

92nd District

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Rules & Reference*

Debbie Phillips
State Representative

National Forest

Nelsonville, OH 45764

May 22, 2012

Dear Ms. Carey,

I am writing regarding the consideration of leasing new parcels of Wayne National Forestland for oil and gas exploration. Because the drilling technologies used in hydraulic fracturing are relatively new and were not contemplated at the time the Wayne National Forest adopted rules in 2006 or included in the plan, it would seem that an Environmental Impact Study would be helpful.

Hydraulic fracturing could potentially have environmental, economical, safety and public health effects on Wayne National Forest and the surrounding communities. Due to this significant impact on our region, it is important to approach this issue with a clear understanding of all possible outcomes.

According to the U.S. Forest Service groundwater policy and guidance documents, the Wayne National Forest has the responsibility to protect groundwater and drinking water supplies that may be affected by its activities. I ask that you carefully consider the impacts of these activities through an Environmental Impact Study.

Our public lands are a precious resource, and I believe that we all have a responsibility to protect these treasures for future generations to enjoy.

Thank you for your time and consideration into this matter, and please feel free to contact me regarding this or any other issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie Phillips".

Debbie Phillips