

Davidson, Florene, EMNRD

From: Janet Rees [jyrees1@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2011 8:18 AM
To: Davidson, Florene, EMNRD
Subject: Fracking comments

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Dear Ms. Davidson,

I am unable to attend today's hearing where comments about fracking will be heard, but I ask that you please take my comments into consideration. (We are having work done on our house, and I need to be here while the work is in progress.)

I favor full disclosure to the public and to landowners prior to drilling, of the materials used in fracking. Despite industry's assertions that these materials are often non-toxic, there is evidence to the contrary including the industry push to keep these materials from public scrutiny by deeming them proprietary. Livestock have aborted or died after drinking fluids from pits containing some of these compounds, and industry has compensated the owners for their losses; no doubt wildlife have suffered the same consequences due to drinking from pits improperly screened and fenced. As drilling has dramatically increased across the country, many water wells are believed to have been contaminated with materials used in fracking. Industry has reached settlements with various landowners who have water they believe contaminated by fracking, evidence of the toxic nature of fracking materials regardless of the no-talk requirements of the settlements.

Requiring disclosure to landowners in advance of drilling would provide landowners the opportunity to have water in wells, ponds, and springs tested to determine baseline water quality prior to fracking.

Water is one of our most precious and necessary resources, one we can not afford to contaminate—the public is entitled to know the materials used in fracking, even more so when so much drilling in New Mexico occurs on lands owned by the public.

The proposal to only require disclosure of approximately half of the contents of fracking fluids is unacceptable—full disclosure must be required prior to any fracking operation.

Sincerely,

Janet Rees
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Bloomfield, NM 87413