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From: Michael McCann [michael_mccann@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 9:13 AM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: Proposed regulatory changes for oil and gas drilling

To whom it may concern: In my opinion well drillers should be required to notify property owners within/adjacent to projected extraction effect areas prior to any issuance of any drilling permits. Evidence of the notification should be required as a deliverable for final permit issuance. Putting residents on notice ahead of time may increase diligence for disturbance of their private potable water supplies. The subsection giving drillers 10 days to contact DEP after they have been notified that their actions have disturbed a water supply is irresponsible. It should not be incumbent upon residents to contact the driller if their well is or they suspect it to be effected by gas/wastewater migration. Drilling permit fees should be used to establish a toll free DEP "Marcellus Shale Environmental Hotline" that is well publicized and operated 24/7, so that people can speak to people who are there to protect them, not their profits. If a driller is contacted by a resident instead of a DEP hotline, the driller should be required to report to DEP within 24 hours - not 10 days. Regulations should specify DEP's reaction time to complaints and codify a set of "immediate environmental concern" procedures to address situations in which the DEP confirms potable well impacts. I realize that shale gas could be an economic bonanza for drillers and PA but profit-driven expedience should not take precedence over the rights of residents to live free of anxiety from the potential loss/diminution of value of most folks' greatest investments - their homes. Our regulations should clearly regulate and strengthen the authority of our regulators to protect this beautiful state. While strict regulation may be viewed as having a chilling effect on development of shale gas, once concise rules emphasizing the importance the Commonwealth places on its people and resources are in place, I am certain that extraction with reasonable limits will ensue. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment. Very truly yours, Michael McCann, Tinicum Twp., Bucks County, PA

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