



**Ground Water Protection Council**  
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*Dedicated to protecting our nation's ground water.*

U.S. House of Representatives  
Oversight and Government Reform Committee  
Room 2157 RHOB  
Washington D.C.

October 30, 2007

Honorable Henry Waxman

The Ground Water Protection Council was actively engaged several years ago when the Congress was discussing the safety and appropriate regulatory frame work for hydraulic fracturing of oil and gas formations. At that time we conducted a survey of state oil and gas agencies and participated in a study done by the USEPA, both of which concluded that there was no threat to underground sources of drinking water (USDW) from these operations.

We further concluded that there was no need for additional federal regulation to be imposed on the state regulatory programs and that to do so would place a time and expense burden upon them that would take away from more immediate and environmentally protective activities.

No evidence has come to our attention in the ensuing years that causes us to change our view that this process does not present any ongoing threat to USDW's and that the states are providing more than adequate oversight of hydraulic fracturing operations. We would oppose any changes to the current state/federal regulatory partnership that oversees this program.

We would like the opportunity to visit with Committee Staff before changes are made to the federal energy policy regarding hydraulic fracturing of oil and gas formations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michel Paque". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michel" and last name "Paque" clearly distinguishable.

Michel Paque  
Executive Director  
Ground Water Protection Council