

March 21, 2018

Penn Township Board of Commissioners
2001 Municipal Court
Harrison City, PA 15636

Re: Submission to the Zoning Chapter 190 Amendment Public Hearing

Dear Board of Commissioners,

On December 8th, 2017 Protect PT, a citizen organization working to ensure the community's health, safety, and quality of life from the effects of unconventional gas development made comments to the proposed Zoning Chapter 190, Zoning, Standards for the Location of Injection Wells Within the Township. On behalf of our 162 members that reside in Penn Township, we urge you to incorporate these important standards into the legislation.

While Penn Township Commissioners took a proactive measure in providing zoning legislation for injection wells before any were proposed in the township, there is very little in the proposed legislation regarding performance standards. Our comments to the township included additional performance standards that would protect the community from the environmental and nuisance impacts created by wastewater injection wells in the township.

These suggestions include but are not limited to:

- Additional setback distances to residences, churches, schools, and other public dwellings
- Site plans prepared by licensed engineers identifying all protected structures within 1,500 feet
- Traffic impact study with specific guidelines for analysis
- Environmental impact analysis
- Air quality and hydrogeological studies
- Pre and post-development soil testing
- Additional insurance requirements giving the township some protection against damage done to roads, personal injury and general liability.

These are common sense additions to an ordinance and would allow for additional protection to area residents, and in the long run, save the township time and money. We commend the Commissioners for taking this proactive first step with zoning, but so much more can be done. Ultimately it is your duty to protect residents from harm and abide by the Pennsylvania Constitution which states that, "*people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and aesthetic values of the environment.*" We ask that you uphold your oath taken as an elected official to uphold our constitution and incorporate these standards.

Sincere Regards,

Gillian Graber, Exective Director