

**Stephen Hoffman**

#3256

**From:** ecomment@pa.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 1:48 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)

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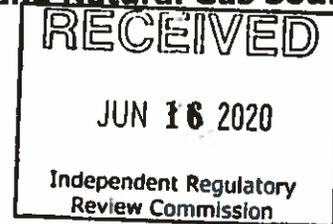


**Re: eComment System**

**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:

Sharon Furlong  
Bucks Environmental Action (sfurlong5@verizon.net)  
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Comments entered:

I would like to outline, just outline, the number and type of public health issues that have been directly correlated with emissions of VOC's, including the BTEX chemical family, ozone, formaldehyde and H2S....since all of these are so related to VOC's that it is difficult to pare them apart:

Lung ailments; upper respiratory disorders; decreased overall lung function; Central Nervous System (CNS) disorders: neurological difficulties and dysfunction; reproductive issues; eye disorders, skin ailments, organ failures including kidneys and liver; and of course, Cancer.

Indeed, there is even a Federal alert for workers in the industry to avoid inhaling the fumes of H2S on the worksite, if released.

With all of these Health problems documented, and some documented for years on end, how can there be anything in these new regulations and rules that allow for a high level of exposure to be legal? How can there be anything left up to the discretion of the owners of such facilities? How can there be anything written that included the words "reasonable " and "financially possible" in whether a new rule was to be implemented? How can there be numerous exceptions to the rules written into those very same rules??

The Oil and Gas Industries are rife with the potential for VOC Emissions from the start to the very end. A many pronged approach to trying to curb this needs to done with have no exemptions, no varying and much stricter language. We are not supposed to be friends with these industries.....you are not supposed to be friends with these industries. They have been poisoning us for years And continue to do so with sheer contempt. Indeed, Josh Shapiro just announced charges against two corporations and cited this very thing....that actors in the industry have little regard for the public, or the Law. So how does one justify crafting rules that don't go far enough in addressing the monumental amount of emission, both intentional and non intentional, fugitive and combusted, that come from these industries on an almost minute to minute basis? The answer to this is No, you can not justify it. So don't do it.

Clean up these regulations. Allow no exceptions. If a facility does not measure up, it needs to go. Harrisburg needs to restore funding so you can hire monitors and so our health can be better protected. Stop playing around.....we are all dying here, some slowly and others rapidly. And overall, the Planet is getting destroyed by these very industries . This is no time to take half measures. Indeed, there is little time left at all. Alternative energy sources are needed to replace these awful, venal, filthy industries whose leaders have too much money and too much power and way too much influence. It all has to end before there is nothing left but a poisoned Pennsylvania.

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No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Shirley

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