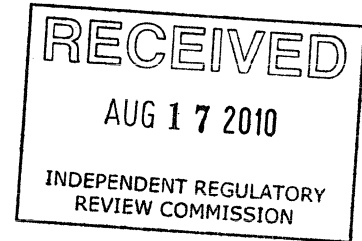


From: Steven Roth [smwr53@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, August 09, 2010 6:04 PM
To: EP, RegComments
Subject: Fw: DEP amendments to reg. on Oil & Gas Casing & Cementing

2857



Subject: DEP amendments to reg. on Oil & Gas Casing & Cementing
To: RegComments @state.pa.us
Date: Monday 8/9/2010

8/9/2010

Environmental Quality Board
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
P.O. Box 8477
Harisburg, PA 17105-8477

RE: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Environmental Quality Board (EQB) proposed ammendments to the regulations on Oil and Gas Casing and Cementing, Chapter 78

Dear Members of the Environmental Quality Board:

I agree with the recommendation by the EQB to update the existing requirements regarding the drilling, casing cementing, testing, monitoring and plugging of oil and gas wells, and the protection of water supplies.

It is of utmost importance that our air and water quality be protected from all toxic chemicals and pollutants for the continued health and well-being of ourselves and the wild habitat supporting the animals, fish, birds and plants. Indeed, water is the source of life and we can ill-afford to destroy it with hydraulic fracturing.

I believe these new ammendments to Chapter 78 regulations will bring a much-needed update for protecting public and private water supplies against gas migration and blow-out. Gas Industry accountability is very important with the inclusions of listing the source of drilling water and chemicals used and the inspection of wells every three months. My only suggestion is to emphasize the water quality issue. Especially since the companies, as of now, are not regulated by the Safe Drinking Water Act.

At this time, our community is experiencing a new onslaught of gas well industry offers. This area of Venangc County has a long history of environmental destruction from the original oil boom years of the 1800's. After years of industrial abuse, our creeks and rivers have finally gotten relatively clean. Recently our brine plant, located close to the Allegheny River, was approved to accept FRAC water.

Some here have blind faith that the new gas industry will save our floundering economy. Others, like myself, are filled with dread that this new industry is running wild, greed unchecked, and regulation-free as long as it can. We are grateful for the DEP's proposed ammendments in hopes that we might still save our watershed and

preserve our beautiful Pennsylvania farmlands, woodlands and way of life.

I am praying that you will continue with vigilance on this path of protecting our environment for us and for the generations to come.

Thank you, sincerely,

Steven M. Roth
645 Bredinsburg Rd.
Franklin, PA 16323