



## West Virginia Environmental Council

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July 14, 2010

Mr. James Martin  
Chief, Office of Oil and Gas  
WV Department of Environmental Protection  
601 57th Street, SE  
Charleston, WV 25304-2345  
Via Email

Dear Chief Martin:

It is likely that I will not be able to attend the July 28 meeting of the Oil and Gas Program Review group.

However, I would like this letter to "go on record" as an addendum to WVEC's initial letter for your consideration. There are just a couple of issues that have come to my attention since the Program Review process was initiated.

First: I noticed that Pennsylvania was considering adding to their regulations a 150-foot buffer zone to distance oil and gas drilling activities from stream channels. This is an excellent idea and should be easily implemented. The U.S. Forest Service utilizes similar stream buffers in the Monongahela National Forest.

Second: Quite an uproar has arisen in Upshur County, and elsewhere, recently over seismic geophysical testing activities. Many landowners have reported problems and abusive treatment by the testing operators. In a telephone conversation I had with you recently, you indicated that West Virginia has no law or regulations concerning seismic testing operations. I suggest we need some. Oklahoma appears to have legislation that we could use as a model (I am attaching copies to this email).

Thanks again for the opportunity to participate in this process.

Sincerely,

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Cc: Randy Huffman, Kristin Boggs

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People Who Want to Breathe Clean Air and Drink Clean Water**