

## OCC Hearing Exhibit 20

**From:** [Davidson, Florene, EMNRD](#)  
**To:** [Salvidrez, Marlene, EMNRD](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXT] Hearing  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 28, 2020 12:58:00 PM

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Case 21281

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**From:** Lonnie Rowell <lrowell8881@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 28, 2020 12:28 PM  
**To:** Davidson, Florene, EMNRD <florene.davidson@state.nm.us>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Hearing

Dear Commission Clerk Davidson,

I am submitting this written comment to the Oil Conservation Division in relation to the upcoming Oil Conservation Division Hearing. Please consider this input.

I am a resident of Rio Rancho. I oppose the use of fracked toxic waste, aka produced water, for any purpose outside the circle of fracking operations. Our state's water must be preserved for drinking and agriculture and not contaminated by produced water. It is simply not safe. How large of a disaster do we need to convince policy makers that fracking is a dangerous and addictive practice that does not lead us towards a healthier relationship with our natural resources? The gamble is with the health and safety of our children and grandchildren. With the abundance of renewable energy available here in New Mexico, we do not need to be engaged with this gamble or be subjected to the manipulations and distortions of the oil and gas industry. It is time to recover from the addiction!

We also need very strongly worded and enforceable regulations for every aspect of fracking, in particular the removal of produced water from fracking sites. It appears in the present moment that the oil and gas industry is being given far too much power in creating the rules and regulations, and this should be stopped! The role of the industry as a research partner with NMSU also should be closely scrutinized. We need only look to the sad story of the industry's relationship with other universities (i.e. University of Oklahoma) to see the corrupting impact of giving too much control to the industry in the conduct of research on its operations.

Respectfully,

Lonnie Rowell  
Resident, Rio Rancho, New Mexico