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FORM LETTER C

531-944

**Form Letter: Protect Public Health and Strengthen Methane Rule**

**Proposed Rulemaking: Control of VOC Emissions from Oil and Natural Gas Sources (#7-544)**

**Dear Environmental Quality Board Pennsylvania,**

**I'm writing today to ask the Wolf administration to protect the health of Pennsylvanians and safeguard our climate by strengthening the existing source methane rule in the following ways:**

- 1. Reduce or close the loophole in the draft rule for low-producing wells that are responsible for more than half of the methane pollution from oil and gas sources in Pennsylvania.**
- 2. Eliminate the provision that allows operators to reduce the frequency of inspections just because previous inspections did not reveal significant leaks. Both the latest research and experience of other states demonstrate that a large, uncontrolled leak can happen at any time and can only be detected with frequent, regular inspections.**

**Now, more than ever, Pennsylvania needs strong action on this effort. We know that air pollution exacerbates the heart and lung conditions that make COVID-19 more deadly. We know that the methane mitigation industry is a burgeoning industry in Pennsylvania that will bring much-needed family-sustaining jobs to our state for both entry-level and highly-skilled employees. And we know that has the 3rd largest greenhouse gas polluting state in the country, Pennsylvania has a responsibility to take bold climate action. This is a crucial component of any path forward.**

**Please strengthen and finalize the existing source methane rule as soon as possible.**

