

FAX

To: The Bureau of Land Management New Mexico
Office

From: Charles Henderson

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Pages: 3

Date: 2/16/2016

Address: P.O. Box 27115
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CC:

Reason: Re: NM-201604-043 258.90 Acres TX TR
F-519; TR F-520A; TR F-520B; TR F-524

Priority: Deadline February 19, 2016

Comments:

This is a public protest for : Re: NM-201604-043 258.90 Acres TX TR F-519; TR F-520A; TR F-520B; TR F-524

February 18, 2016

Bureau of Land Management
New Mexico State Office
301 Dinosaur Trail
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508

Re: NM-201604-043 258.90 Acres TX TR F-519; TR F-520A; TR F-520B; TR F-524

This letter is to help Prevent Fracking under Lewisville Lake in Texas. In an independent study[1] performed by Dr. Zacariah L. Hildenbrand, he presented an analysis of 550 groundwater samples collected from private and public supply water wells drawing from aquifers overlying the Barnett shale formation of Texas. He detected multiple volatile organic carbon compounds throughout the region, including various alcohols, the BTEX family of compounds, and several chlorinated compounds. In Parker county the finding were absolutely terrifying. The methane and propane levels were so high, that showering in an enclosed space could lead to oxygen depletion, asphyxiation, and death. Can you imagine being concerned about taking a shower?

In the last few years, an avalanche of peer-reviewed studies has confirmed early anecdotal evidence of harm. An analysis by independent experts of the more than 400 peer reviewed studies finds that the vast majority of these studies show problems and harms. For instance, 96% of the papers dealing with health indicate risks or adverse outcomes, 92% of those dealing with air quality indicate elevated concentrations of air pollutants, and 73% looking at water quality indicate water contamination or threats. Notably, 75% of all studies on shale gas development have been published in the past two years. Similarly, the Council of Canadian Academies examined the existing data in a comprehensive 292-page report in 2014, identifying a range of risks, including threats to groundwater

These impacts are being borne by far too many Americans across the country. Water contamination and air pollution with dangerous endocrine disruptors and carcinogens are increasingly common. Many parents now have to worry about what their children are drinking and breathing, often reporting increased rates of asthma, difficulty breathing, excessive nose bleeds, and other acute health problems linked to the chemicals from fracking operations. In Pennsylvania for example, the state has confirmed at least 243 instances of water contamination. In Texas, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, and elsewhere, researchers have found disturbing levels of ground-level ozone and volatile organic compounds, including carcinogenic benzene and formaldehyde.


In many states, fracking and associated toxic wastewater disposal wells are causing thousands of earthquakes. CNN reported[3] that Fracking has led to an increase of earthquakes in the Dallas Metroplex. In 2015, the Dallas area had 58[4] earthquakes.

This parcel of land falls within the stipulation of WO-ESA-7 THREATENED & ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION. The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM has stated that it may not approve any ground disturbing activity that may affect any such species or critical habitat until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.

Earthquakes caused from fracking will cause ground-disturbing activity and threaten any endangered species. This is a direct violation of 16 U.S. Code § 1531[5].

If the endangered species factor was not impacting enough, please consider the human value at risk. In January 2015 we had 25 earthquakes in the Dallas area, including one as great as 3.6. While a 3.6 magnitude does not sound that alarming, what happens when multiple earthquakes are centered around the Lewisville dam; an area that is already under great concern because of a deteriorating infrastructure.

Sincerely,


(Charles M. Henderson)
Concerned Citizen