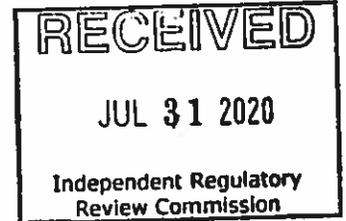


3254

Kathy Cooper

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 11:06 AM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov; timothy.collins@pasenate.com; gking@pahousegop.com
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.



The enclosed comment was received as part of the following testimony:

Testimony name: Public Hearing 1 - Proposed #7-544
Testimony date: 6/23/2020 12:00:00 AM
Testimony location: WebEx

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:

Dominic Bordelon
 (dominicbordelon@gmail.com)
 7271 McClure Ave
 Pittsburgh, PA 15218 US

Comments entered:

Oral comments given at 23 June 2020 hearing. See emailed written comments below:

Hello, my name is Dominic Bordelon, and I am a librarian at the University of Pittsburgh and a resident in the Pittsburgh area. I am also a member of the Green Party of Allegheny County. My wife and I moved to this area late last year, and we are ready to put down roots in the area. There are a lot of things we love about Pittsburgh and Pennsylvania in general so far. I originally come from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This area is a place we call "Cancer Alley" because of its extremely poor air quality and, of course, its high incidence of cancer. When I moved away, I thought I was leaving Cancer Alley behind. However, soon after arriving in Pittsburgh, when discussing air quality, I mentioned to a colleague that I came from a place called Cancer Alley. He said, "Oh, we've heard of it." I was surprised. "How?" I asked. He

replied, "Because Pittsburgh gets compared to it."

I am dismayed to learn that oil and gas operators here emit methane at an estimated level over 16 times higher than what they report. I worry what this means for the family that my wife and I would like to start.

The rule under discussion is a modest one in the face of the drastic actions that are needed in order to combat anthropogenic climate change, whose effects we are already beginning to see. Nevertheless, it is crucial that the rule in question be as protective as possible: we must have inspections and repairs of smaller-producing wells, not merely big wells, and we must prohibit oil and gas operators from reducing inspection frequency based upon an absence of leaks. We do not allow auto manufacturers to skip crash tests in order to save money, and nor should we allow oil and gas operators to dodge inspection for the sake of profits.

Thank you.

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