramifications. We, and the 17,000 plus signers, demand action NOW! Stop the degradation; end this unnecessary pollution of our environment, listen to the people of Pennsylvania, and Ban the Frack Pit forever from our beloved Commonwealth!

Most sincerely,

Member of Upper Burrell Citizens Against Marcellus Pollution

Ron Slabe

Debbie, Caelan, and Larry Borowiec

Janet and Leon Yurkin

Allen and ChrisAnn Uhler

George and Judith Uhler

Brian Uhler

Arlene and Joe Mercurio

Carol Frampton

Mackenzie Slabe

Judy Sattler

George Banyas

John and Karen Snaz

Gretchen Beveridge

John and Linda Kawalski

Richard Troiano

Christine and John P. Cancro