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**From:** Thom Holden [thom@thomdave.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2010 10:53 AM  
**To:** EP, RegComments  
**Subject:** CH 78 Regulations

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IRRC

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Hello again...

I am writing today not as an authority on the subject of gas well safety, environmental protection or drilling procedures, but as a concerned citizen of Pennsylvania, land owner in Pine Township, Lycoming County, and a person who enjoys the natural beauty of the Little Pine Creek Valley. As I stated before, there's no stopping the gas companies... they're here, and they're not leaving until the every last bit of natural gas is sucked from the Marcellus Shale.

I'm resigned to that fact, so let's keep the screws tight on these scoundrels.

The current regulations, as I understand them, don't go far enough to protect our waterways, our land, and our air quality in Pennsylvania. The regulations were established before the current fracture technology was in play, and it is imperative that the regulations continue to be updated, scrutinized, implemented, and enforced. I was pleased to see the IRRC support the new regulations adopted in January of this year, and encourage you not to stop now. We must learn from the past mistakes of other states and state agencies who came up short on regulating the gas industry, and are now paying the horrible price.

At issue now, are more stringent regulations for the design, construction and inspection of well casings, the prevention of well blowouts, and the response time necessary to prevent well, and water contamination. I've recently read through a report issued to, and now supported by, many environmental protection organizations, that suggest regulations for the construction and maintenance of gas and oil wells in Pennsylvania. Again, I don't presume to be an authority, so me paraphrasing the recommendations from the report would fall short. But I do know that we must regulate this industry to the fullest extent, due to their track record for polluting, their greed and their underhanded political dealings. Help us protect our precious land, air and water in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,  
Thom Holden  
Trout Run, Lycoming Co. PA  
Wawa, Delaware Co. PA