

# Athens County Commissioners



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## Ginsburg Injection Well Resolution

Whereas, the Athens County Ginsburg injection well has a 25-year history of violations, well failures, notices to be shut down, and incomplete inspection reports; and

Whereas, the said well has an unfenced open pit that receives toxic, radioactive waste [citation] left to evaporate into the air; and

Whereas, there have been reports of evidence that its pit has overflowed or leaked; and

Whereas, the worker staffing the well has reported to citizens that he does not wear gloves when he handles the used filter every week or two and has been seen to emerge from a little shed adjacent to the pit where he apparently waits for trucks, with his only visible "protection" from fumes a box window fan located between him and the pit and blowing away from him; and

Whereas, the used filter is reportedly dumped with regular trash into a dumpster, which is emptied by a worker who reports being uninformed and unconcerned about the radioactivity and toxicity of the waste; and

Whereas, the surrounding surface-, ground- and drinking water supplies have never been tested by ODNR for contamination; and

Whereas, ODNR receives financial gain from the operation of this well while also being the agency in charge of regulating it; and

Whereas, people spending time on the public road near the well have consistently experienced headaches, nausea, and burning eyes within ten minutes or less; and

Whereas, the Ginsburg well does not meet USEPA commercial well permitting requirements or even current Ohio permitting standards, which are also inadequate to protect drinking water and communities from toxic, radioactive contamination; and

Whereas, loopholes in federal environmental laws mean that the toxic, radioactive waste receives no scrutiny or restriction; and

Whereas, this body has supported Ohio HB 148 and SB 178 and stated support for "strong regulation of

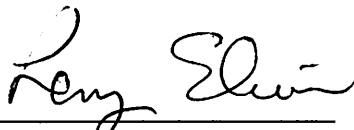


hydraulic fracturing at the state and federal levels," and "our responsibility to support economic development without degradation of the environmental and agricultural integrity of the county," and called upon Congress to "pass the Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness Act ("FRAC Act"), currently pending in Congress, which would repeal the fracking exemption to the Safe Drinking Water Act and require disclosure of chemicals used in fracking," and called "upon the state of Ohio and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to...require full disclosure of the chemical constituents used in deep shale drilling and hydraulic fracturing and the[ir] disposal methods"; and

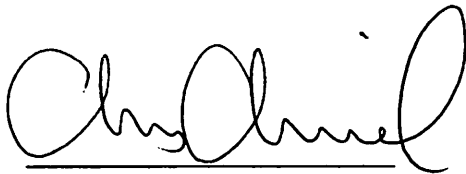
Whereas, the community has expressed grave concern about the Ginsburg well, including people moving from the area due to their concern about air- and water pollution, extensive appeals to ODNR and state legislators, and peaceful civil disobedience to highlight the extent of the risks; and

We hereby call on Ohio Department of Natural Resources to immediately and permanently shut down operations of the Ginsburg Well.

Signed this 15<sup>th</sup> of October, 2013.



Lenny Eliason, President



Chris Chmiel, Vice President



Charlie Adkins