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Department of Environmental Protection
Policy Office
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Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063
www.ahs.dep.pa.gov/RegComments
or by e-mail to RegComments@pa.gov.

2015 MAY 22 AM 9: 04

**Re: Chapter 78a. Environmental Protection Performance Standards at Oil and Gas Well Sites;
Advance Notice of Final Rulemaking**

To Whom it May Concern:

I live in Tunkhannock Township, Wyoming County. I live in the Marcellus shale area with exploratory wells being drilled within a mile of my home.

I am a mother and a grandmother of young children and have lived in this area for over 40 years. I am deeply concerned that Pennsylvania still does not have any regulations concerning the unconventional drilling that has been occurring in our area since 2008. That is over seven years- with STILL no enhanced and better regulations to protect the public. I implore you to pass these Regulations as Pennsylvania Citizens have been without added common sense protection for these years, and still continue that way. I have been frustrated with the length of time it has taken of these Regulations being drafted and approved.

In reading the Rulemaking document, I have specific concerns and comments about the following:

Section 78a.15 (f)(vii) I strongly support the addition of the notification zone for schools and playgrounds. I feel that the notification zone would be better served by extending it to 2500 feet. My experience has been such that I see a benefit for schools and playgrounds being adequately notified because young children are our most important natural resource and should be protected at whatever additional cost to the Industry. It is important that school administrators have the ability to know what facility is being proposed and have contact information and resources to call if they have questions.

Section 78a.41 I strongly support the addition of noise mitigation for well pad locations. I have a daughter that lives near a well pad and both her and my experience with noise has been unpredictable. Indoor noise levels from the pad have caused sleeping difficulty and on two separate occasions caused a family gathering to be cancelled because of the noise. This is unacceptable. Please extend these provisions to existing well pads so that all may benefit. Please note that not all Operators are model companies and care about the surrounding residences. They need to do a better job of not impacting our quality of life to the extent that we cannot sleep or host functions in our homes during their drilling operations.

Section 78a.57a I strongly support the addition of the new section, Centralized Tank Storage. Permitted tank facilities replacing open waste water impoundments are a reasonable approach in the drilling fields. Tanks are a superior method to storing flowback and produced waters during recycling

operations as compared to open waste water impoundments. I find the noted setbacks reasonably comparable to other established setbacks. Please ensure the proposed regulations at a minimum, move forward in the final regulation.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment. This is an important rulemaking that directly affects where I live and my grandchildren attend school- Tunkhannock Area. These additional performance standards help to balance operations in my community in such a way that they are more balanced for all stakeholders.

Best Regards,
Beverly Malitsky
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Tunkhannock, PA 18657