

Hoffman, Stephen F.

From: RegComments@pa.gov
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 3:03 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:

Victoria Switzer
(yoko@epix.net)
PO Box 113
Dimock, PA 18816 US

RECEIVED
IRRC
2015 MAY 22 AM 9:04

Comments entered:

My name is Victoria Switzer and I am a resident of the Dimock Gasfield. Victoria Switzer sr3023 11361 Dimock PA: mailing address PO Box 113 Dimock PA 18816. I have witnessed the impact the natural gas industry has brought to our community. I have been affected by the inadequate regulation of the industry. I could write a book. I am commenting on just 2 of the regs.

1. You require a notification and not a setback for schools. Meaningful setbacks must be established. The distance of 200 feet for a gas well site from a school's property or playground is woefully inadequate. You are quite aware of the Chevron explosion/fire and loss of life for young Ian McKee. Revisit your files. Use the info on hand for safe distance. A gas well has the potential for a serious accident. Please do not allow any gas well site to be built within one half mile of any structure or facility that houses children-including not only where they attend school but where they live. Gas wells should not be in our backyards, frontyards or our SCHOOLYARDS!

2. Protection of water supplies: a. water testing must be done by a neutral party-not in the service of the gas company. b. DEP must provide split samples for any testing done by the gas company. It is unacceptable that DEP relies on test results provided by the gas industry. c. Areas must be tested before drilling and this test must include the known contaminates produced from all aspects of gas extraction-pad preparation, drilling, fracturing, disposal, processing. d. in case of an accident involving failed casing, cement, spills, all homes within 2

miles must be tested. e. in the case of documentation that the gas company has contaminated or "changed" drinking water the gas company must be required to provide drinking water for the duration of the problem. This resolution should not be subject to "political" interpretation or be derailed by protest orchestrated by folks who gain profit from the gas company.

DEP cannot fear lawyers who represent the gas industry. HOWEVER!!!

Delivering water is not replacement of a water source. A permanent solution would be a water line to a reliable source and it would be paid for by the gas company at fault. All homes within an "affected" area would have access to this clean, reliable source of water.

A final comment: I am saddened that PA's destiny is being steered by a fossil fuel industry. I would prefer to live in a state that is a leader of renewable energy and a safe, clean environment for our children. The reality is the gas industry will be here until the gas is gone. The "bridge fuel" does not create the journey to that safe, clean, Commonwealth. It allows a massive fragmentation of Penn's Woods, as well as a danger to our air, water, soil. I wish you success. We are depending on you to be the watch wolves of our home.

Sincerely,
Victoria Switzer

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Patrick McDonnell

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