

00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:10.080

Bennett, James

This meeting will be recorded and a transcript created at the end of this meeting. If you would like to turn on live captions, please click the three dots.

00:00:10.840 --> 00:00:13.460

Bennett, James

Where it says more at the top of your screen.

00:00:14.310 --> 00:00:17.840

Bennett, James

And then Scroll down to where it says turn on live captions.

00:00:19.960 --> 00:00:21.810

Bennett, James

Thank you for your attendance tonight.

00:00:22.620 --> 00:00:31.410

Bennett, James

This is a formal public hearing on a proposed permit under the federal underground injection control program, or the UIC program.

00:00:32.200 --> 00:00:42.650

Bennett, James

For a project consisting of 1 brine disposal, well known as the pentico injection well, Sedat number 4A in Plum Borough, Allegheny County.

00:00:43.660 --> 00:00:57.890

Bennett, James

Public notice public notice for these permit. This permit was distributed to the state and local government officials and interested parties who have written or called EPA and also published in the Pittsburgh Post Gazette on May 26th, 2022.

00:00:58.910 --> 00:01:07.690

Bennett, James

I ask for your cooperation and adhering to the procedures I were outlined for you shortly, so that we may make the most of this opportunity for public comment.

00:01:08.910 --> 00:01:14.410

Bennett, James

First, however, let me introduce myself and other members of the agency in attendance.

00:01:15.250 --> 00:01:26.950

Bennett, James

My name is James Bennett. I'm the source, water and UIC section chief of the in the water division, located in the US Environmental Protection Agencies Office in Philadelphia, PA.

00:01:28.090 --> 00:01:41.010

Bennett, James

With me tonight, Orion hand Charak or project manager for this permit draft permit Kevin Rousey, or permitting specialist and Dave Rectenwald or oil and Gas Inspector.

00:01:42.150 --> 00:01:54.920

Bennett, James

For those who came here today out of general environmental interest and concern, I'd like to acquaint you with the basic goals of the USC program, which EPA's administrating in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

00:01:55.980 --> 00:02:05.850

Bennett, James

The federal safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 and its amendments recognizing the importance of safeguarding our nation's drinking water supplies and a number of ways.

00:02:07.060 --> 00:02:12.610

Bennett, James

One program authorized by the Act is the public water System supervision program.

00:02:13.290 --> 00:02:17.900

Bennett, James

Which is designed to ensure that public order supplies deliver safe drinking water to their users.

00:02:18.740 --> 00:02:23.370

Bennett, James

This program is currently being operated by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

00:02:24.260 --> 00:02:38.590

Bennett, James

Congress also recognized at the time of the laws enactment that our groundwater resources, which supply approximately half of our national drink and what our resources also needed protection from potentially harmful practices such as underground injection of fluids.

00:02:39.600 --> 00:02:57.760

Bennett, James

Sections 1421 through 1424 of the Safe Drinking Water Act addresses the provisions which authorizes the UIC program and covers the procedures under which EPA must implement a federally administered program in those states, such as Pennsylvania.

00:02:58.440 --> 00:03:03.450

Bennett, James

Whenever a state will not or cannot assume primary enforcement for the program.

00:03:05.010 --> 00:03:11.940

Bennett, James

Since June 25th, 1984, EPA has been enforcing the federal UIC program in Pennsylvania.

00:03:12.790 --> 00:03:22.830

Bennett, James

The program addresses a variety of different types or classes of injection wells, including nearly a hundred 1500 oil and gas related wells in Pennsylvania.

00:03:24.070 --> 00:03:35.720

Bennett, James

The objective of the program and permits authorized under it or to ensure that the construction and operation of these wells provides the highest level of protection to underground sources of drinking water.

00:03:36.930 --> 00:03:47.540

Bennett, James

Underground sources of drinking water or USD W are basically defined as those aquifers which supply or could supply drink of water for human consumption.

00:03:48.550 --> 00:03:56.440

Bennett, James

The regulatory definition of USW also includes consideration of both quantity of water available and its quality.

00:03:57.140 --> 00:04:07.120

Bennett, James

It protects all groundwater with less than 10,000 parts per million total dissolved solids in order to allow for future uses of the resource.

00:04:10.090 --> 00:04:11.680

Bennett, James

Uh, OK.

00:04:12.550 --> 00:04:26.620

Bennett, James

It protects, uh, said that any and all new injection wells constructed after June of 1984 required to apply for an EPA permit to ensure compliance with the construction and operational requirements to safeguard our groundwater resources.

00:04:27.590 --> 00:04:35.320

Bennett, James

It is our intent to enforce the provisions of the USC program for Pennsylvania to enhance and protect the Commonwealth groundwater resources.

00:04:36.540 --> 00:04:42.340

Bennett, James

By assuring that injection operations meet protective standards may mandated by the USC program.

00:04:43.330 --> 00:04:50.140

Bennett, James

I would like to clarify the need for a federal program on the on the this issue and the relationship to state and local authorities.

00:04:50.960 --> 00:04:58.930

Bennett, James

Existing programs within the state had not historically addressed injection operations in the preventative sense, as does the federal program.

00:04:59.730 --> 00:05:02.320

Bennett, James

EPA's programs, designed to protect groundwater.

00:05:04.290 --> 00:05:06.050

Bennett, James

And drinking water to their users.

00:05:12.760 --> 00:05:26.780

Bennett, James

I'm sorry, through stringent casing, cementing, testing and continuous monitoring requirements, it is a program which seeks to address many of the concerns you have for the prevention of water supply contamination as well as the protection of other natural resources.

00:05:28.440 --> 00:05:42.760

Bennett, James

The UIC program, however, does not address or have jurisdiction to enforce against issues such as noise, air emissions, truck traffic or sighting related to resident residential buildings, ETC. That you may also have concerns about.

00:05:43.740 --> 00:05:50.460

Bennett, James

Does your UIC permit contain a condition that requires an operator to meet all required local and state laws?

00:05:51.180 --> 00:05:55.160

Bennett, James

UIC permit does not override any local or state regulations.

00:05:56.320 --> 00:06:05.550

Bennett, James

The purpose of the UI of the USC permitting process for existing and new wells is to control and prevent any injected fluids from endangering underground sources of drinking water.

00:06:06.720 --> 00:06:14.920

Bennett, James

All injection operations must comply with the construction operation, monitoring and reporting requirements specified in the UIC regulations.

00:06:15.930 --> 00:06:39.050

Bennett, James

The specific technical requirements for construction of the well, maximum injection, pressure limitations and a corrective action plan in the area review, which is required to address any unplugged wells which

penetrate the injection formation which may serve as conduits for fluids, fluids, migration or also designed to ensure they injected fluids are contained within the well and the intended injection zone.

00:06:40.340 --> 00:06:48.920

Bennett, James

The EPA, several mechanisms for identifying non compliance and has made a commitment to strong enforcement of permit conditions and the overall program provisions.

00:06:49.610 --> 00:06:55.060

Bennett, James

EP routinely inspects all facilities to assist in evaluating compliance by regulated facilities.

00:06:56.640 --> 00:07:01.390

Bennett, James

The severity of a family will be based on the seriousness seriousness of the violation.

00:07:02.300 --> 00:07:06.700

Bennett, James

Violators of the UIC regulations are subject to either civil or criminal penalties.

00:07:07.650 --> 00:07:14.120

Bennett, James

Parallel state enforcement authorities on the Commonwealth Oil and gas regulations may also afford additional protection.

00:07:15.290 --> 00:07:21.570

Bennett, James

Now have some having supplied you with a brief overview of the UIC program and purposes of this public hearing.

00:07:22.200 --> 00:07:26.930

Bennett, James

I would like to briefly explain the protocol and procedures that govern this hearing.

00:07:28.270 --> 00:07:32.580

Bennett, James

Please be advised again that this public hearing is being recorded.

00:07:33.530 --> 00:07:47.970

Bennett, James

And as required by federal Regulations, 40 CFR section 124.12 DA written transcript will be made of this hearing and that transcript will be made publicly available.

00:07:48.850 --> 00:07:58.010

Bennett, James

That means everything that is said and taken down in this hearing will be word for word, and the transcript will be available for anyone who request it.

00:07:59.830 --> 00:08:08.510

Bennett, James

Persons wishing to speak or provide information will be asked to raise their hands in teams and will be called upon to unmute.

00:08:09.450 --> 00:08:19.520

Bennett, James

But there was of you using teams in order to raise your hand, you need to click the reaction button at the top of the meeting and pick the hand icon.

00:08:17.980 --> 00:08:18.160

Rindy, Jenna

OK.

00:08:20.870 --> 00:08:29.550

Bennett, James

For those of you who called into the meeting using your telephone, you can raise your hand by pressing STAR 5 on your phone.

00:08:30.370 --> 00:08:38.630

Bennett, James

Again, Star 5 on your home on your phone will raise your hand, and when you're finished our five, we'll lower your hand.

00:08:40.150 --> 00:08:47.970

Bennett, James

Once caught upon those of you using teams can unmute again by using the MIC icon at the top of the screen.

00:08:51.530 --> 00:08:56.220

diannepeterson@hotmail.com (Guest)

About his participation in this violent scene. Well, according to Hutchins.

00:08:51.830 --> 00:08:52.290

Bennett, James

The.

00:08:55.270 --> 00:08:55.800

Bennett, James

Uh.

00:08:56.930 --> 00:08:59.000

Bennett, James

If somebody's speaking, can you please go on mute?

00:08:59.980 --> 00:09:10.130

Bennett, James

Again, for those of you who called into the meeting, you can unmute your phone by using STAR 6 on your phone. So again, star five raises your hand and star six well.

00:09:11.700 --> 00:09:12.540

Bennett, James  
Unmute your phone.

00:09:13.610 --> 00:09:15.770

Bennett, James  
You are not required to provide your name.

00:09:17.880 --> 00:09:19.130

Bennett, James  
Or the name of your group.

00:09:20.020 --> 00:09:24.910

Bennett, James  
However, if you do identify yourself, be aware that will be part of the transcript.

00:09:26.330 --> 00:09:29.150

Bennett, James  
We want everyone to have an opportunity to be heard.

00:09:29.920 --> 00:09:35.460

Bennett, James  
And we will limit time to speak based on the number of hands raised at the start of this hearing.

00:09:36.410 --> 00:09:43.300

Bennett, James  
So at this time I asked that you start raising your hand so we can get a list of people who wish to speak in the meeting.

00:09:46.460 --> 00:09:51.540

Bennett, James  
Again, if you're on your phone, Star 6 will raise your hand, and if you're on teams.

00:09:54.050 --> 00:09:56.670

Bennett, James  
You can use the reactions button and then your hand.

00:09:58.200 --> 00:10:01.230

Bennett, James  
I will call on people in the order that teams.

00:10:01.990 --> 00:10:05.800

Bennett, James  
List you on the right of my screen and I will ask you to mute when it's time.

00:10:06.950 --> 00:10:11.300

Bennett, James  
A stressed the fact the fact that this hearing is a listening session.

00:10:12.040 --> 00:10:14.200

Bennett, James

It is not a debate or a dialogue.

00:10:14.840 --> 00:10:25.420

Bennett, James

Who would not be responding to your comments or questions? Because the purpose of this public hearing is to hear and make an official record of your input on the permit proposal before us.

00:10:26.360 --> 00:10:44.640

Bennett, James

Under federal regulations found at 40 CFR 124.13, anyone who wants to appeal this permit or any permit conditions must raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonably available argument supporting their position during the public comment period.

00:10:45.370 --> 00:10:59.520

Bennett, James

Which now closes on July 13th, 2022. Extend it the public hearing period to end on July 13th, 2022 to allow additional time. After this hearing for people to submit written comments.

00:11:01.730 --> 00:11:03.000

Bennett, James

You can go to.

00:11:03.750 --> 00:11:06.590

Bennett, James

HTTP S.

00:11:07.340 --> 00:11:10.310

Bennett, James

Colon back slash back slash W.

00:11:10.380 --> 00:11:23.330

Bennett, James

Www.epa.gov back slash public notices to find information on eBay public notices and how to submit a comment.

00:11:26.470 --> 00:11:37.190

Bennett, James

For those who of you who wish to provide a copy of your statement or comments in writing, we ask that you send this information no later than July 13th, 2022.

00:11:38.110 --> 00:11:41.850

Bennett, James

Please send your statement or comment to Ryan Hencheck.

00:11:42.550 --> 00:11:48.020

Bennett, James

Either by mail to US EPA region 3.



00:11:48.990 --> 00:11:50.600

Bennett, James

4 pen center.

00:11:51.780 --> 00:11:56.170

Bennett, James

1600 John F Kennedy Blvd.

00:11:57.150 --> 00:11:58.060

Bennett, James

Pennsylvania.

00:11:58.760 --> 00:12:00.900

Bennett, James

19103.

00:12:02.560 --> 00:12:08.570

Bennett, James

Citing the mail Code 3 W's in what are D as in dog 22.

00:12:09.560 --> 00:12:14.820

Bennett, James

Or by email to R3 under score.

00:12:15.480 --> 00:12:18.330

Bennett, James

You I see under score.

00:12:19.050 --> 00:12:22.290

Bennett, James

Mailbox at epa.gov.

00:12:23.510 --> 00:12:24.230

Bennett, James

That is.

00:12:25.440 --> 00:12:28.930

Bennett, James

Again are three under score.

00:12:29.720 --> 00:12:32.060

Bennett, James

UIC under score.

00:12:32.770 --> 00:12:35.150

Bennett, James

Mailbox at epa.gov.

00:12:36.290 --> 00:12:40.900

Bennett, James

You can also contact Ryan by telephone at 215.

00:12:41.670 --> 00:12:42.720

Bennett, James

814.

00:12:43.470 --> 00:12:45.520

Bennett, James

3278.

00:12:46.950 --> 00:13:01.270

Bennett, James

In addition, if you would like to see receive a copy of the written transcript produced of today's hearing, please also send your email or mailing address to Ryan Henchard so we can share the transcript with you directly.

00:13:02.060 --> 00:13:07.130

Bennett, James

Thank you again. And with that, I'm gonna start calling on on people that raise their hands.

00:13:09.730 --> 00:13:13.300

Bennett, James

So the first person would be Hannah Snyder.

00:13:14.380 --> 00:13:17.590

Bennett, James

And if you would please go off mute and provide your testimony.

00:13:19.220 --> 00:13:33.650

Hannah Snyder

Thank you. I'm a resident of Pittsburgh. The source of my drinking water is the Allegheny River. This permit should not be granted as it would risk my health and the safety of my drinking water.

00:13:30.910 --> 00:13:31.190

Dianne (Guest)

Alright.

00:13:35.960 --> 00:13:37.180

Dianne (Guest)

I had a panic attack.

00:13:38.750 --> 00:13:39.550

Bennett, James

Thank you, Hannah.

00:13:46.030 --> 00:13:50.110

Bennett, James

The next on my list would be a Springer.

00:13:52.480 --> 00:14:04.160

A Springer

Hi I am a Wilkinsburg resident and a WP JW a customer. This injection model threatens my communities clean drinking water and the permit should be denied. Thank you.

00:14:05.900 --> 00:14:06.370

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:14:12.580 --> 00:14:15.700

Bennett, James

Next on my list is Aaron Lean.

00:14:22.650 --> 00:14:23.770

Lane, Erin

Hi, can you hear me?

00:14:24.640 --> 00:14:25.690

Bennett, James

I can, yes, Aaron.

00:14:25.980 --> 00:14:29.510

Lane, Erin

OK, terrific. My name is Aaron Lane. I'm a Dormont resident.

00:14:29.940 --> 00:14:37.840

Lane, Erin

Umm me as well as 300,000 residents of Pittsburgh rely on the Allegheny River for clean drinking water.

00:14:33.660 --> 00:14:34.100

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

Correct.

00:14:39.820 --> 00:14:46.110

Lane, Erin

It is also my understanding that PWS A has asked Governor Wolf to resend like in existing permit.

00:14:47.370 --> 00:14:59.920

Lane, Erin

Of the existing well that is built because it impacts water and this frightens me. So I feel this injection will threaten our clean drinking water. Therefore the permit should be denied.

00:15:01.970 --> 00:15:02.430

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:15:04.760 --> 00:15:16.730

Bennett, James

Before I call on the next person, I want to a few people have joined. I want to remind you, if you'd like to speak, please raise your hand using the reaction reactions button at the top of the screen.

00:15:17.770 --> 00:15:26.820

Bennett, James

And if you're on your phone, if you join just recently after I gave my introduction, if you'd like to raise your hand, star five or raise your hand if you're on the phone.

00:15:28.020 --> 00:15:28.490

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:15:29.850 --> 00:15:32.720

Bennett, James

Uh, next on my list is Erica Jackson.

00:15:35.670 --> 00:15:56.430

Erica Jackson (Guest)

Hello, my name is Erica. I'm an Allegheny County resident and I work for Frac Tracker alliance. We're a nonprofit that studies in maps that impacts of oil and gas development. These comments are written in partnership with my colleague Matt, who lives in Plum but wasn't able to attend. It's just about it's it's about 3 minutes. Is that OK or two? OK.

00:15:55.100 --> 00:15:58.350

Bennett, James

Yes, yes, yes, that's that's plenty based on the the number and.

00:15:58.670 --> 00:16:29.060

Erica Jackson (Guest)

Thank you. And so through the regulation of the Sadat 3A well and the added risks that another well at this site poses, the EPA has demonstrated a failure to meet the seven gold stated in its mission. And we're calling on the EPA to revoke the draft permit, deny the application for cedap for a the first goal of the EPA is to ensure that Americans have clean air, land and water. But at least two residences have complained about polluted water supplies soon after the Sadat.

00:16:29.130 --> 00:16:31.180

Erica Jackson (Guest)

Create began operation.

00:16:31.870 --> 00:17:02.620

Erica Jackson (Guest)

EPA has ignored this situation and opted to issue this new draft permit anyway. The second goal the EPA works to ensure national efforts to reduce environmental risks are based on the best scientific information we have yet to see scientific information that suggests that the best way to dispose of flowback and produced water is to inject it into shallow wells. Belief beneath people's homes where

there is the risk of contamination, seismicity and repressurize thing old wells. Third, the EPA works to ensure federal laws.

00:17:02.680 --> 00:17:09.140

Erica Jackson (Guest)

Protecting human health and the environment are administrator administered and enforced. One such law is.

00:17:09.840 --> 00:17:36.790

Erica Jackson (Guest)

The EPA must consider a variety of measures to ensure to assure that an injection will not endanger underground sources of water. Approving the injection of toxic waste into walls beneath the homes of residents that rely on groundwater is a failure of that law, and the region's long history of extraction has created pathways for the murraysville Sam Formation to communicate with drinking water aquifers. At the very least, a site away from human human, so many people should be considered.

00:17:37.520 --> 00:18:08.010

Erica Jackson (Guest)

4th EPA works to ensure environmental stewardship is integral to US policies. EPA acknowledges that it is its jobs to provide environmental stewardship over wastewater disposal. Yet disposal at the Sidat 3A site has already caused many problems. Chemical odors from tank, battery, diesel pollution from waste haulers, property damage and water supply impacts to any reasonable observer. That's not environmental stewardship. 5th EPA works to ensure all parts of society have access to accurate information.

00:18:08.830 --> 00:18:38.220

Erica Jackson (Guest)

Sufficient to effectively participate in managing human health and environmental risks, but in our experience with EPA FOIA requests, including those around this site, we've seen them denied result in low quality and sloppy data and documents, and have documents redacted into the point of them being pointless if EPA won't follow its own best practices, it can't be a surprise to polluting industries. Also opt not to 6th EPA works to ensure that contaminated lands and toxic sites are cleaned up by potentially responsible parties.

00:18:38.660 --> 00:19:08.490

Erica Jackson (Guest)

And revitalized by permitting the Sidat 3A site, EPA has enabled the creation of a new toxic site right near people's homes, even secretly doubling the amount of waste allowed. This waste dump is a new toxic presence in the neighborhood already impacted by fossil fuels. And lastly, EPA works to ensure chemicals and the marketplace are reviewed for safety, but oil and gas waste contains naturally high concentrations of bromides, particularly concerning for well water owners T norm technologically enhanced.

00:19:08.570 --> 00:19:35.070

Erica Jackson (Guest)

Naturally occurring radioactive materials are associated with these waste strains and all of the chemical additives like petroleum distillates, PFAS chemicals, acetone, benzene, formaldehyde. We understand

there is pressure on the agency to approve such wells, however, helping industry find a place to pollute is not the task at hand for EPA. The task is to protect human health and the environment to achieve its mission, EPA must revoke the draft permit. Thanks.

00:19:37.450 --> 00:19:38.260

Bennett, James

Thank you, Erica.

00:19:40.050 --> 00:19:43.020

Bennett, James

OK. Next on my list is Barbara Brandon.

00:19:48.630 --> 00:20:20.440

Barbara Brandom (Guest)

Thank you. My name is Barbara Brandon, and I've been following this issue for some time. In 2018, citizens in Plum Borough spoke out against the first proposed fracking waste injection well in their suburb of Pittsburgh. We are still concerned that toxic waste could escape into the Allegheny River and contaminate downstream public drinking water systems, including that of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority. PWA provides drinking water to hundreds of thousands of people. As a previous speaker noted at 2016 Geological Survey.

00:20:20.540 --> 00:20:51.380

Barbara Brandom (Guest)

Found that oil and gas waste permit injection well in West Virginia had contaminated a nearby Creek in Texas. Cracks in the casing of an injection well allowed contamination of an aquifer through which it ran, so it's not guaranteed that an injection mold will not damage the water. The plum well, that was permitted to receive fracking waste in 2020, is drilled through an old coal mine. They're 16 abandoned gas wells within 1/2 mile of this well and 66 gas wells within one mile.

00:20:51.820 --> 00:21:23.250

Barbara Brandom (Guest)

Terry and Gelder, emeritus professor of geosciences at Penn State, said that the presence of these old wells can facilitate the migration of injected wastewater. This water can migrate thousands of feet laterally. Residents of Plum are complaining about the noise and air pollution produced by trucks that bring fracking wastewater to the side of injection well, per per one permitted in 2020. The formerly quiet neighborhood now experiences heavy truck tech traffic 24/7. I realized you said this is really not the problem.

00:21:23.370 --> 00:21:49.160

Barbara Brandom (Guest)

Of the API, but offloading fluid increases the order of toxic organic compound toxic occupational exposure to benzene, one of the toxic compounds which is mentioned previously, increases the risk of leukemia without any question. The Presidents of the presence of benzene increases the risk of leukemia by 30% in people living within a 3 miles radius of the site of the point pollution.

00:21:50.050 --> 00:22:19.900

Barbara Brandom (Guest)

Do the first injection well started to function the well water and neighbors changed in color and taste, the Chief operating officer for Pentico, Ben Wallace said that a second injection well is needed to increase capacity and operate more efficiently. Where does this end? Pentecost need to dispose of fracking? Waste will increase until they stop fracking. Every injection well developed in Plum will increase the risk of downstream water pollution. It's easy to ignore this risk until disaster occurs.

00:22:20.020 --> 00:22:39.620

Barbara Brandom (Guest)

It may be easy to ignore the increased risk of leukemia in workers and residents because years passed after exposure before this life threatening disease is recognized. But it's morally wrong to ignore the health risks that this industry imposes on Pennsylvanians. For all those reasons, I urge you to deny a permit for this injection well.

00:22:40.460 --> 00:22:41.400

Barbara Brandom (Guest)

Thank you very much.

00:22:44.490 --> 00:22:44.960

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:22:49.650 --> 00:22:51.080

Bennett, James

Trying to say there's a.

00:22:52.560 --> 00:22:53.670

Bennett, James

OK. There we go. You.

00:22:55.410 --> 00:22:58.180

Bennett, James

Next on my list is Kathleen Fuller.

00:23:00.870 --> 00:23:13.740

Kathleen Fuller

Hi, my name is Kathleen Fuller. I'm a Pittsburgh resident. Our drinking water comes from the Allegheny River. This injection well threatens our clean drinking water. And the permit for this injection well should be denied.

00:23:17.060 --> 00:23:17.710

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:23:18.930 --> 00:23:20.870

Bennett, James

Next on my list is Mary.

00:23:21.640 --> 00:23:22.490

Bennett, James  
Make low home.

00:23:24.330 --> 00:23:35.320

Mary McGlohon (Guest)  
Hi, thank you for having this hearing. My name is Mary. I live in Pittsburgh and I get my drinking water from the Allegheny River. This injection while threatens my and my community drinking water and you should deny it. Thank you.

00:23:36.750 --> 00:23:37.190

Bennett, James  
Thank you.

00:23:38.200 --> 00:23:53.390

Bennett, James  
Uh, Jason, you're actually next on the list. I don't know how many people you have there that actually wanna speak, but do you wanna just go ahead and go through? If you can give me actually a number when you come up and then just go through the people there that when I give testimony.

00:24:00.170 --> 00:24:01.060

Jason Muggli  
Sure. Hey, can you hear me?

00:24:01.580 --> 00:24:02.480

Bennett, James  
Yes, I can thank you.

00:24:02.370 --> 00:24:06.870

Jason Muggli  
OK, I I'm gonna hand off to the audience here. There's a couple folks here that may speak.

00:24:07.490 --> 00:24:07.830

Bennett, James  
OK.

00:24:11.320 --> 00:24:42.370

Jason Muggli  
Hello, my name is James Serrano. I work for protect PT as their community advocate. I'm here to comment on the Sadat for a permit. I would like to point out that the so that 3A well has already failed one time as a result of that failure, it has contaminated the water of at least two residents in the Plum borough area, the same design that was used in the Saddat 3A. Well, that failed is being used in the sea dot for a well and there is no guarantee or even.

00:24:43.690 --> 00:24:53.860

Jason Muggli  
There is every likelihood that the saddat for a well will fail in the same manner that the Saddat 3A did. For those reasons, I would object to the permitting of the 4A.



00:24:56.340 --> 00:24:56.700

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:24:59.580 --> 00:25:03.240

Bennett, James

We'll leave it open for anybody else that's in the Township building.

00:25:00.140 --> 00:25:01.810

Jason Muggli

Many options in Python.

00:25:02.830 --> 00:25:03.530

Jason Muggli

And your point?

00:25:09.280 --> 00:25:16.800

Bennett, James

OK. That's it. Jason, if anybody else sends, it's a meeting with multiple people. If anybody else would like to speak there, just please raise your hand again, OK.

00:25:20.140 --> 00:25:21.010

Bennett, James

Next is.

00:25:21.720 --> 00:25:22.930

Bennett, James

Mantha, Stevenson.

00:25:25.880 --> 00:25:57.730

Samantha Stevenson (Guest)

Hello, my name is Samantha. I live in Pittsburgh and the Lawrenceville neighborhood. I get my drinking water from the Allegheny River. I can see the river from my house. I'm a mechanical engineer and engineers use tools called risk matrices when they're weighing the severity of an accident, of a failure against the likelihood of said accident or failure. Given the current 3A failure, the failure of this injection well is so catastrophic and risk that any potential risk of failure is completely unacceptable.

00:25:58.050 --> 00:26:04.220

Samantha Stevenson (Guest)

I will not feel safe drinking water in the city if the pentago injection while receives this permit. Please deny this permit.

00:26:06.650 --> 00:26:07.150

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:26:09.020 --> 00:26:12.570

Bennett, James

Next on my list is Michelle's betting.

00:26:23.060 --> 00:26:25.720

Michele Fetting (Guest)

Hi, thank you. My name is Michelle Fetting.

00:26:26.480 --> 00:26:56.190

Michele Fetting (Guest)

And I live in Pittsburgh and I get my drinking water from the Allegheny River. Thank you to the EPA for holding this hearing. You heard from many of us in 2016 when you were here before. For the Sadat 3A. Well, we told you then about the risks of injecting millions of gallons of radioactive and PFAS laden waste into an unstable environment, very near the source in the intake pump of the drinking water for hundreds of thousands of people and more downstream.

00:26:56.860 --> 00:27:27.250

Michele Fetting (Guest)

We told you back then that approving the well would have tragic consequences, that the casing could not handle the high pressure of these fluids. We told you the well would fail, but the EPA approved the permit anyway, and the casing failed almost immediately and boom, people lost their well water. The aquifer was likely contaminated and downstream drinking water is in jeopardy. EPA is responsible for upholding our nation's laws for clean and safe drinking water.

00:27:27.570 --> 00:27:57.580

Michele Fetting (Guest)

Our water is being destroyed by an often reckless oil and gas industry. People are dying, animals are dying, and the environment is dying. The EPA supposed to be a backstop for protection when our local and state governments fail. They have failed, and we need your leadership more than ever. The EPA must not only deny this permit for the sub dot for a well, but you must engage in a full investigation of fracking waste.

00:27:57.680 --> 00:28:28.930

Michele Fetting (Guest)

Which has been slipping through the regulatory cracks in our nation and a truly spectacular way, some ways to waste samples show radium 226 in excess of 18,000 picocuries per liter. That's 3600 times EPA's drinking water standard. Radium is also a bone seeker. So when it gets into the human body, it goes right for our bone marrow, our highly fracked region is seeing alarming rates of the rare pediatric bone cancer.

00:28:29.010 --> 00:29:00.080

Michele Fetting (Guest)

Doing sarcoma, you can connect the dots. You can also put a stop to this. This permit represents a direct violation of the safe Drinking Water Act in an endangers human health. It is only a matter of time before this well would fail, just like it's twin brother next door and this horrific waste that you can't see or smell or taste gets into our drinking water. You the EPA have an important responsibility here? Lives are truly at risk.

00:29:00.460 --> 00:29:16.810

Michele Fetting (Guest)

Today, as in 2016, we ask the United States Environmental Protection Agency to listen to residents

review the risks and evidence and deny the Pentecostal dot for a permit application for this deep injection. Well, thank you so much.

00:29:17.520 --> 00:29:18.150

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:29:20.270 --> 00:29:22.220

Bennett, James

Next on my list is Elliot.

00:29:23.040 --> 00:29:23.470

Bennett, James

Quebec.

00:29:25.160 --> 00:29:34.330

Elliot Kabay (Guest)

Hello, my name is Ellie Kobe and I'm a Verona resident and I get my drinking water from the Allegheny River and this injection, while absolutely threatens the safety and.

00:29:34.610 --> 00:29:42.690

Elliot Kabay (Guest)

But of my drinking water as similar injection wells have other water supplies and the permit for saddat 4A should be denied.

00:29:45.010 --> 00:29:45.630

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:29:48.250 --> 00:29:49.890

Bennett, James

Kimberly Rooney.

00:29:57.060 --> 00:29:59.200

Bennett, James

Kimberly, you're speaking. You're still on mute.

00:30:13.210 --> 00:30:15.560

Bennett, James

Give me another call here. Kimberly, can you hear me?

00:30:19.630 --> 00:30:26.020

Bennett, James

OK. We'll skip over Kimberly and go back to her. Maybe she stepped away. Danielle Weiner Weiner.

00:30:29.850 --> 00:30:47.040

Danielle Wenner (Guest)

Hi, my name is Danielle and I'm a resident in the Polish Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh. My drinking water comes from the Allegheny River. I'm here to ask the EPA to do what they are charged to do, which

is to protect our environment, and in this case, the safety of all of those whose drinking water is at risk of contamination with radioactive waste. Should this well fail.

00:30:47.660 --> 00:30:55.620

Danielle Wenner (Guest)

Pentagon has already caused contamination of well water from the existing well on this site, as discussed by previous speakers, EPA must revoke this draft permit. Thank you.

00:30:57.960 --> 00:30:58.530

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:31:01.930 --> 00:31:07.830

Bennett, James

Next I have 7174344883.

00:31:09.070 --> 00:31:13.480

Bennett, James

If you could unmute your phone line by pressing STAR 6.

00:31:16.730 --> 00:31:17.440

f5c5791f-7ef9-4a1c-8d26-a1c258066e42

Can you hear me?

00:31:17.810 --> 00:31:18.280

Bennett, James

I can.

00:31:19.620 --> 00:31:26.490

f5c5791f-7ef9-4a1c-8d26-a1c258066e42

Hi, my name is Kathleen. I am a nurse and in the Pittsburgh area then I am a resident of Allegheny County.

00:31:27.530 --> 00:31:29.360

f5c5791f-7ef9-4a1c-8d26-a1c258066e42

I have to say many of my.

00:31:30.120 --> 00:31:38.110

f5c5791f-7ef9-4a1c-8d26-a1c258066e42

Oncology and my transplant patients live in areas where they get water from the Allegheny River.

00:31:39.410 --> 00:31:50.040

f5c5791f-7ef9-4a1c-8d26-a1c258066e42

They have to drink very specialized water that is not treated by anything, and if they have filters we we have filters in the hospital.

00:31:50.800 --> 00:31:53.080

f5c5791f-7ef9-4a1c-8d26-a1c258066e42

That allow for them to have some water.

00:31:54.560 --> 00:32:05.200

f5c5791f-7ef9-4a1c-8d26-a1c258066e42

If we if the EPA allows this permit to go through their significantly limited in their ability to access clean safe water.

00:32:05.840 --> 00:32:10.310

f5c5791f-7ef9-4a1c-8d26-a1c258066e42

Umm, I urge these pH to not allow this permit to go through. Thank you.

00:32:11.830 --> 00:32:12.400

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:32:14.810 --> 00:32:17.650

Bennett, James

Uh, let's try Kimberly Rooney.

00:32:27.350 --> 00:32:29.160

Bennett, James

Believe you're speaking. You're still on mute.

00:32:34.860 --> 00:32:42.070

Bennett, James

If you can't find the mute button, if you go to the top of your screen, it's too over from the leave button, there's a mic you just click on the mic.

00:32:50.620 --> 00:32:54.620

Bennett, James

Yeah. We'll come back to Kimberly again next is Megan M.

00:32:56.880 --> 00:33:12.440

Mehgan M. (Guest)

Hi, my name is Megan. I am a resident of Verona. I am concerned for my drinking water and the drinking water of Pittsburgh residents and surrounding neighborhoods. If this permit is passed, I believe it should be denied.

00:33:15.680 --> 00:33:16.180

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:33:21.800 --> 00:33:24.020

Bennett, James

Next on my list is Josh Kerry.

00:33:26.950 --> 00:33:48.450

Josh Carey

Hi, my name is Joshua Kerry. I live in Wilkinsburg. Studies consistently show that rivers downstream from these walls have high and dangerous levels of toxic chemicals instead of properly disposing the

wastewater they have created. They wanna save money by dumping it in an area that will affect hundreds of thousands of residents and large swaths of natural environments.

00:33:49.360 --> 00:34:07.310

Josh Carey

If this well is cleared by the EPA, residents downstream will have higher rates of cancer and premature death. Contaminates will enter the drinking water, and people and animals will drink the water. This permit should be denied because it goes against the interests of the health and safety of residents downstream from these plants.

00:34:08.860 --> 00:34:17.370

Josh Carey

Let's talk to say and Kim Rooney. Their microphone is not working right now, so if you could give them a few minutes and then call them again.

00:34:17.890 --> 00:34:19.030

Bennett, James

OK. Thank you.

00:34:24.930 --> 00:34:27.680

Bennett, James

Kim, if you can hear me, you can try the dial in number.

00:34:33.020 --> 00:34:34.610

Bennett, James

Next on my list is.

00:34:36.940 --> 00:34:39.570

Bennett, James

Marcela Gonzalez Rivas.

00:34:43.590 --> 00:34:44.860

Gonzalez Rivas, Marcela

Hi, can you hear me?

00:34:45.220 --> 00:34:45.870

Bennett, James

Yes, I can.

00:34:46.510 --> 00:34:51.530

Gonzalez Rivas, Marcela

Hi, my name is Marcela Gonzalez Rivas and I live in Pittsburgh.

00:34:52.290 --> 00:35:08.860

Gonzalez Rivas, Marcela

Uh, my my my position today is that these injection well permit threatens the health of myself, my family and all the residents that get their water from the Allegheny River.

00:35:09.660 --> 00:35:22.700

Gonzalez Rivas, Marcela

Many people have spoken before me and like them, I feel that it is outrageous that the EPA is even considering giving these permit, given all the evidence.

00:35:23.550 --> 00:35:32.020

Gonzalez Rivas, Marcela

That has been put forth in what has happened before, and all the scientific evidence that there is about this toxic waste.

00:35:33.230 --> 00:35:55.770

Gonzalez Rivas, Marcela

The charge of the EPA is to safeguard the environment and the health of the public. It is time for the EPA to do the right thing and do the deny the permit to polluting industry, stop ignoring the voices of the public and the overwhelming evidence about these toxic industry. Deny this permit to the well.

00:35:56.680 --> 00:35:57.740

Gonzalez Rivas, Marcela

Thank you so much.

00:35:59.310 --> 00:35:59.860

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:36:05.020 --> 00:36:07.780

Bennett, James

Next I have Rachel on my list.

00:36:11.350 --> 00:36:25.100

Rachel (Guest)

Hello, my name is Rachel Travis. I'm a resident of the City of Pittsburgh and I rely on the Allegheny River for my drinking water, and this permit would endanger the safety of my drinking water and my community drinking water. So I believe that it should be denied. Thank you.

00:36:27.850 --> 00:36:28.120

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:36:30.660 --> 00:36:34.840

Bennett, James

OK. Next on my list is Michelle. Chap. Kiss.

00:36:36.310 --> 00:37:02.660

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

Good evening. Thank you for this opportunity to to speak. My name is Michelle Naccarato chapatis and I am executive director at women for Healthy Environment, a statewide nonprofit focused on environmental exposures that impact public health. Since 2009, our organization has educated individuals about environmental exposures to impact that impact public health, provided action steps

communities can take to mitigate those risks and advocate it for solutions that create a better tomorrow for all.

00:37:03.370 --> 00:37:11.610

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

Through community programming, technical assistance and policy work, our organization focuses on creating healthy homes, schools, and early learning centers.

00:37:12.330 --> 00:37:44.000

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

I'm here tonight both as a resident of Pombero as well as an environmental health advocate to join the residents of Plum and Allegheny County and opposing the expansion of the pentico injection well. In order to protect that, excuse me, in order to protect the health of residents and future generations to come, I presented in EPA's last public hearing, imploring you to deny it as well. And then again, at the PDP hearing here is what I can share from personal experience. In 2016, I was volunteering my time with others in the borough to update our zoning ordinance.

00:37:44.380 --> 00:38:14.810

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

It was woefully outdated and did not contain adequate zoning to protect public health. We took great strides in identifying areas that would be designated as heavy and in light industrial zones. Pending. I learned of this effort and submitted a letter to the borough indicating their intent to develop an injection while on the subject property, thereby being grandfathered by any new zoning ordinance that would be subsequently passed by borough council. This subject property lies in a rural residential area and as such this oil and gas activity would have been prohibited.

00:38:14.900 --> 00:38:34.870

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

Under the revised ordinance, as you know, unfortunately the court ruled that Pentico had the right to utilize this property for development of an injection well and the EPA and DEP provided the permits necessary to begin operation. We have since learned by although the folks who spoke before me that that particular well has failed.

00:38:35.780 --> 00:38:38.250

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

I was informed by the borough that.

00:38:38.960 --> 00:38:50.910

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

They did not have the authority to put conditions on the operation of the injection well, as that was the function of the EPA and EPA. Therefore no limit to the amount of truck traffic, hours of operation, noise level, etc.

00:38:51.600 --> 00:39:21.190

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

You've heard from residents prior to me this evening, public meetings have been held and residents who live near the site have shared their stories. They have been greatly impacted, others across the borough



have purchased earthquake insurance with the hopes that they never have to use it. As a side note, many insurance carriers had to consult internally when requests are received for this coverage because they had never received that type of request from this region and didn't know how to proceed. Residents have attended community meetings to share the travesties they have encountered first hand.

00:39:21.570 --> 00:39:43.070

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

Noise from the operation impacting their quality of life, air pollutants and poor air quality resulting from diesel truck traffic and diminished water quality as a result of the construction and operation of this well site. For those on private wells, what once was clean water coming from the tap now is cloudy and has an odor. To get a certified drinking water lab report costs thousands of dollars.

00:39:43.930 --> 00:39:52.050

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

Out of reach for so many residents, their only recourse is to rely on the testing of academic partners, which has shown an impact to drinking water quality.

00:39:52.990 --> 00:40:25.640

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

Our communities proximity to these industrial activities also has a direct effect on our mental health and community, well being a growing body of literature has identified the link between oil and gas operations and increases in stress, anxiety and depression among nearby community members. Studies often identify feelings of powerlessness and helplessness caused by changes brought about by industry in our communities and community. Cohesion can also be disrupted by the presence of oil and gas industry in the neighborhood. This dot injection well is doing harm to our community and the agencies that were established to protect human health and the environment.

00:40:25.740 --> 00:40:56.750

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

Have done nothing to stop it. There's been no effort to protect the residents of Plum Borough as well as our neighbors. As stated, the PA Constitution, Article 1, section 27, the right to clean air and clean water is well documented. That waste from the oil and gas industry contains toxic and radioactive substances known to negatively impact human health. The flowback water in these reused wells are corrosive to both the wells or the walls of the well in the skin of anyone who may encounter it. The injection well will inevitably contaminate the ground.

00:40:56.820 --> 00:41:27.700

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

Water from which plum residents as well as downstream residents in Pittsburgh received their drinking water, toxic chemicals linked to cancer, heavy metals that cause neurological damage, and radioactive materials linked to a diversity of negative health outcomes, or all found in the ways that has been injected into plums community our environmental exposure of particular concern to women for healthy environment is radon gas and schools homes and early learning centers right on exposure is the 2nd leading cause of lung cancer. Radium, one of the radioactive substances found in oil and gas waste.

00:41:27.770 --> 00:42:00.770

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

Breaks down into grate on gas that is soluble in water and easily makes its way above ground into the buildings and which we spend time. Many studies have demonstrated the connection between Brian exposure and illness. For example, the USGS 2011 report on radium content of oil and gas fuel produced waters and the Northern Appalachian Basin found that produced waters elevated radium levels of 200 to 2000 times greater than the US Federal drinking water standard for radium. In addition, science and forms us that the hazardous air pollutants released from the diesel truck.

00:42:00.840 --> 00:42:27.180

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

Traffic as well as the well site or or harmful to human health by exacerbating asthma symptoms and leading to other chronic conditions such as cardiac and respiratory disease. And lastly, the USGS also states evidence indicating the presence of wastewater from unconventional oil and gas production was found in surface waters and sediments near an underground injection well near Fayetteville, WV. According to two recent studies. But the USGS University of Missouri and Duke.

00:42:27.840 --> 00:42:40.790

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis

The permit for Pentecost second brine injection well, must be denied. Pentico has already demonstrated that is not capable of being a good neighbor and protecting public health. The expansion of this industry in a rural residential zone is detrimental to our community. Thank you.

00:42:44.460 --> 00:42:45.090

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:42:48.080 --> 00:42:50.410

Bennett, James

OK. Next on my list is Eva.

00:42:51.610 --> 00:42:52.240

Bennett, James

Didn't know.

00:42:55.500 --> 00:43:06.110

Eva M DiNino

Hello, I'm Eva. I'm a resident of Plum Borough and I get my water from the Allegheny County. This threatens my drinking water and the permit for this drinking for this should be denied.

00:43:09.430 --> 00:43:10.160

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:43:14.940 --> 00:43:17.730

Bennett, James

OK, let's try Kimberly Rooney again.

00:43:19.570 --> 00:43:20.540

Kimberly Rooney (Guest)

Hi, can you hear me?

00:43:20.880 --> 00:43:21.460

Bennett, James

Yes, I can.

00:43:22.030 --> 00:43:30.280

Kimberly Rooney (Guest)

Ah, thank you. And thank you so much for your patience. I had to download Chrome for this. So there were a couple of permissions issues that I was trying to work through.

00:43:32.980 --> 00:44:02.630

Kimberly Rooney (Guest)

Hi I'm a resident of Bloomfield Pittsburgh and I get my water from the Allegheny River and Pentico receiving a permit is unacceptable. Pentico has already received multiple violations from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and has already poisoned local well water and plum from the previous injection. Well, that was approved last year. Pentagon has proven it cannot and should not be trusted with hundreds of thousands of people's access to clean drinking water.

00:44:03.730 --> 00:44:29.280

Kimberly Rooney (Guest)

Clean drinking water is a basic human necessity, and this permit not only threatens that with toxic fluids that are too toxic even for municipal wastewater plants, but also threatens all other living organisms that rely on water. The injection well also increases the risk of seismic activity and the secondary pollution from drugs is additionally harmful For these reasons and many more, the EPA should revoke Pentecost permit. Thank you.

00:44:31.010 --> 00:44:31.620

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:44:35.820 --> 00:44:38.830

Bennett, James

Next on my list is Gina Rindy.

00:44:42.430 --> 00:44:44.110

Rindy, Jenna

Thank you. It's actually.

00:44:44.930 --> 00:44:46.300

Rindy, Jenna

Jenna. Wendy.

00:44:46.040 --> 00:44:46.490

Bennett, James

Jenna.

00:44:46.660 --> 00:44:54.590

Rindy, Jenna

Ah, my affiliation is with protect PT and I am their staff environmental scientist.

00:44:47.390 --> 00:44:47.810

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:44:55.350 --> 00:45:04.920

Rindy, Jenna

And as we know, we're here because the EPA has jurisdiction over the food off where I injection well permit in the realm of the safe Drinking Water Act.

00:45:05.680 --> 00:45:33.460

Rindy, Jenna

Protect PT or Organization has identified multiple components of the parenting of Pinnacle for this adapt for a well operation that directly violates or risk violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act. First, I briefly would like to point out that the process by which we ended up here today was actually through a direct violation of the by the EPA.

00:45:34.140 --> 00:46:02.790

Rindy, Jenna

And of the code of Federal Regulations, part 25.5 and 124.10, and that this meeting was set up fully virtually by the EPI, the state of Pennsylvania actually doesn't allow fully virtual meetings and hearings outside of the state of emergency orders. And since we have no record that the EPA actually received approval from the state of Pennsylvania to hold this meeting completely virtually.

00:46:03.540 --> 00:46:35.400

Rindy, Jenna

Up here is that they did indeed violate the CFR 25.5 because the EPA method for approved public notification wasn't fulfilled properly for this hearing as well. All persons and agencies that are affected by this Friday for a permit we're not notified at least 30 days in advance of this hearing. So in that case, yes, our 124 ten was also in violation.

00:46:35.600 --> 00:46:42.730

Rindy, Jenna

By the EPA. So in that case, I do suggest that the EPA remedies those law violations and order to avoid any legal concerns.

00:46:44.220 --> 00:46:59.490

Rindy, Jenna

Moving on the area around the Sadat 3A injection, while it was identified and studied and geological assessment prior to permitting, but we don't have any evidence that the same assessment was conducted for the saddat for a well.

00:47:00.310 --> 00:47:17.020

Rindy, Jenna

In the area of the Sadot 3A, however, there were five water wells and two streams that were identified,

and two of those walls work in dynamited in July of 2021, when that 30 year old induction, while pacing, failed for three.

00:47:17.720 --> 00:47:47.110

Rindy, Jenna

And we did note a lack of detailed engineering review and so water contamination was identified in the residence wealth of our county. The PA Department of Environmental Protection unfortunately didn't test the correct parameters to identify if there was actually injection fluid in the water well. So we actually don't have any evidence that the casing failure didn't lead to fapping fluid waste leakage into those underground.

00:47:47.180 --> 00:48:03.890

Rindy, Jenna

Sources of drinking water for our residents and that contamination specifically is in violation of 40 CFR 144, which prohibits substantial endangerment of the human of human health through the safe drinking water app specifically.

00:48:04.940 --> 00:48:25.060

Rindy, Jenna

I'm also extremely concerned that the same mitigation methods that were applied to the dot 3A after it leaked are the only methods being applied to the .4 at the mechanical integrity test that was conducted in June of 2021.

00:48:26.150 --> 00:48:41.180

Rindy, Jenna

Following the application of new cement bond logs to 3A actually displayed a 30% loss of pressure over that 30 minutes of the test and a 5% loss of pressure would have resulted in a failure of the test completely and.

00:48:42.190 --> 00:49:11.300

Rindy, Jenna

In accordance with the EPA method, so in a combination with that, I also found evidence that the uh Frank Consulting services reservoir and fracture characterization of the Murrysville Formation that was sent to the EPA back in 2015 indicated a need to inject fracturing waste into the murraysville at a pressure that was much higher than normal, which is was said to be around 1400 PSI.

00:49:12.450 --> 00:49:29.630

Rindy, Jenna

Because the injection formation of the permeability of that formation is so low that high suggested pressure could easily lead to increased unnatural faults or casing failure similar to that which occurred in the dot 3A.

00:49:30.440 --> 00:49:59.230

Rindy, Jenna

So in this case, we see that EPA again puts himself at risk of violating 40 CFR 144 and 142 unless a mitigation to the currently existing 3 awell distinctly passes and MIT or a new mitigation as applied to

the dog for a this is especially important because the suggested injection pressure greatly exceeds the pressure that was used during the Nixon through the dot 3A.

00:50:00.400 --> 00:50:12.340

Rindy, Jenna

On the last point here is that I do question the current saturation and alternate receptivity of the Murrayville formation, none of which information has been provided by the EPA.

00:50:13.020 --> 00:50:26.290

Rindy, Jenna

I, as I'm sure you know, full saturation of the stands. So matrix in combination with high injection pressure can lead to unnatural faulting and upward movement of waste fluid.

00:50:26.840 --> 00:50:54.590

Rindy, Jenna

Uh, and the travel of that waste through those and natural faults through that overlaying shale layer threatens the violation of the CFR one 4412. Therefore, I again stated that the issuing of these permits for four A is a complete failure by the EPA to adhere to the safe Drinking Water Act. And then there's a violation of applicable laws.

00:50:55.300 --> 00:51:25.330

Rindy, Jenna

So because the EPA 52 years ago was tasked with the development of environmental baselines that specifically minimize adverse impacts of pollution activities, I see that the EPA is directly today ignoring their own baselines by permitting pinnacle for sudov for A and keeping these permits for the dot 3A. And I ask that the EPA please follow the own.

00:51:25.470 --> 00:51:30.290

Rindy, Jenna

Set of standards that they developed in order to protect the people they serve.

00:51:34.180 --> 00:51:34.600

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:51:39.260 --> 00:51:41.890

Bennett, James

Next on my list is Bob N.

00:51:47.160 --> 00:52:08.570

Bob N

Hello, I'm Bob chikkala. I'm a resident, a resident of Allegheny County and it gets drinking water from the Allegheny River. This is, I think, my third time coming to a EPA hearing and it's time I've asked the EPA to rule in favor of the environment and the health of the people and residents of the area.

00:52:09.280 --> 00:52:14.910

Bob N

And each time the EPA is ruled in favor of the profits of a corporation.

00:52:15.820 --> 00:52:25.500

Bob N

So I'm here for the third time, hoping third times the charm asking the EPA to protect our health over the profits of a corporation. Thank you.

00:52:28.030 --> 00:52:28.490

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:52:30.580 --> 00:52:33.850

Bennett, James

Next on my list is Doctor John Stoltz.

00:52:36.690 --> 00:52:37.080

Dr. John Stolz

OK.

00:52:37.160 --> 00:53:08.660

Dr. John Stolz

Hey, I don't know if you can see me there we go. Alright. Thank you for holding this hearing. I'm a resident of Allegheny County. I live in the North Hills in Glenshire. I'm also a professor of biology and the director of the Center for Environmental Research and Education and Duane University. I spent the last decade investigating water quality issues in both Pennsylvania related to unconventional gas extraction. This is included studies of both service and groundwater, as well as reviewing EPA and DEP files and complaints. I am once again providing testimony and objection to the permitting of a class.

00:53:08.740 --> 00:53:28.690

Dr. John Stolz

To the injection while in Plum Borough, previous time was for permitting the Saddat three well, tonight it's for a second. Well, saddat 4, the objections of the same, but come with additional concerns that the current operations have already impacted a nearby wells and revelations new revelations about the amount of radioactivity associated with oil and gas waste.

00:53:29.330 --> 00:54:01.780

Dr. John Stolz

The new wells to dot #4 is located off old Leechburg Rd within 760 feet of the current operating system #3. It will also inject into the Murrysville sandstone in a similar depth of about 1800 feet. The proposed volume of injection will also be 54,000 barrels or 2.268 million gallons per month. So essentially it's going to double the volume, the access Rd to the injection well is winding with many hills and limited visibility. This is important considering that now there will be over 1000 trucks.

00:54:02.080 --> 00:54:05.040

Dr. John Stolz

Loads a month to meet the injection volumes.

00:54:05.810 --> 00:54:22.840

Dr. John Stolz

I will also restate my concern about the undermining of plum. Boro is known to be completely

undermined according to the mind maps of the PA and has history of mine subsidence. The PA DEP abandoned mine program recommends mine subsidence insurance throughout the Bureau.

00:54:23.660 --> 00:54:28.580

Dr. John Stolz

OK, there are also over 240 pre-existing gas and oil wells in Plum Borough.

00:54:29.820 --> 00:54:44.430

Dr. John Stolz

The other point is is that the the DCNR list 45 private wells in Pittsboro and at least nine private wells within a 2 mile radius of the injection well and also Puckety Creek, a well known local fishing spot is also downhill from the site.

00:54:45.260 --> 00:55:15.900

Dr. John Stolz

Unfortunately, we've been able to do some pre drill, but the fact is is that the injection well facility is not required to do any pre drill testing for the residents. This alone is an undue expense put on the residence and why should this be such a concern? There's the matter of the composition of the waste itself. According to the permit, the Permittee shall monitor and composition of injective flows at the initiation of the injection operation and therefore after two years thereafter they will only need to test for PHP.

00:55:15.980 --> 00:55:46.110

Dr. John Stolz

If the gravity specific conducted sodium chloride, iron, barium, manganese, magnesium, dissolved oxygen, hydrogen sulfide, total organic carbon, total dissolved solid, it's hard to snap. Clinally sounds like a lot, but they don't have to test for bromides through training or radioactivity, which is also known to be associated with these fluids. The data provided in the current permit indicates they've received West waste without the upwards of 7000 picocuries of radium 226 and 2456 peak of queries per liter of radium.

00:55:46.370 --> 00:55:47.260

Dr. John Stolz

228.

00:55:48.260 --> 00:55:54.680

Dr. John Stolz

So the fact is already now this radioactive and toxic waste is flowing under Plum Borough.

00:55:55.300 --> 00:56:04.650

Dr. John Stolz

So, given these considerations and concerns, I strongly advise the EPA to deny the current application for Sadat #4. Thank you.

00:56:07.800 --> 00:56:08.410

Bennett, James

Thank you.



00:56:10.450 --> 00:56:12.640

Bennett, James

Next on my list is Diane.

00:56:16.190 --> 00:56:22.940

Dianne (Guest)

Hi, I'm Diane. I'm a resident of Allegheny County. I'm a mom. I'm a daughter and I drink water.

00:56:23.770 --> 00:56:25.520

Dianne (Guest)

I drink water from Allegheny River.

00:56:28.370 --> 00:56:33.630

Dianne (Guest)

I thank you for this opportunity to talk and I am frustrated and I am scared to death.

00:56:36.870 --> 00:56:42.000

Dianne (Guest)

And I'm overwhelmed. I'm not prepared with a statement. I'm not a scientist.

00:56:43.080 --> 00:56:48.700

Dianne (Guest)

I haven't spent my day researching this, although it seems like a lot of people who are speaking know a lot.

00:56:50.060 --> 00:56:56.940

Dianne (Guest)

I'm a resident. I should not be responsible as a citizen, as a resident to.

00:56:58.030 --> 00:56:59.020

Dianne (Guest)

Save my water.

00:57:00.360 --> 00:57:11.690

Dianne (Guest)

I'm a mom in charge of a family. My elderly, nonverbal mom, and my adorable but nonverbal dog all who depend on me and depend on clean air and safe drinking water.

00:57:12.530 --> 00:57:19.240

Dianne (Guest)

This site has already had casing failures, increasing the risk of radioactive materials that in our drinking water.

00:57:20.350 --> 00:57:25.970

Dianne (Guest)

We've heard from many residents and heard lots of facts and heard science, and I'm really concerned and I'm really confused.

00:57:26.600 --> 00:57:28.980

Dianne (Guest)

The Environmental Protection Agency.

00:57:30.240 --> 00:57:33.240

Dianne (Guest)

Aren't you working to make sure that we have safe drinking water?

00:57:34.660 --> 00:57:39.540

Dianne (Guest)

We depend on you to protect us, to protect the environment and not to protect.

00:57:40.210 --> 00:57:41.160

Dianne (Guest)

Industry.

00:57:41.930 --> 00:57:45.100

Dianne (Guest)

I ask no, I demand.

00:57:45.800 --> 00:57:52.620

Dianne (Guest)

That you protect our environment, you protect our water, you protect us and deny this permit. Thank you.

00:57:54.970 --> 00:57:55.810

Bennett, James

Thank you, Diane.

00:57:57.330 --> 00:57:59.710

Bennett, James

Next would be Gabrielle.

00:58:02.660 --> 00:58:15.220

Gabrielle

Hello, my name is Gabriel Perez. I live in Pittsburgh and I get my drinking water from the Allegheny River. This injection threatens this injection. Well, threatens my drinking water and I do not support it. Thank you.

00:58:17.750 --> 00:58:18.360

Bennett, James

Thank you.

00:58:20.690 --> 00:58:22.300

Bennett, James

Next on my list is.

00:58:24.040 --> 00:58:25.540

Bennett, James  
Anayas Peterson.

00:58:27.570 --> 00:58:30.420

Anaïs Peterson  
Hi Anna, use Peterson. Can you hear me?

00:58:30.600 --> 00:58:31.540

Bennett, James  
Yes, I can thank you.

00:58:32.380 --> 00:59:04.970

Anaïs Peterson  
Yes, my name is Annie Peterson. I live in Allegheny County. I'm in Wilkesburg. I'm here tonight as the Petrochemicals campaigner, earthworks, as well as a resident of Allegheny County who gets my drinking water from the Allegheny River to urge EPA to deny these permits. The decision made about the permit. The decision about the permit before you is a different situation from the decision made in 2018 to approve the 3A injection well. Well, the impacts of an injection well and plunk borough are no longer speculation and EPA must consider the impacts of the existing set out three a well, the existing well well casing has already failed and Pentagon has received violations from PDP.

00:59:05.050 --> 00:59:36.600

Anaïs Peterson  
The failure to report groundwater contamination, as I understand, the only thing EPA is taking into consideration for this permit, is a safe Drinking Water Act. Given that more than 300,000 people get their drinking water from the Allegheny River and the high risk of this injection well contaminating the river with radioactive waste, this permit must be denied. That alone should be enough. But if it is not, here are some more reasons you should deny this permit. First of all, this is a permit for an injection well for oil and gas waste. Oil and gas companies are exempt from state and federal laws that would require them to disclose the name and quantities of chemicals they use in their operations.

00:59:36.890 --> 00:59:58.030

Anaïs Peterson  
While the exact toxins and chemicals remain, undisclosed, research has found that fracking brings tenorm to the surface and waste from the Marcellus basin is more radioactive than other shale basins, according to US EPA analysis, the average concentration of Radium 226 and 74 samples on Marcellus Shale wastewater was 1700 picocuries per liter. For comparison, the limit for drinking water is 5 picocuries per liter.

00:59:58.880 --> 01:00:29.910

Anaïs Peterson  
Inject injection wells across the board. Have a high risk of failure, but this particular permit for an injection while in a is in a repurposed coal mine. The engineering for this project is inadequate and increases the risk of drinking water contamination, both for nearby residents and the hundreds of thousands of people who get their water from the Allegheny River. The casing at the existing 3A well has already failed when the casing failed on the three well. Pentecost cemented a new casing inside the

well. This is the same plan there for proposing for the new well. They're proposing a plan that we have already seen fail and the risk here isn't just cost to replace the casing and the risk is not simply a set back to the company.

01:00:30.050 --> 01:01:02.310

Anaïs Peterson

The risk is radioactive waste and other hazardous chemicals, and the drinking water for hundreds of thousands of people in Allegheny County, the communities of Plum, Oakmont, Verona, Fox, Chapel, Harmer, Blawnox, Aspinwall, O'Hara, Penn Hills, Millville, Wilksburg and the 90 neighborhoods in the City of Pittsburgh. Again, this is the second well Panico wants to place on this site, and we have already seen the problems coming from the first one. The risk to my water and the drinking water, my friend's neighbors and the 300,000 people in the city of Pittsburgh alone who get their water from PWA is unacceptable, and I urge you to deny this permit. Earthworks will also be submitting written comments which have these comments in full.

01:01:02.500 --> 01:01:02.980

Anaïs Peterson

Thank you.

01:01:04.600 --> 01:01:05.070

Bennett, James

Thank you.

01:01:07.720 --> 01:01:08.410

Bennett, James

Chasing.

01:01:09.570 --> 01:01:13.240

Bennett, James

Mcgilley, we're back to the Township. If there's people there that would like to speak.

01:01:12.170 --> 01:01:13.610

Jason Muggli

There's people there I would like to thank you.

01:01:14.770 --> 01:01:31.680

Jason Muggli

Yes. Hi, I'm I. I would actually like to see if uh, Kathy Sheehan is still on. She's been waiting to speak and she's trying to speak from work. So if not, then we we can come back to us. But I just wanted to make sure she was able to speak because she's a plumber resident.

01:01:32.210 --> 01:01:38.380

Bennett, James

She does not currently. Ohh yes she does. She does have. She's actually next on the list. She does have her hand ready. She's next on the list.

01:01:34.260 --> 01:01:34.680

Jason Muggli  
Doesn't.

01:01:37.330 --> 01:01:37.540

Jason Muggli  
OK.

01:01:39.730 --> 01:01:42.240

Bennett, James  
So, Katie, I'll I'll go to you.

01:01:48.360 --> 01:01:51.140

Bennett, James  
Maybe she had. If you're speaking, you're still on mute.

01:01:58.040 --> 01:02:00.490

Sheehan, Katie  
Sorry, I was having technical difficulties.

01:02:00.900 --> 01:02:01.560

Bennett, James  
No worries.

01:02:02.470 --> 01:02:06.870

Sheehan, Katie  
How I cannot put on myself on the camera because I am still at the hospital.

01:02:08.100 --> 01:02:22.740

Sheehan, Katie  
My name is Katie Sheehan. I live at 1835 Old Leechburg Road, right below the Sadat 3A injection well. Myself and my family are probably at highest risk of health impacts, both physical and mental, from the current injection well.

01:02:23.360 --> 01:02:28.340

Sheehan, Katie  
But this the dot 3A injection well is less than 500 feet from my property.

01:02:29.380 --> 01:02:44.400

Sheehan, Katie  
With the proposed for our 4A injection well, I have. I have several concerns. I have filed several complaints with the DEP, EPA, Health Department, local and state police departments and Plum went municipality as well as PennDOT.

01:02:45.280 --> 01:03:17.910

Sheehan, Katie  
Our drinking well water has been tested, showing higher than recommended levels of several elements and a higher pH and is not recommended for consumption. Truck traffic is essentially is 24/7. There is one track on average every 40 minutes or less between 5:00 AM and 2:00 PM I was able to shoot several

live videos showing 5 trucks going to and from the injection well site in less than an hour and this is the case on some or even most days. Some trucks are even tailgating one another, coming to and from the sites.

01:03:18.090 --> 01:03:48.200

Sheehan, Katie

The truck traffic picks back up around 9:00 PM and does not stop all night long. I'm concerned about the truck admissions and known carcinogenic properties to mine and my family's health. I have both cameras and noise monitoring devices on my property to monitor the truck track of the activity 24/7 and have filed these complaints with the departments mentioned above. Several portions of the rotor collapsing and caving in on the road on the way to the Sadat 3A injection well.

01:03:48.510 --> 01:03:55.060

Sheehan, Katie

This was reported to PennDOT and is worth mentioning because there is a 10 ton weight limit on old leechburg Rd.

01:03:55.790 --> 01:03:58.750

Sheehan, Katie

I am concerned from my and my family's health.

01:04:01.280 --> 01:04:08.320

Sheehan, Katie

We will always be concerned about the probability that our conserve water will be contaminated further.

01:04:10.710 --> 01:04:23.750

Sheehan, Katie

I had felt several complaints with the DEP EPA regarding changes to taste, odor and coloration to mine, and my family's water sources since the first sight went active.

01:04:24.590 --> 01:04:46.850

Sheehan, Katie

I have found several complaints again worth mentioning with the DEP and Allegheny Health Department regarding concerns for chemical odor in the air on days the odor is strong, it does cause headaches. I have an air quality monitor device to my property that records data 24/7 and has shown volatile organic compound spikes.

01:04:47.530 --> 01:04:48.440

Sheehan, Katie

When I learned.

01:04:49.310 --> 01:04:53.840

Sheehan, Katie

That pentico wanted to put a second injection. Well, at this on the same Rd.

01:04:55.220 --> 01:05:01.500

Sheehan, Katie

Probably within 1200 feet of my property, I was devastated as I am now.

01:05:02.210 --> 01:05:33.370

Sheehan, Katie

We have attended the EPA public meetings prior to the approval of the first site and of attended Plum Council and zoning board meetings to express our concerns and opposition to these sites. The risk of toxic chemical and radioactive contamination of drinking water, mine subsidence and potential for earthquakes, which, by the way, I have contacted several homeowner as agencies that will not approve earthquake insurance in my area.

01:05:33.460 --> 01:05:38.350

Sheehan, Katie

It is very difficult and I live less than 500 feet from the Seedot 3A well.

01:05:41.130 --> 01:05:48.150

Sheehan, Katie

There's roads aggregation from hundreds of trucks on the road, and For these reasons I am in opposition.

01:05:48.840 --> 01:05:59.640

Sheehan, Katie

To this to dot for a permit. I hope the EPA does the their job, their due diligence and this does not turn into another formality. Thank you.

01:06:01.900 --> 01:06:02.480

Bennett, James

Thank you.

01:06:02.850 --> 01:06:03.370

Lois Drumheller (Guest)

Katie.

01:06:04.630 --> 01:06:09.330

Lois Drumheller (Guest)

She she definitely she was the one that went around with a dirty water thing in the jar that night.

01:06:10.550 --> 01:06:10.750

Lois Drumheller (Guest)

Yeah.

01:06:14.210 --> 01:06:18.090

Bennett, James

OK. Next on my list is Susan coaches.

01:06:20.950 --> 01:06:24.520

Susan Ouchis

Hi, it's Susan Ouches is the pronunciation, but thank you.

01:06:25.960 --> 01:06:54.330

Susan Ouchis

I am a resident of Highland Park and I get my drinking water from the Allegheny River. I'm really grateful for the eloquent statements from my fellow Allegheny County residents. This act clearly affects the quality of the drinking water for myself and the fellow people who live in this Community and for the safety and health of myself, my family and all of our Allegheny County residents, I implore you to not support this bill. Thank you.

01:06:56.530 --> 01:06:57.040

Bennett, James

Thank you.

01:06:59.530 --> 01:07:08.110

Bennett, James

At this time, there's no more hands raised in the the team chat. I ask if you'd like to speak at this point, please raise your hand.

01:07:15.410 --> 01:07:19.730

Bennett, James

Jason, is there anybody else in the Township building that would like to speak or?

01:07:25.810 --> 01:07:26.600

Jason Muggli

No, that's it.

01:07:27.190 --> 01:07:38.300

Bennett, James

OK. Again, I'll give one more call out here. It's 7:10 if there's anyone that would like to give testimony, please raise your hand now. If not, I'll give closing remarks.

01:07:50.580 --> 01:07:51.130

Bennett, James

OK.

01:07:51.880 --> 01:08:02.150

Bennett, James

Well, thank you. On behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency, I would like to thank you all for your participation here and your well thought out comments on this permit.

01:08:03.020 --> 01:08:08.750

Bennett, James

Proposal and Allegheny County, under the EPA's program for underground injection control in Pennsylvania.

01:08:09.660 --> 01:08:15.740

Bennett, James

I assure you that all these comments will be given serious attention as we prepare our final decision in this permit request.



01:08:16.820 --> 01:08:18.060

Bennett, James

I would also like to add.

01:08:18.820 --> 01:08:25.910

Bennett, James

As mentioned before, I extended the time for public to submit comments until July 13th, 2022.

01:08:27.400 --> 01:08:31.900

Bennett, James

If anyone cares to submit written testimony to our attention at EPA.

01:08:33.000 --> 01:08:37.790

Bennett, James

Again, thank you for interest in this proposal. This concludes the formal part of the hearing.

01:08:40.340 --> 01:08:41.190

Bennett, James

Thank you everyone.

01:08:42.320 --> 01:08:46.550

Dianne (Guest)

And I do hope you keep your word and you do look at all these comments seriously.

01:08:48.660 --> 01:08:52.010

Bennett, James

Thank you. Kevin, if you could stop the this formally.

01:08:53.030 --> 01:08:54.480

Bennett, James

I'll stop the transcript, please.