

3042

Cooper, Kathy

From: RegComments@pa.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 8:24 PM
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:

chris horwitz
electrogrip company (mail@electrogrip.com)
2200 Beechwood Blvd
Pittsburgh, PA 15217 US

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IRRC
2015 APR 29 AM 9:14

Comments entered:

Extraction of resources without an excise tax or other taxation similar to that applied in other states does not make sense to me. I believe that the Marcellus Shale deposits, being mainly in PA, are a natural monopoly for this state which should be used for the benefit of the people of this state. In addition, the toxic chemicals used in drilling for shale oil and gas are well documented in Congressional hearings. These toxic chemicals are pumped at high pressure into wells which are known (from industry-sponsored university research) to have multiple fractures along their length; approximately one joint in 10 ends up leaking according to one such study of lateral displacement on pipe joints. Such fractures inject toxic chemicals into our groundwater, thus poisoning water supplies that form spring water and farm water and which support the multi-billion dollar farming industry in this state. These chemicals should be closely monitored and limited in their application; with preference given to the use of non-toxics. Even if non-toxic costs are a little higher for the drilling operator, the long term community cost will surely be much lower. So please strengthen your regulations on these chemicals and apply taxes which yield substantial income to the residents of this state. I am fully aware that business practices yield some uneconomic activities if tax levels are raised. That is no excuse for continued implicit subsidy of these activities through poor tax and regulation policies. If extraction of oil and gas cannot survive without subsidy, it's time to leave the oil and gas in the ground until the payoff becomes worthwhile both for business and government. That time will surely come, and if it is not now, then better to wait.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Patrick McDonnell

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