March 30, 2021

Via Electronic Mail

The Honorable Patrick McDonnell
Secretary
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Re: WMGR123NW017, WMGR123SW051, WMGR123NC018, WMGR123NC004,
WMGR123NW009, WMGR123NW010, WMGR123NW014, WMGR123NW006, WMGR123NC003,
Dear Secretary McDonnell and DEP Waste Management Staff,

The March 20, 2021 issue of the Pennsylvania Bulletin lists 64 general permit applications for renewal and modified or new coverage under WMGR123. The notice indicates that the public has 60 days to comment on the applications. This announcement follows, in part, from an agreement reached with the Environmental Integrity Project (EIP) and other organizations after they cited your agency’s previous approval of 49 permits without proper public notice. Nine additional permits appear on the list, which brings the total number of applications to 58. The additional applications are modifications of applications already on the list.

Thirty-one renewal, modified, or new applications pertain to facilities that span 12 counties, seven with no advocacy groups on the ground. Twenty-two of the applications are for facilities in those counties. In the other five counties, organizing is done by grassroots advocacy groups with no or very limited resources. It takes considerable grassroots organizing just to inform people of the applications and comment period before any review of the applications can even commence.

Thanks to the work of advocacy groups, you have provided public notice of the applications. If the public participation process is to be a fair one, your agency needs to recognize the public is a diverse group with differing degrees of access to information and advocacy. We, the undersigned, call on you to extend the comment period for the permits referenced above to 120 days.

Respectfully,

State Legislators
Senator Katie Muth, State Senator, Montgomery
Representative Danielle Friel Otten, Chester
Representative Dianne Herrin, State Representative, Chester
Rep. Sara Innamorato, State Representative, Allegheny

Organizations
Adrienne Morgado, Board member, 350.org Bucks County
Nora Johnson, Secretary, Beaver County Marcellus Awareness Community (BMAC)
Karen Feridun, Founder, Berks Gas Truth
Karen Feridun, Founder, Better Path Coalition
Rebecca Lee Roter, Chairperson, Breathe Easy Susquehanna County
Sharon Furlong, Spokesperson, Bucks Environmental Action
Vera Scroggins, Director, Citizens for Clean Water
Edward Oles, Ph.D., President, Citizens to Protect Ligonier Valley
Steven Hvozdovich, Pennsylvania Campaigns Director, Clean Water Action
Anita Forrester, Chair, Climate Reality Project - Lehigh Valley Chapter
Sandy Field, Chapter chair, Climate Reality Project: Susquehanna Valley PA Chapter
Maura Stephens, Coalition to Protect NY
Barbara W. Brandom, M.D., Steering Committee Member, Concerned Health Professionals of PA
Ronald J Gulla, Consultant, Damascus Citizens for Sustainability
Tracy Carluccio, Deputy Director, Delaware Riverkeeper Network
Lora Snyder, Co-founder, Edgmont Community Safety Coalition
Maura Stephens, FrackbustersNY
Brook Lenker, Executive Director, FracTracker Alliance
Susan Norris, Co-founder, Gas Truth of Central PA
Diane Bardol, Social Justice Coordinator, Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart
Mary McMahon, Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart, Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart
Robert Little MD, President, Harrisburg Peace Garden Assn
Mike Stout, President, Izaak Walton League - Allegheny County chapter
Ellen Gerhart, Juniata Watershed People Before Pipelines
Tim Spiese, President, Lancaster Against Pipelines
Timothy Runkle, Co-chair, Lancaster County Green Party
Debra Borowiec, Coordinator, LAWPA
Ms. Terrie Griffin, President, League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania
Ann Pinca, President, Lebanon Pipeline Awareness
Diane Sipe, President, Marcellus Outreach Butler
Barbara A Sims, Murrysville Watch, Murrysville Watch
Craig L. Stevens, Founder, Patriots From The Oil & Gas Shales
Jenny Lisak, Co-director, Pennsylvania Alliance for Clean Water and Air
David G Hinkes, Please Select, Please Select
Barbara Jarmoska, president, Project CoffeeHouse
Pouné Saberi, Board President, PSR PA
Robert Cross, President, Responsible Drilling Alliance (RDA)
Sister Suzanne Gallagher, RSM, Justice Coordinator, Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
Sr. Kari Pohl, Congregational Coordinator of Justice and Peace, Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden, PA
Janis Winschuh, President, Springville Area Women's Club
Alison L Steele, Executive Director, SWPA Environmental Health Project
Chris Digiulio, Co-Founder, Upper Uwchlan Residents for Safety
Jan Milburn, President, Westmoreland Marcellus Citizen's Group
Michael DiMonte, Convener, Working for Justice Ministry, St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Individuals

Alexandra Manning Chester
Amanda Barry Allegheny
Ann Buki Chester
Anthony R. Ingraffea, Ph.D., P.E. Tompkins (NY)
April Jackman Westmoreland
Arianne Elinich Bucks
Arlene Taylor Dauphin
Barbara Clifford Susquehanna
Barbara Hadden Wyoming
Barbara Householder York
Barbara Laxon McKean
Barbara W Brandom Allegheny & Somerset
Betsy DeLisle Lancaster
Bill Ferullo Bradford
Carol Anne Donohoe  Berks
Catherine Kimock  Northampton
Charles Winschuh  Susquehanna
Cheryl Lee  Westmoreland
Chloe Kaczenski Humbert  Lackawanna
Darlene Dech  Allegheny
Darree Sicher  Berks
Dean H Marshall  Columbia
Deb Maye  Susquehanna
Diane Quick  Berks
Dianne Carroll  Allegheny
Elliot Ross  Susquehanna
Emily Borcz  Butler
Eric Gjertsen  Berks
Evalynn Welling  Allegheny
Frank Finan  Susquehanna
Gail Neustadt  Allegheny
Gaye Denlinger  Lancaster
Helen M. Hazi  Allegheny
James Cato  Allegheny
Jay Sweeney  Wyoming
Jill Diskin  Allegheny
Joan L Farb  Bucks
John McDevitt  Chester
John Thompson  Washington
John Wagner  Susquehanna
Joseph Ferry  Delaware county
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Judy Dixon  Bucks
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Karen Swam  Lancaster
Kathleen Krebs  Allegheny
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Kerry Foose  Susquehanna
Laura Fake  Berks
Lisa Ladd-Kidder  Berks
Liz Cates  Berks
Lloyd Zeiler  Allegheny
Lois Drumheller  Allegheny
Louise Champagne  Dauphin
Lynne Iser  Philadelphia
Margaret Henry  Clearfield
Marianne Atkinson  Clearfield
Martha Robbins  Allegheny
Matthew Nemeth  Allegheny
Maura Stephens  Philadelphia
Michael Hendrickson  Pennsylvania
Mr. Frank Brofft  Bucks
Nancy Adams Reed  Jefferson
Pamela Tilley  Erie
Park Furlong  Bucks
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Cc: Attorney General Josh Shapiro

Allison Acevedo, Director, DEP Office of Environmental Justice