

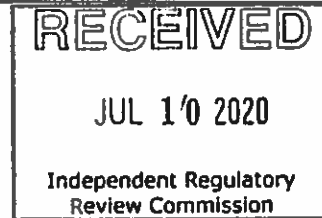
# 3256

**Stephen Hoffman**

---

**From:** ecomment@pa.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, July 10, 2020 3:46 PM  
**To:** Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRRC; eregop@pahousegop.com; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov  
**Cc:** c-jflanaga@pa.gov  
**Subject:** Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: Control of VOC Emissions from Oil and Natural Gas Sources (#7-544)

CAUTION: \*\*EXTERNAL SENDER\*\* This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



**Re: eComment System**

**The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: Control of VOC Emissions from Oil and Natural Gas Sources (#7-544).**

**Commenter Information:**

Carolyn Comitta  
Rep, PA House of Representatives, 156th Leg Dist (ccomitta@pahouse.net)  
25-A East Wing P.O. Box 202156  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2156 US

---

**Comments entered:**

July 10, 2020

**To whom it may concern:**

I am writing to encourage you to strengthen your proposed regulation to control emissions of existing oil and gas operations by removing exemptions for low producing natural gas wells.

These wells can actually emit just as much, or even more, methane than higher producing wells. I would also hope that you will eliminate the provision that allows operators to shirk their responsibility to inspect their equipment frequently just because previous inspections did not reveal significant leaks. This would be like saying that someone need not get an annual car inspection if the vehicle passed the previous year's inspection. Or, an elevator inspection. Pipelines can emit deadly chemicals and produce lethal explosions. Many of these pipelines go through densely populated communities. The occurrence of these disasters is not predictable. Inspections should be made on a frequent, established schedule.

Reducing emissions is critical to our response to the climate crisis. We are at a climate crossroads. The earth is warming at a rate much faster than anticipated producing catastrophic

results. Methane is a far more potent greenhouse gas, though shorter lived, than carbon dioxide and could cancel near term progress from efforts to reduce carbon emissions.

Pennsylvania's Environmental Amendment states "The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment." We need an expansive vision of our future, not one that is focused on short term gain.

Please strengthen your proposed regulation so we shape a healthy future for our children and our grandchildren.

Thank you very much for your consideration. Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Carolyn T. Comitta  
PA House of Representatives, 156th Legislative District

---

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Shirley

---

Jessica Shirley  
Director, Office of Policy  
PA Department of Environmental Protection  
Rachel Carson State Office Building  
P.O. Box 2063  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063  
Office: 717-783-8727  
Fax: 717-783-8926  
ecomment@pa.gov