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Jason Stephens, Chair

Energy and Natural Resources Committee 77 South High Street
13th Floor Columbus, OH 43215

COMMITTEE: House Energy and Natural Resources.

Chair: Jason Stephens DATE: Thursday, May 27, 2021 TIME: 10:00 am ROOM: Room 017. HB 282:
Regards sale of brine from oil / gas operations as a commodity. Sponsors: Rep. Young, B., Rep. Jones

Dear Chairman Stephens,

Please accept my comments opposing the passage of HB 282. As an instructor in Environmental Studies at Ohio University and a resident of Athens Ohio, I am well aware of the complexities of the oil and gas waste product and industry. I am therefore horrified that the state legislature is considering allowing this product in deicing materials.

The bill, will establish conditions for the sale of "brine" as a commodity, commercializing radioactive waste from oil and gas drilling for use on Ohio roads and sidewalks.

One such product, currently marketed under the name AquaSalina, was tested by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and found to contain extremely high levels of Radium-226 and Radium-228, as brine from both conventional and fracked wells does. There is NO removal of any radioactive material in the manufacturing of this product, contrary to claims by the company. NO regulatory agency or certifying agency claims this product is safe.

Please accept my comments that I do not support the commercialization of this product. The legislature must utilize science in its decision making.

Please record my opposition to the passage of HB 282.

Best regards,

Loraine McCosker

Athens Ohio

