

FRIENDS OF DECKERS CREEK

PO Box 877 * Dellslow, WV 26531 * www.deckerscreek.org

August 2, 2013

Dear Friends and Partners:

We are writing to inform you of Friends of Deckers Creek's opposition to a proposed Class II wastewater injection well being planned by the Energy Corporation of America (ECA) in the Deckers Creek watershed.

The proposed well will be located less than one mile northwest of Masontown, between Sand Bank Road and Deckers Creek (Well#: Cascade 474, API#: 077-00170, Lat: 39.559727, Long: -79.810163). The proposed well appears to be about 500 feet from Deckers Creek and just northwest of the Masontown rail trail parking area, also located on Sand Bank Road. We have the exact location since ECA plans to "repurpose" an existing conventional gas well as a Class II underground wastewater injection well. The Class II well would be used for the injection of wastewater from regional wells that have been horizontally drilled and hydraulically fractured. You can insert the latitude and longitude provided above into a Google map locator to find the exact location of the proposed well.

The attached letter details our basis for opposing this well. Please read the letter carefully. We feel it is important that all stakeholders understand our concerns.

We plan numerous events to help inform the public and rally opposition to the proposed well. We will keep you informed of these events and activities and hope you can join us. We plan a public discussion and overview of the ECA well plans as part of the next FODC outreach meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 22, 2013, at WVU's Agricultural Science Building (Room 1001) from 6:30p to 9:00p. The outreach meeting also will include a screening of the critically-acclaimed film *Green Fire* about renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold.

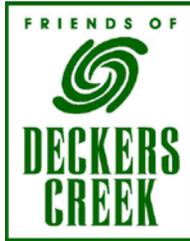
If you have any questions, concerns and/or know of ways that we can better address this situation, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiles,
Executive Director

cc: FODC Board of Directors
FODC Staff

The mission of Friends of Deckers Creek is to improve the natural qualities of, increase public concern for, and promote the enjoyment of the Deckers Creek watershed



FRIENDS OF DECKERS CREEK

PO Box 877 * Dellslow, WV 26531 * www.deckerscreek.org

July 30, 2013

Mr. Donald Supcoe
Executive Vice President & General Counsel
Energy Corporation of America
501 56th Street
Charleston, WV 25304

Dear Mr. Supcoe:

The purpose of this letter is to inform the Energy Corporation of America (ECA) that Friends of Deckers Creek (FODC) is opposed to the installation of the ECA Class II wastewater injection well in Masontown, WV (Well: Cascade 474, API: 077-00170, Lat: 39.559727, Long: -79.810163). We oppose the installation of this well for various reasons that are outlined below.

Our basis for this opposition includes, but is not limited to the following:

- The subject waste well and its inevitable impact on the Deckers Creek watershed is in direct conflict with the mission and vision of FODC as specified in our mission statement; this mission is supported by an extensive membership and alliances.
- Over the past 20 years the City of Morgantown, Monongalia and Preston Counties, the State of West Virginia, the Federal government and numerous other funding groups have invested over 8 million dollars in the restoration of the Deckers Creek watershed, with the majority of those funds coming from taxpayers. The subject Class II injection well will jeopardize the intent of this investment.
- Data from FODC's water quality monitoring programs have shown significant improvements in water quality and insect and fish populations, especially in the upper reaches of the watershed and through the scenic gorge area. FODC has implemented the projects that have made these improvements possible. Because of the location of the proposed well, immediately upstream from the gorge, just one accidental spill could wipe out these hard-earned improvements for years.
- The subject well threatens the region's groundwater in several tangible ways, including:
 - Potential leaks from storage tanks and storage ponds,
 - Accidental or unlawful spills from wastewater delivery trucks,
 - Spills and leaks from injection manifolds,
 - Failure of well casings, and
 - Failure of site impoundments.

The mission of Friends of Deckers Creek is to improve the natural qualities of, increase public concern for, and promote the enjoyment of the Deckers Creek watershed

- The geological nature of the region is problematic with regard to the well site if leaks, spills or failures of well casing were to occur:
 - The proposed well is less than ten miles away from a historically active seismic epicenter, creating the potential for induced seismic activity and the creation of new fault lines.
 - The well is located on an anticline hinge, potentially leading to wastewater migrating down the structural dip toward Masontown, contaminating the flooded Masontown mine pool, threatening historic Masontown city water sources and/or discharging into Glady Run and Deckers Creek.
 - The intersected Greenbrier limestone has high hydraulic conductivity, promoting quick migration of wastewater into the watershed at several locations.

- We are concerned with the large increase of expected truck traffic with unknown manifests and the industrialization of the trail-head. The well site is adjacent not only to Deckers Creek, but also the Deckers Creek Rail Trail, with access to the well site having to cross the trail. Access to the well site will use the same road as the parking area for public access to the trail and creek. This area has become a recreational destination, which would be despoiled by the truck traffic and the noise and odors caused by the trucks and the general industrialization of the location.

We appreciate ECA's openness and advance notice of the proposed Class II well. However FODC has worked hard to restore, preserve and promote the watershed, and we must oppose any action that threatens Deckers Creek, the Deckers Creek Rail Trail and the community. FODC is part of a larger community that will oppose this well since it threatens a regional recreational and natural area. We respectfully hope that ECA will abandon the proposed Class II wastewater injection well project.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wiles
Executive Director

CC: Rodney Winters, ECA
Ryan Deaderick, ECA
Jennifer Vieweg, ECA
Colette Van Straaten, ECA
Rich Dennis, FODC Board President
Brian Carlson, FODC Board Vice-President
Karl Diefenbach, FODC Board Secretary
Vicky Shears, FODC Board Treasurer
Tim Denicola, FODC Water Remediation Project Manager