

Davidson, Florene, EMNRD

From: Anita Holtz [nmlorax@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2011 9:35 PM
To: Davidson, Florene, EMNRD
Subject: Hydraulic fracturing regulations

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Dear Jami Bailey,

As a family physician in New Mexico, I am concerned about the health effects of toxic chemicals in our communities. I am writing to ask you to take a strong stand in requiring full public disclosure of all chemical used in hydraulic fracturing.

Many of the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing have known adverse health effects. For example, benzene has been known to be toxic since the 1940s and has been officially classified as a carcinogen for more than 30 years. Other chemicals commonly used in fracking are linked to liver, kidney, respiratory, and neurological toxicity.

Drinking water is a precious resource, especially in our arid climate. Oil and gas companies should be required to disclose all fluids and substances used in hydraulic fracturing operations to the surface owner before hydraulic fracturing begins. It is important that they be required to reveal all fluids and chemicals used, including CAS numbers and the maximum concentration of each chemical used.

There is much that remains unknown about the long-term consequences of fracking. There is evidence that it has the potential to adversely affect drinking water and expose people to dangerous chemicals. Companies using this technology have a responsibility to divulge the chemicals and fluids that are used. Without such disclosure it will be impossible to adequately monitor for public health effects of these chemicals. Please support the health of our communities by requiring a strong and comprehensive disclosure rule for fracking chemicals and fluids.

Sincerely,

Anita Holtz, MD
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