

**Gregory Lee Mullins
Abingdon, Virginia 24211**

March 7, 2011

Mr. Ed Hanlon
U. S Environmental Protection Agency
Science Advisory Board Staff Office
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D. C. 20004

RE: Hydraulic Fracturing

Dear Mr. Hanlon,

Please find my brief comments on the above referenced subject. I think that putting off explosives underground can have unpredictable effects on the strata around, up or down. There is no way that I can predict which directions any cracks, joints or faults will go without the benefit of testing, studies or sampling of the area to be proposed for Hydraulic Fracturing. So with that in mind how can anyone predict that the ground water, even if above will not be affected. You also do not know the strength of materials in which the vibrations will penetrate and also cause further separation.

Since I have not had time to do an in depth study of Hydraulic Fracturing and its effects on strata, ground water and subsidence, I must object to any Hydraulic Fracturing until I could have the opportunity to do the same. Hydraulic Fracturing is relatively new to the oil and gas industry and has greatly increased production. However it has now come to a time that Hydraulic Fracturing must be studied in order to continue with this process.

I pray that the EPA could help me study this process in some way and issue a moratorium on Hydraulic Fracturing until such time that studies on the affect can be reached and concluded.

With Kindest Regards,

Gregory Lee Mullins
Professional Geologist
Professional Land Surveyor