

Testimony in opposition Ohio House Bill 282 and SB 171.

I am Jeanne Nightingale, a citizen of Hamilton County, Ohio, and a member of the Executive Committee of the Sierra Club Miami Group

HB 282 and SB 171 would commercialize toxic radioactive oil and gas waste and authorize spreading it on roads, sidewalks and parking lots.

In the interest of public safety and health, I strongly believe we should not take the risk of using AquaSalina and oil and gas brine from conventional wells where it would impact human and environmental health in our communities.

Samples of this toxic waste product has been tested by ODNR and is found to contain high radium levels. These experimental studies indicate that levels were 300 times higher than allowed in drinking water and above the Ohio legal limits allowed for Radium 226 and 228 discharge into the environment. Human consumption of any amount of AquaSalina is thus discouraged.

On what basis did ODNR change its position on its first recommendation? How much radioactivity is “safe” for human consumption? Are “public health” and “environmental safety” no longer major concerns of ODNR? As citizens of the state of Ohio, we expect the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to write regulations that will protect us from the dangers of radioactive brine.

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