

PUBLIC COMMENTS

SB 250

Written Comments

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I come to you from Ashland County. A county that is the up and coming ground zero for fracking in NE Ohio. Our area is on the radar for 50,000 fracked wells in the coming years. Cabot Oil frackers plan to send product to Michigan and then on to Japan. Columbia Gas storage areas sold out to Trans Canada offering my community up to foreign investors. The plans are to experimentally frack through these old gas storage areas.

Now let's take a look at the many pipelines like Rover, a 2 x 42 inch fracked gas lines, Utopia East NE, Sunoco in Ashland County just to name a few. The NEXUS is just to the N of us.

We have an unknown number of orphaned and abandoned wells that seem to surface when a new property owner is at the closing table. We have fracking waste injection wells taking on waste from out of state. We have frackers sucking the life out of our rivers and streams.

We know what is going on in Louisiana. One woman was arrested 4 times in two weeks often on private property. In Pennsylvania a grandmother was arrested for feeding the bears near a pipeline easement, they said she was encouraging the invasion of bears and threatened their work on a disputed easement. She was composting just as she as done for many years before the pipeliners came and destroyed 3.5 acres of woods and wetlands on her land. These are your mothers and your grandmothers on the front lines being charged as felons.

I must ask you is this what you want for your constituents if we are silenced? Who will speak for the water? Land? Future generations?

If SB 250 is moved forward I see our Constitutional rights move out the door along with this bill. If we cannot speak for future generations who will? If this bill is allowed to move forward you will have the only voice. Who do you speak for?

This bill threatens the very purpose of our Constitution. Under the first amendment we have the right to free speech. The right to speak out against those that threaten our very existence. This bill would take away our right to educate the public with these truths and give free reign to industry to do as they please without merit.

Had we not spoken out against fracking in my community people would not have access to baseline water testing before the fracking started. How would they know about our community

health registrars and monthly coalition meetings bringing in experts on water contamination and what to look for in these impacted communities? Someone must tell them what to do with this information. We tried to get our emergency management, county commissioners and health department to participate in a recent health and education fair. Not one showed up. So you see we are on our own. Please do not take the only chance we have left to educate our people away and do put this bill to rest once and for all. With the infrastructure planned for the Ohio River Valley we must be able to protect the water, air and lands from these. industries for our future generations.