

To: Edward Hanlon/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 04/05/2010 02:40 AM

Subject: public comment: Environmental Engineering Committee Augmented for Hydraulic Fracturing Review

To Edward Hanlon,

My husband and I live in Ithaca, NY, and we are directly affected by the potential of hydrofracturing of the Marcellus Shale. Many of our neighbors have signed leases permitting surface drilling rights, and if the drilling is approved we face threats on many fronts:

Pollution, especially air, noise, water, light.

Economic costs due to the decline of quality of the environment.

Danger to human health, particularly because benzene and other endocrine disrupters are in the hydrofracturing fluid.

If drilling comes to our neighborhood, we will not be able to stand the 24-hour-a-day noise, air, and light pollution. We have a well, and it could become contaminated. Moving at this point in our lives will cause us great financial loss, because we are towards the end of our mortgage, and we planned to live here for the rest of our lives. I am a piano teacher, and I have already lost a student, because her mother is a cancer survivor and chemically sensitive, and they can't risk living in an area where benzene and other chemicals would be released. We plan to make significant improvements to our home, and would hire local contractors, but that work is on hold until we hear that hydrofracturing of the Marcellus Shale will not be permitted.

Hydrofracturing would also create more greenhouse gas emissions.

I urge you to broaden the study to include all these factors.

I have lived in Ithaca for over 50 years, and this is the greatest threat I have ever seen to my home, community, and environment.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sarah G. Gowin