

Kathy Cooper

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Friday, August 7, 2020 12:49 PM
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)

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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:

Nancy Heastings
Justice Cmte. - East Liberty Presbyterian Church (n.heastings@comcast.net)
220 N Dithridge St #1003
Pittsburgh, PA 15213 US

Comments entered:

No text comments were provided as part of this comment submittal. Please refer to attachments below.

These links provide access to the attachments provided as part of this comment.

Comments Attachment: [Heastings Methane Letter 072529.pdf](#)

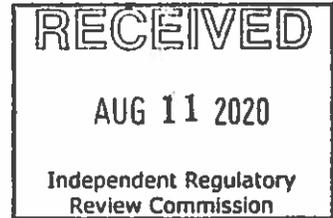
Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

Jessica Shirley
Director, Office of Policy
PA Department of Environmental Protection

3254

Environmental Quality Board
Rachel Carson State Office Building
Box 8477
16th Floor, 400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477



Re: Proposed Rulemaking, Pa Code Chs. 121 and 129

We are writing to you as members of a faith community in Pittsburgh. We write regarding the proposed rule to limit volatile organic chemical leaks from existing oil and gas production facilities. Reducing the VOC leaks has the co-benefit of reducing fugitive methane leaks from these facilities.

While we applaud this initiative, we are concerned that the proposed rule does not go far enough in protecting the adults and children of Pennsylvania. Methane is an extremely potent greenhouse gas, and its release into the atmosphere through leaks in gas and oil production has been well documented. Moreover, the VOC emissions from oil and gas production include air toxics, such as benzene and ethylbenzene, as well as other chemicals suspected of causing cancer.

There are oil and gas wells spread throughout Pennsylvania, and families live and breathe the air near all of them. However, the proposed rule applies only to the larger producing existing wells, even though the lower producing wells account for more than half of the fugitive emissions of VOCs and methane.

We urge you to improve the proposed rule by making it apply to ALL oil and gas wells and production facilities in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Chonoska".

Carol Chonoska,
Justice Committee,
East Liberty Presbyterian Church
116 South Highland Ave
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15206