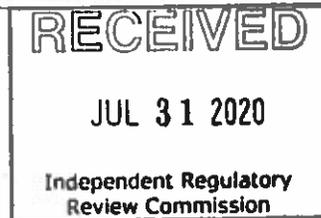


3254

Kathy Cooper

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 11:06 AM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRRC; 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.



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:

Hilary Baum
Environmental Cmte of Phila. Neighborhoods Network (hilarybaum@gmail.com)
7725 Crefeld St.
Philadelphia, PA 19118 US

Comments entered:

Comment received as voicemail, transcribed below:

Hello my name is Hillary Baum, hilarybaum@gmail.com. My number is 9178229445. My mailing address is 7725 Crefeld St. Philadelphia 19118. Good afternoon, my name is Hilary Baum. I am a resident of North West Philadelphia. I am representing the Environmental Committee of Philadelphia neighborhood networks and the Northwest Philly Climate Action Network. We are calling for a definitive strengthening of the Pennsylvania DEP's proposed methane regulations to control emissions from existing oil and gas operations. The strengthening we are calling for includes no exemptions for low producing gas wells and no exemptions from monitoring of equipment that previously was shown to not have significant links. All oil and gas operators must be held accountable for reducing methane emissions. Considering what we now know from scientists about the harmful impacts of methane emissions, we urge the DEP to protect its citizens with regulations that reduce these impacts.

Some of what we know:

One: We know that methane is a powerful greenhouse gas, 87 times more potent than carbon

dioxide over a 20 year period.

Two: we know that greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the development of gas and oil or magnifying climate change, impacting the health and well being particularly of low income and communities of color throughout urban and rural Pennsylvania.

Three: we know that not holding the gas and oil industry accountable externalizes their costs to the public, minimizes incentives for the industry to protect the public and the environment from contamination and encourages further dependence on an economy-based on fossil fuels.

As a grandmother, I am concerned about the climate related health burdens all of our children will be carrying for decades. I am also concerned about the enormous long term financial burdens that will have to be shouldered by our descendants, if we don't transition away from this unsustainable fossil fuel economy to a just, clean energy economy. And finally, my heart breaks for all children who are watching and feeling as the beauty of our natural world seems to be slipping away before their very eyes. I urge you to issue a strong final rule that removes industry-friendly loopholes, holds all gas and oil operators accountable, and challenges the relentless course of climate change and moves us towards a sustainable economy. Thank you very much.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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Director, Office of Policy
PA Department of Environmental Protection
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