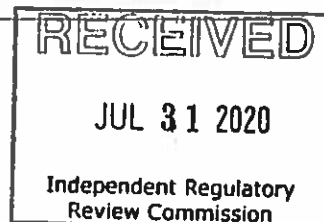


3254

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)

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

Testimony name: Public Hearing 2 - Proposed #7-544
Testimony date: 6/24/2020 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:

Linda Christman
Save Carbon County (lachris@ptd.net)
6495 Pohopoco Dr
Leighton, PA 18235 US

Comments entered:

Oral comments given at 24 June 2020 hearing. See emailed written comments below:

My name is Linda Christman. I am a resident of Leighton, PA. I am President of a Citizens' Group called "Save Carbon County" and I am speaking on behalf of that organization. My mailing address is 6495 Pohopoco Dr., Leighton, PA 18235. My phone number is 415-847-1607.

Shame on us. Shame on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania! We are a beautiful green state. We've had the advantage of Gifford Pinchot as Governor and our constitution enshrines the right to clean air and water and yet, we are the second largest producer of methane in the United States. We have chosen the greed of frackers over more lasting values. Carbon County lives with examples of the greed of coal mine owners—piles of tailings and acid mine run-off left for others

to clean up while the mine owners took the wealth. When will we learn our lesson?

I am pleased that under the direction of Governor Wolf, your Department has proposed regulations that will be a good step towards cleaning up the mess that greed has created. As a citizen, I will do everything I can to support this effort.

I urge your Department and the Wolf Administration to push a little further

- (1) By dropping the exclusion for low producing wells, which produce more than half of the methane pollution from all oil and gas sources; and
- (2) By eliminating the provision that allows a decrease in the frequency of inspections based on prior "good" inspections. Previous performance does not guarantee future compliance because leaks are random.
- (3) Ensure the proposed regulations apply to all emission sources covered in DEP's already adopted standards.
- (4) And lastly, the regulations should require that all future permitted compressor stations be powered by electricity—not gas. Electric Turbines are the Best Available Technology according to the EPA and the use of electric power eliminates virtually all VOC's and methane emissions. With this one rule change, hundreds of tons of emissions would be eliminated yearly for each new compressor station—and, according to the EPA, this change will save gas producers money over the long term.

Carbon County is part of the beautiful Poconos Area and eco-tourism is our number one jobs producer. Unfortunately, your Department is soon to permit a compressor station to be located near Hickory Run State Park. Ironically, if our current air quality were not as good as it now is—if the baseline were worse, this compressor station would not be permitted because it will emit over 100, 000 tons of Greenhouse Gases and over 100 tons of VOC's each year.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of these proposed regulations

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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