

Mr. Edward Hanlon
Science Advisory Board Staff Office
US Environmental Protection Agency
(Mailcode 1400R)
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460-4164

Dear Mr. Hanlon:

I request that you include me as a stakeholder in the study of the "Potential Impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing on Drinking Water Resources." I am a stakeholder because of my (or a family member's) association with Texas and/or the industry in one or more of the following ways:

- * As a landowner with oil and natural gas mineral rights in Texas
- * As an employee of an oil or natural gas exploration or production firm
- * As a shareholder with a financial interest in an oil or natural gas exploration or production company; and/or
- * As an owner of real estate in Texas

Future rules and regulations recommended by the advisory committee, if accepted by the EPA, could negatively impact the oil and natural gas industry in Texas. Regulatory action that fails to consider the economic effects of stopping or reducing hydraulic fracturing would jeopardize employment in that industry, reduce the value of my investments, and/or raise my property taxes since Texas (and many other states) currently receives significant severance taxes from oil and natural gas production.

As a stakeholder, I request that you consider these issues, and keep me updated on all future meetings and releases of any and all further reports or regulations of any kind considered and/or drafted by the advisory committee.

Signed,

Richard Hudman
503 Melrose Dr
Richardson, TX 75080

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Science Advisory Board Staff Office
US Environmental Protection Agency
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Dear Mr. Hanlon:

As a stakeholder in the study on the "Potential Impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing on Drinking Water Resources," I ask you to consider the constitutional issues that may result from any rule or regulation that would effectively end - or significantly reduce - the use of hydraulic fracturing to produce oil or natural gas.

In the "Environmental Justice" Section of the "Draft Plan to Study the Potential Impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing on Drinking Water Resources," the committee makes the following comment on Page 49: "Stakeholders have raised concerns about the environmental justice implications of gas drilling operations, noting that people with a lower socioeconomic status may be more likely to consent to drilling arrangements because they may not have the resources to engage with policymakers and agencies to affect alternatives. Additionally, drilling agreements are between landowners and well operators, implying that tenants and neighbors may have little or no input in the decision-making process." The committee proposes "to address these concerns (Page 50)."

Given the abundant judicial review of well-established mineral rights law in the State of Texas, I object to this proposal, and to any consideration by the committee or EPA regarding any purported lack of "input" by any tenants or neighbors regarding someone's mineral rights. So long as the rights of tenants and neighbors are respected and not infringed upon in accordance with Texas state law, there is no basis for the EPA to address any purported lack of tenant and neighbor input.

Finally, as a stakeholder, I request that you consider these issues, and keep me updated on all future meetings and releases of any and all further reports or regulations considered and/or drafted by the advisory committee.

Signed,

Richard Hudman
503 Melrose Dr
Richardson, TX 75080