

April 13, 2016

The United States Environmental Protection Agency

Region 5

77 West Jackson Boulevard

Chicago, IL 60604-3590

RE: Final Permit for Savoy Energy Creque 3-20 SWD Well # MI-091-2D-0004

Subject: Appeal

To The Attention of: WU-16J

On behalf of Summerfield Township please accept this letter as an official appeal to the permitting of the above mentioned Injection Well planned in neighboring Lenawee County. Our concerns include the unstable geology which we all depend on for our fresh water needs both for residential and agricultural.

The other concern is of "self-reporting" allowed to "wild cat drillers" who operate with little to no accountability regarding safety. In the event of a disaster who will pay? Recently violations were discovered at 2 operating sites within our township only because of the insistence from the township to the DEQ to provide an inspection. Last week brine was leaking at a site operated by Savoy causing ground contamination discovered and never reported to the local 1st responders or township.

I received a phone call from Senator Dale Zorn who had been notified of the problem and was investigating why the DEQ did not report the incident. With the close proximity of the Raisin River which serves several local communities drinking water needs and the fault line, we would ask that this permit be denied.

I would also ask that the EPA provide an educational public forum for the 7000 residents in the area who for the most part do have an understanding of what is really being proposed.

Sincerely,

John R. Chandler

By Dennis Pelham

April 05, 2016 11:00PM

Brine leak forces Savoy Energy to shut down oil well

A leaking brine pipe discovered late Friday caused Savoy Energy to shut down an oil well near Tipton Highway and Moore Road until repairs can be made.

Dirt around what was described as a "pin hole" leak was excavated and piled on plastic sheeting for later disposal. The excavation work raised concerns among local residents.

Brine separated from oil at the well was reported leaking at the site, said Kristy Shimko, a geologist at the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's Office of Oil, Gas and Minerals. No oil spill was reported, she said.

Brine that is pumped out of the ground at the oil well is separated and piped to a nearby disposal well, Shimko said.

Shimko said Savoy reported the leak was discovered Friday evening in a steel pipe that crosses under Tipton Highway. A neighbor noticed a wet area developing where there had not been any water before, she said.

Savoy reported removing about 100 cubic yards of soil to be trucked to a landfill for disposal, said Shimko.

The Lenawee County Emergency Management office initially was left out of notifications sent to state and federal agencies. County emergency management coordinator Curtis Parsons said he contacted a Savoy official on Saturday for an explanation of activity at the site.

Plans for repairing the brine disposal line were under discussion at that time, said Parsons.

"I would hope when they have a plan in place they will notify my office," he said.

Permit applications to bore under Tipton Highway, Emery Road and Knight Highway were submitted Monday morning to the Lenawee County Road Commission, said operations manager Jason Schwaib. The company asked to replace steel pipes under the roads with a three-inch plastic line, he said.

The permits could be issued as soon as today, April 5, he said.



PHOTO: DAILY TELEGRAM PHOTO BY LEO STRAHER, LENCONNECT.COM

Savoy Energy employees worked to remove soil containing brine that leaked from a pipe at the firm's oil well near Tipton Highway and Moore Road.