

March 13, 2015

2017-03-24 12:00:35
Kansas Corporation Commission
/s/ Amy L. Green

Kenneth L. Riffel
1748 1400 Ave
Hope, Kansas 67451

Rene Stuckey
UIC-Production Department
Kansas Corporation Commission
266 North Main Street, Suite 220
Wichita, Kansas 67202-1513

KCC WICHITA
MAR 17 2017
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Dear Sir,

Please accept this letter as a protest against the Kansas Corporation Commission issuing a permit to Quail Oil & Gas of Garden City, Kansas, to construct a new wastewater injection well in Morris County in the Diamond Springs area. In their application, I understand the company proposes a capacity of injecting 5,000 barrels a day at 500 psi with the proposed well.

I am a sixth-generation resident of Dickinson County and Kansas. My wife and I live on a small farm where I grew up in southern Dickinson County. Our farm and home is less than an hour from the proposed site of the new wastewater injection well. We have grave concerns about the safety and potential consequences of such a practice in the proposed area.

In a published assessment of the area, ESU geology professor James Aber stated, "It would be fair to say that geologists at Emporia State University are alarmed by the prospect of injecting wastewater anywhere near the Nemaha Ridge and Humboldt Fault zone. The proposed injection well is located atop the Nemaha Uplift, a buried basement structure." We agree with Professor Aber.

Surface mapping of the Diamond Creek area shows an additional reason the area is not suitable for waste injection. Specifically, the proposed location lies in an area encompassed by the watershed and headwaters of the Diamond Creek area near the Marion/Chase County border. The potential for environmental disaster, should an accident occur, make this area a high-risk location...one we believe is not suitable for any waste injection.

Several times over the past few years, we have felt our home shake from earthquakes for the first times in our lives. We understand the quakes have been caused by injection wells in Oklahoma. Never in our lives of over sixty years have either of us ever experienced such geologic events in Dickinson County. We do know that the area we live in is close to the largest fault in Kansas, and the entire region is divided by historically active faults below the Earth's surface. We believe high-volume injection of fluid that can lubricate these faults has grave potential for both personal and environmental safety in Kansas.

We do not believe that injecting manmade waste into any area in the general proximity of the Nemaha Uplift, or Anticline, and Humboldt Fault zone is in the best interests of the safety of residents or the protection of vital, natural resources in the area. Whether it be quality groundwater, highly productive farm and ranch lands, beautiful areas of public recreation, desirable country and urban home locations, or one of the last stands of virgin tall grass prairie that remain in the state, the potential for destruction and disaster is just too great.

With these facts and thoughts in mind, we respectfully ask that you reject this and any future application for wastewater injection in the Flint Hills area of Kansas. Our natural resources and their continued availability in usable form are one of our greatest gifts. In fact, we believe, and are sure you would agree, our environmental quality is the primary reason that people choose to live in this area of the state. While other areas are suffering from a decline in population, our county is actually growing. In these difficult economic times we do not want or need that to change for any reason.

Thank you for your time and consideration concerning this important issue. We look forward to your response to our concerns and the rejection of any attempt to inject industrial wastewater into our lands.

With regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kenneth & Carla Riffel", written in a cursive style.

Kenneth and Carla Riffel

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