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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

**Cooper, Kathy**

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**From:** Aaron Goldblatt [aarong@metarchdesign.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 05, 2010 11:52 AM  
**To:** RegComments@state.pa.us.  
**Subject:** Chapter 78

This email is to provide input into the public process of establishing new regulations to strengthen oil and gas well protections.

We have all followed with horror the slow motion disaster taking place in the Gulf of Mexico. While we are hearing comforting words from both BP and the Federal Government about how it is all over now and the problem is solved, no one is fooled. We are looking at environmental disaster potentially lasting generations. Before the blow-out, we were all equally reassured of the perfect safety of deep-water drilling.

I'm now hearing similar smooth reassurances from both the industry and State Government about the safety of drilling for gas in the Marcellus shale deposits. I do not believe them. This drilling has the potential to disastrously contaminate the drinking water of millions of PA citizens. It also has the potential to inflict enormous damage to one of our most important natural resources – Pennsylvania's forests.

It appears we cannot stop this short-sighted exploitation of non-renewable resources. We can at least hold those profiting, both private industry and the PA Government, accountable and to the highest possible standards of safety and transparency.

I encourage the EQB to adopt strong protections to improve the safety of oil and gas wells in Pennsylvania. I support the inclusion of the language proposed by the Harvey Consulting report in the new Chapter 78 regulations.

Thank you for allowing public input into this process.

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