

3042

Cooper, Kathy

From: RegComments@pa.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 19, 2015 10:42 AM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; apankake@pasen.gov; IRRC; RegComments@pa.gov; eregop@pahousegop.com; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; gvitali@pahouse.net
Cc: ra-epmsdevelopment@pa.gov
Subject: Comment notice for - Advanced Notice of Final Rulemaking - Environmental Protection Performance Standards at Oil and Gas Well Sites (7-484)



Re: Advanced Notice of Final Rulemaking - Environmental Protection Performance Standards at Oil and Gas Well Sites (7-484)

The following comments have been received regarding the above-referenced advanced notice of final rulemaking.

Commentator Information:

Harry Hochheiser
 (hshoch@gmail.com)
 5742 Woodmont St
 Pittsburgh, PA 15217 US

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 IRRC
 2015 APR 20 AM 9:35

Comments entered:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Advance Notice of Final Rulemaking of the Environmental Protection Performance Standards at Oil and Gas Well Sites (Chapter 78 and 78a). Although these draft regulations show clear evidence of responsive to public concerns, I fear that these regulations do not provide sufficient protection to our invaluable and irreplaceable resources, particularly clean air and water. It is essential that the proposed rules be expanded and implemented quickly, to avoid further risks to our communities.

Specifically, I would like to draw your attention to the following points:

- The proposed noise standard is a welcome start, but it should be clarified with a specific standard such as 405dbA or lower, so as to address concerns regarding noise from drilling operations.
- The proposed requirement of identification of all wells in new permit applications should be accompanied by a requirement that all known orphaned or abandoned wells be addressed prior to new drilling.
- Regarding open waste impoundments, the proposed requirement that these I agree that centralized open waste impoundments must be addressed, but I remain concerned that DEP's requirement that such impoundments be phased out or upgraded to meet residual waste regulations may not address pollution risks quickly enough. The DEP should adopt regulations that prohibit of open waste impoundments

- DEP has the duty to determine whether a drilling operation has affected a homeowner's water supply. Once that has been determined, I support the requirement that operator restore drinking water supplies to state Safe Drinking Water Act standards or better if the pre-drilling survey shows better quality.

Thank you for considering these comments.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Patrick McDonnell

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