President Obama The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20500

February 20, 2014

Dear President Obama,

Enclosed please find letters from more than 1,000 health professionals nationwide calling for a stop to fracking.

Fracking operations often use toxic chemicals, generate millions of gallons of wastewater that can be laced with cancer-causing and even radioactive material, release asthma-inducing volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other harmful pollutants into the air we breathe, and contribute significantly to global warming.

Given this toll of damage, these health professionals assert the prudent and precautionary response would be to stop fracking, and are calling for immediate action from your administration and other elected officials to protect public health.

Sincerely,
Courtney Abrams
Clean Water Program Director
Environment America Research & Policy Center

Let's Protect America's Health from Fracking

February 20, 21014

Dear President Obama,

As doctors, nurses, researchers and other health and public health professionals, we are deeply concerned about high-volume horizontal hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") and its growing threats to public health and the environment. Fracking operations (i.e., the full cycle of extraction operations, not solely the fracturing technique) inject complex mixes of toxic chemicals deep underground; generate millions of gallons of wastewater that is often laced with radioactive, cancer- and other disease-causing toxicants; release toxic chemicals into the air we breathe, and contribute significantly to climate change. Each of these threats increasingly takes its toll, including:

- Fracking operations have contaminated drinking water sources from Pennsylvania to New Mexico.
 Leaks and spills of fracturing fluid which often contain known carcinogens (e.g. benzene) and
 endocrine-disrupting chemicals have polluted rivers and streams. Other contaminants have flowed
 into residential wells. And fracking wastewater often containing heavy metals (e.g. lead, arsenic)
 and radioactive materials (e.g. radon, uranium) has leached from hundreds of waste pits into
 groundwater.
- Air contaminants released from fracking operations include volatile organic compounds (VOCs); some are carcinogenic, and some damage the liver, kidneys and central nervous system. Researchers at the University of Colorado School of Public Health found that people living within a half-mile of gas fracking wells had a higher excess lifetime risk of developing cancer than people living farther away.
- There are a growing number of documented cases of individuals suffering acute and chronic health effects while living near fracking operations including nausea, rashes, dizziness, headaches and nose bleeds. Physicians reviewing medical records in Pennsylvania have called these illnesses "the tip of the iceberg" of fracking impacts on health; and
- Fracking operations release significant volumes of global warming pollution. Methane, which
 scientists now say is 86 times more potent than carbon as a greenhouse gas over 20 years, is released at
 oil and gas fracking wells, and also during the processing, transmission, and distribution of gas. Global
 warming presents a major threat to human health via heat waves, extreme weather events, flooding,
 water contamination, sea level rise, expansion of insect-borne diseases, worsening air quality, crop
 damage, and social instability and conflict.

Given this toll of damage, the prudent and precautionary response would be to stop fracking. Instead, the oil and gas industry is seeking to expand fracking at a frenzied pace, even into areas that provide drinking water for millions of Americans.

In light of this, we urge you to take two immediate steps to protect families and communities on the frontlines of fracking: First, call for closing the loopholes that exempt fracking from key provisions of our nation's bedrock environmental and public health laws, including the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and hazardous waste laws. Second, heed the recommendation of your administration's fracking advisory committee and declare sensitive areas – including places that provide drinking water for millions of Americans – as "off-limits" to fracking.

Left unchecked, high-volume horizontal hydraulic fracturing could soon emerge as one of the greatest environmental health threats we have faced in a generation. We urge you to take action now.

Sincerely,

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William Kastern Michael Yellin, RN Carol Moyston Private Practice **UNC** Hospital First Responder Chapel Hill James Kenny, MD Phyllis Park Greenville **North Dakota** Adena Health Ron Saeger, Lt Col, USAF Jacqueline Knable, RN, (Ret) Clare Puskarczyk, PhD Retired MeritCare Hospital Campbell Kim Larson Ohio Steven Radwany, MD Thomas Albani, MPH Associate Professor, Nursing Akron Goldsboro Youngstown John Schuster, MD Annie Martinie, MPA Tania Basta, PhD, MPH Uniontown Saxapahaw **Athens Hannah Tomes** Yui Matsuda, Nurse Debra Brinker, MD Surgical Technology Student Chapel Hill Dublin Brown Mackie College -Akron Maureen Merritt, DO Jason Chao, MD Wilmington Cleveland Theodore Voneida, PhD Kent Jennifer Mullendore, MD **Daniel Chrest** Asheville Allied Health Professional: Eugene Wenninger, PhD **Exercise Phy** Kent Donna Newman, PhD Raleigh Robert Donovan, MD Camille Jones, MD Cincinnati **Assistant Health** Robert Obeid Commissioner of City of **Retired Family Practice** Karen Hartman, RN, Retired Cincinatti Cincinatti Rodrigo Rodriguez Sally Hinshaw, RN Health Educator Columbus **Oklahoma** Winston-Salem L. Jim Anthis Thomas Holubeck, MD **OU Medical CenterOK** Diana Sanchez, MPH, PhD Cincinnati Chapel Hill **Oregon** Steven Berkson Janice Hunter **Eloy Santos** Mercy Health Paramedic Hospital of Angels Joyce Kahle, RN Michelle Bienick, MD Lauren Simpson, MD Cincinnati Williams Durham **Brenton McCoy** Marc Binder, MD **Robert Smith** Summa - Akron City Hospital Portland Genetic Cytotechnology Myron Mohr, PhD Michelle Birdseye, MD Carol Soroos, PhD Van Wert Eugene Raleigh Kathleen Morris, RN Susan Birge Janet Tice, RN **Ohio Nurses Association** Samaritan Pacific

Columbus

Communities Hospital

Chapel Hill

Barbara Brandom, MD **Rob Bodner** Gary Pederson, DDS Chiropractic Physician Salem Pittsburgh Judith Ponder John Brinkley, PhD Theodore Burger Eugene Retired Nurse/Paramedic Temple Medical School, St. Luke's Hospital Todd Corbett, RN Martin Raitiere, MD Portland Brenda Byrne, PhD Marcia Denison, MD Philadelphia Rainier Berklee Robins **Oregon Health & Sciences** Annette Calderone, RN Troy Dillard, MD University **Dallas** Happy Valley Kathy Royce, RN Carla Campbell, MD Virginia Feldman, MD West Linn Jenkintown Portland Robert Ruff, RN Rosemary Caolo, PhD Monica Gilman, RN Scranton Rachel Seltzer, MD Estacada Portland Esther Chung, MD David Grant, MD Philadelphia Medford Randy Siltanen, MD Lagrande Lester Cohen, CRNP Carla Hervert, RN, MS Philadelphia Sacred Heart Medical Center Allyson Smith, RN North Central Public Health Caroline Cotugno Dennis Hoerner, PhD Holy Redeemer Hospital District Eugene Mosier Joan Creager, PhD Christy Inskip, MPH, CHES L. Cam Taylor, MD State College Eugene Internal Medicine, Retired Curtis Cummings, MD, MPH Keith Kale, DO William Wofford Philadelphia **Portland** VA Roseburg Healthcare System Linda Eckhardt, MD Susan Katz, MD Northampton Portland **Pennsylvania** Zaynab Abdelaziem Joann Erb, RN Mike Laporte, RN **Pharmacy School** Ambler **Portland** Moosic Silvio Fittipaldi, PhD Sharon Lee Zandrea Ambrose, PhD Philadelphia Hospital University of Pittsburgh **Division of Infectious** Linda Gangai, RN Don Manghelli, MSW Diseases **Drexel University** Tigard Carlisle Oneida Arosaren Allen Neuringer, PhD **Temple University Hospital** Chris Gebert Portland Allegheny Health Network **Bret Boyer** Martha Neuringer, PhD Mercy Catholic Medical Margaret Hager **Portland** Center University of Pennsylvania

Medical School

Herman Hardy Jennifer McDonald, RN Walter Tsou, MD, MPH PGH VA Hospital Southern Middle School Philadelphia Macungie Jerry F. Harris, BSN, MA Saul Wider, MD Ligonier Karla McNamara, PhD Springfield Baden Thelma Herlich, MD **Rhode Island** Pittsburgh Mary Mester, PhD Elizabeth Bernier, MSN Bridgeport Riverside Kathleen Howe, MSW Salorsburg Patrick O'Connell, PhD Yvonne Heredia, RN Providence Erie Robert Janusko, PhD Bethlehem Jerry Orr Jeanne Leffers, PhD, RN Berks Counsling Assoc.,PC Warren Andrew Johnson, DVM Gibsonia Richard Ostrosky Danielle Tetreault St. Luke's Warren Hospital Mass General Hospital Nina Kaktins Adjunct Nursing Professor, Tisn Palumbo, RN South Carolina Chatham University Southampton Tony McCraney Johnstown Medical Technologist Mythili Pamakrishna, Doctor Laura Kramer Jim Melton **Health Leads** Alan Peterson, MD Carolinas Medical Center Willow Street Bret Kricun, MD Jan Modjeski, PhD Philadelphia Murrells Inlet Anna Quinn, MPH, RYF Philadelphia Harlan Kutscher, MD Lill Mood, RN, MPH, retired Reading Karin Rhodes, MD Chapin Philadelphia Dorothea Leicher, MSW LaShanta Rice, Doctoral Philadelphia Lisa Rochelle Candidate **Health Care Consultant** Columbia Lori Lydic The Pittsburgh VA Medical Poune Saberi, MD Jeanne Robinson Philadelphia Center **Physical Therapist** Preyanka Makadih, MD Vivian Schatz, PhD <u>Tennessee</u> candidate Philadelphia Virginia Eaddy, PhD Abington Knoxville Nancy Sullivan Kathleen Mason, RN, BSN University of Maryland Robert Luxmoore, PhD Pittsburgh **School of Nursing** Harriman Judy Mattei, RN Edward Thornton, PhD Lorraine Martinez Carnegie Swarthmore OH University College of Osteopathic Medicine Rebecca Mazar Maureen Ann Treen Pennsylvania Hospital **Pharmacy Technician** Joan Mitchell, RN, MPH Hermitage

James Owens, RFNP Meredith Mcguire, PhD **Utah** Allen Barnett Meharry Medical College Bulverde Pre-Med Student Jane Momoh, MS Daniel J. Sanchez, Sr., LPN Farmington Richmond Amanda Taylor, MS, MPH Barbara Cahill, MD Epidemiologist Rhonda Nembhard, RN University of Utah School of Chattanooga Carrollton Medicine Rael Nidess, MD Naomi Franklin, PhD Texas Barbara Burton, MSW Marshall Salt Lake City Kerrville Susan Nilsson-Weiskott, PhD Jeanette Johnson, MPH Te-Fen Chen Lago Vista candidate Provo **Pharmacy** Alan Northcutt, MD Lisa Doggett, MD Waco Thomas P. Knecht, MD, PhD Austin Wasatch Endocrinology Alejandra Ortiz Jay Doubleday, PhD **Ortiz Pharmacy** Jean Tabin, MD Kerrville Park City Ronald Ribble, PhD Suze Etienne, MPH San Antonio James Vanderslice, Doctor Fort Worth Salt Lake City **Cray Ross** Memorial Hermann Charlotte Flynn James Viney, MD St. David's Hospital Northeast Hospital Salt Lake City Suzanne K. Gazda, MD Susan Seitz, MD Vermont **Neurology Institute of San** Shannon Blaney, MPH Tyler Antonio Burlington San Antonio Ronald Shenberger **Denton Regional Medical** John Chard, MD Brattleboro Erin Gentry Center Waco Heart and Vascular Julie St. John, DrPH Sara Clay, RN Pragati Gole, MPH, MD Wilmington Anson Houston Gabrielle Theriault, MD Rachel Cosgrove Rolf Habersang, MD Rollingwood Rutland Physical Rehab. & Amarillo Health Center Catherine Troisi, PhD Barbara Heffel, RN Houston Phyllis Erwin, RN **New Braunfels** Guilford Dorothu Ukoha, BSN, MPH, Rachel Foxx Richard Hill, MPH PhD student El Paso Wylie Fletcher Allen Health Care Terri Vidal, MSN Jeff Kiralis Salma Khuwaja, MD, DrPh Houston Pasadena Dartmouth-Hitchcock **Medical Center**

Michelle Zeager, MPH

Harlingen

Paul Mayer, MD

Livingston

Nancy Philips, MD Bruce Struminger, MD Tania Hernandez, DO **Dulles** Dartmouth-Hitchcock Monroe Medical Center Washington Meghan Jernigan, MPH Alan Podber, MSW Lynnette Anderson Seattle Brattleboro Overlake Hospital Sara Johnson, MSN David Rand, DO Susan Bigda, RN Sequim South Burlington Seattle Michael Kappelman, MD Joel Trupin, PhD Alex Buechle, RN Vashon Marshfield Betty Carlisle, MD Larry Kerschner South Bend **Virginia Retired Family Nurse** Laura Anderko, RN, PhD Practitioner Annandale Cheri Carlson, RN Arlington Martha Koester, PhD Kellie Carlyle, PhD, MPH Seattle Richmond Tamara Clarke **Providence Health Systems** Dina Kovarik, MS, PhD Barbara Clark, PhD Seattle Danville Robyn Cleaves, RN **University Place** Virgene Link, DDS Pam DeGuzman, RN **Anacortes** Charlottesville Mike Conlan **Retired Dentist** Luke Magnotto, MD Dr. Nang Pann Ei Kham Bainbridge Island **Humphrey Fellowship** Susan Crampton, MD Richmond Twisp Louise McDonald, MSW Seattle Ronald Karpick, MD Stephanie Develle, MD Falls Church Kirkland James Mitchell **Private Practice** Stan Freidberg, MD **Preston Manning** Retired General Surgeon Vancouver Laureen Nussbaum, PhD Seattle Jerome Paulson, MD Robert Gabriel, PhD Alexandria Gayle Palmer, MD Olympia Mercer Island Robert Poignant, PhD H. Gilchrist Patricia Parsley, MD, retired Lynchburg Radiology Ferndale Georgia Pollack, Doctor David Hall, MD Harrisonburg Lopez Island May Pendergrass Swedish Hospital Lynbor Slashcheva, Dental Andrea Hanses, RN Student Duvall Christopher Potter, MD Richmond Seattle Carole Henry

Franciscan Health Initiatives

Hospice SW

Elizabeth Potter, MD

Seattle

Charles Strickler, DDS

Harrisonburg

Paul Pruitt Seattle Public School Nurse, West Virginia Retired Anne Berry, MD Jan Path, RN Clendenin **Tomah Memorial Hospital** Dell Rhodes, PhD Tomah White Salmon Haliara Hahmadi, MPH Morgantown Thomas Paulsen, MD Janalee Roy, RN Ladysmith Tacoma Meagan Stabler, PhD Katherine Quinn, PhD, Public **Epidemiology student** Alice Royer, RN Morgantown Health Seattle Milwaukee Jonathan Stevens Richard Rust, MD Walter Reed National Peggy Scallon, MD Seattle Military Medical Center University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and William Silva, MD Wisconsin **Public Health** Susan Ashton, RN, Retired Seattle Public Health Nurse, Jane Shabtaie, RN Elizabeth Sloss Winnebago County Health **UW Medical Foundation** Mental Health Counselor Dept Madison Oshkosh David Sparling, MD Edwin Sheldon, MD Steilacoom Patricia Finder-Stone, MS, RN Madison De Pere T J Thompson Anne Siegrist, DDS Department of Social and Carol Gurtz Appleton **Health Services Consultant** Physical Therapist, Cytotechnologist David Smith, PhD Joyce Weir Stevens Point Registered Dental Hygienist Jenny Higgins, Doctor Madison J. Stapleton-Kotloski James L. (Jim) Whittier, Ph.D. Wake Forest University Retired clinical psychologist Judy James, RN **Baptist Medical Center** Dodgeville Jana Wiley, RN Joanne Wagner Olympia Maureen Juracich University of Wisconsin VAMC-Retired Hospital Jan Wilson, RN Shoreline Kathleen King Todd Walker, DDS University of Wiscosin South Milwaukee Francis Wood, MD Hospital Seattle Laura Wopp, CPS, LPN Patrick Meyer, MD Madison Timothy Young, MD Janesville Seattle Paul Biedrzycki, MPH Richard Moon, MD Milwaukee Julie Zinz, BS Middleton

Joseph Novak, MD

Milwaukee

Wyoming

Steven Poole

Jackson Hole Fire/EMS

Community Health Educator

Colbert

Let's Protect Coloradan's Health from Fracking

Dear President Obama, Representative DeGette, and Representative Perlmutter,

As doctors, nurses, researchers and other health professionals, we are deeply concerned about fracking and its growing threat to public health and the environment. Oil and gas drilling operations can use toxic chemicals, generate millions of gallons of wastewater laced with cancer-causing and radioactive material, and release volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other harmful pollutants into the air we breathe. Each of these fracking threats is increasingly taking its toll, including:

- Fracking and its toxic waste have contaminated drinking water sources from Pennsylvania to New Mexico;
- There is a growing number of documented cases of individuals suffering acute and chronic health effects while living near fracking operations including nausea, rashes, dizziness, headaches and nose bleeds;
- Physicians reviewing medical records in Pennsylvania have called these illnesses "the tip of the iceberg" of fracking impacts on health: and
- A study by researchers at the University of Colorado School of Public Health showed that people living within a half-mile of fracking wells had higher health risks, including cancer.

Given this toll of drilling damage, the prudent and precautionary response would be to halt fracking wherever it's already happening and ban new fracking. But instead, the oil and gas industry is seeking to expand fracking at a frenzied pace, even into areas which provide drinking water for millions of Americans.

In light of the foregoing, we urge you to take two immediate steps to protect families and communities on the frontlines of fracking: First, you should call to close the loopholes that make fracking exempt from key provisions of our nation's bedrock environmental and public health laws, including our nation's hazardous waste law, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Second, please heed the recommendation of your administration's fracking advisory committee and declare sensitive areas – including places that provide drinking water for millions of Americans – as "off-limits" to fracking.

Left unchecked, fracking will soon emerge as one of the greatest environmental health threats we have faced in a generation. We urge you to take action now.

Sincerely,

Caitlyn	Ahern	MD
Alia	Al-Tayyib	MD
Raymond	Arons	PhD, MPH, Anschutz Medical School
Edwin	Asturias	MD
Vivek	Balasubraman	MD, PhD
Steven	Britt	MD
Liron	Caplan	Anshultz Medical Center
Lisa	Circutto	RN
Teresa	Connolly	PhD, RN
Mark	Earnest	MD
Diane	Fairclough	PhD, Anschutz Medical School
Joann	Ginal	PhD, Reproductive Endocrinology
Scott	Harpin	RN
Sara	Hart	ND, MSOM, Lac
John	Hughes	DO
Catherine	Jankowski	PhD, RN
Jessica	Jones	RN
Janet	Kass-Wolf	PhD, RN, FNP-BC
Cheri A.	King	ND
Elizabeth	Kinney	MD
Benzi	Kluger	MD
Carol E.	McDonald	RN

Caitlin O'Connor ND

Lorraine Ogden PhD, MPH, CPH

Elizabeth Ryan MD, PhD John Spear MD

KaylanStintonMSPH, PRALilianaTenneyMPH, PRA

Cliff Willmeng RN
Oliver Young RN

Let's Protect America's Health from Fracking

Dear Maryland Governor O'Malley,

As doctors, nurses, researchers and other health professionals, we are deeply concerned about fracking and its growing threat to public health and the environment. Fracking operations can use a witches' brew of toxic chemicals, generate millions of gallons of wastewater laced with cancer-causing and radioactive material, and release volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other harmful pollutants into the air we breathe. Each of these fracking threats is increasingly taking its toll, including:

- Fracking and its toxic waste have contaminated drinking water sources from Pennsylvania to New Mexico;
- There is a growing number of documented cases of individuals suffering acute and chronic health effects while living near fracking operations including nausea, rashes, dizziness, headaches and nose bleeds;
- Physicians reviewing medical records in Pennsylvania have called these illnesses "the tip of the iceberg" of fracking impacts on health; and
- A study by researchers at the University of Colorado School of Public Health showed that people living within a half-mile of fracking wells had higher health risks, including cancer.

Given this toll of drilling damage, the prudent and precautionary response would be to halt fracking wherever it's already happening and ban new fracking. But instead, the oil and gas industry is seeking to expand fracking at a frenzied pace, even into areas which provide drinking water for millions of Americans.

We need to protect the health of Marylanders by keeping fracking out of Maryland.

In light of the foregoing, we urge you to take two immediate steps to protect families and communities on the frontlines of fracking: First, you should call to close the loopholes that make fracking exempt from key provisions of our nation's bedrock environmental and public health laws, including our nation's hazardous waste law, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Second, please heed the recommendation of your administration's fracking advisory committee and declare sensitive areas – including places that provide drinking water for millions of Americans – as "off-limits" to fracking.

Left unchecked, fracking will soon emerge as one of the greatest environmental health threats we have faced in a generation. We urge you to take action now.

Sincerely,

Andrew	Cramer	Clinical Engineering, Mercy Medical Center
Allison	Donaldsa	Mercy Medical Hospital
Kristina	Gillis	RN, Mercy Medical Center
Rita	Gopacan	Mercy Medical Center
Kevin	Gottschalk	RN, Mercy Medical Center
Cheryl	Harlins	Mercy Medical Center
Katie	Huffling	RN, MS, CNM, Alliance of Nurses for a Healthy Environment
Betty	McDowell	Cardiac Tech, Mercy Medical Center
Peatrice	Miller	RN, Mercy Medical Center
Arlima	St. Claire	MSN, RN, National Association of Hispanic Nurses
Timothy	Whitehouse	Physicians for Social Responsibility
Linda	Young	RN, Mercy Medical Center
Yousef	Zarbalian	Resident, University of Maryland Medical Center
Wendy	Zollicoffer	Respiratory Therapist, Mercy Medical Center

Let's Protect America's Health from Fracking

Dear President Obama and Massachusetts state officials,

As doctors, nurses, researchers and other health professionals, we are deeply concerned about fracking and its growing threat to public health and the environment. Fracking operations often use toxic chemicals, generate millions of gallons of wastewater that can be laced with cancer-causing and even radioactive material, and release volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other harmful pollutants into the air we breathe. Each of these fracking threats is increasingly taking its toll, including:

- Fracking and its toxic waste have contaminated drinking water sources from Pennsylvania to New Mexico;
- There is a growing number of documented cases of individuals suffering acute and chronic health effects while living near fracking operations including nausea, rashes, dizziness, headaches and nose bleeds;
- Physicians reviewing medical records in Pennsylvania have called these illnesses "the tip of the iceberg" of fracking impacts on health; and
- A study by researchers at the University of Colorado School of Public Health showed that people living within a half-mile of fracking wells had higher health risks, including cancer.

Given this toll of drilling damage, the prudent and precautionary response would be to halt fracking wherever it's already happening and ban new fracking. But instead, the oil and gas industry is seeking to expand fracking at a frenzied pace, even into areas which provide drinking water for millions of Americans.

In light of the foregoing, we urge you to take two immediate steps to protect families and communities on the frontlines of fracking: First, you should call to close the loopholes that make fracking exempt from key provisions of our nation's bedrock environmental and public health laws, including our nation's hazardous waste law, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Second, please heed the recommendation of your administration's fracking advisory committee and declare sensitive areas – including places that provide drinking water for millions of Americans – as "off-limits" to fracking.

We as health professionals are also calling for a ban on fracking and its toxic waste here in Massachusetts. With the prospect of fracking coming to the Pioneer Valley, and of billions of gallons of toxic wastewater next door if fracking is allowed in New York, we need to stop the fracking threat now.

Left unchecked, fracking will soon emerge as one of the greatest environmental health threats we have faced in a generation. We urge you to take action now.

Sincerely,

John	Ballock	Boston Medical Center
Susan	Barisano	Massachusetts General Hospital
Mark	Bisanzo	University of Massachusetts Medical School
Edwin	Boudreaux	University of Massachusetts Medical School
Phil	Brown	Professor, Environmental Health, Northeastern Bouve College of Health Sciences
Doris B.	Burford	RN, Boston Medical Center
Sharon	Callender	RN
Lucy M.	Candib	Professor, Family Medicine and Community Health, University of Massachusetts
Suzanne B.	Cashman	Professor and Director of Community Health, University of Massachusetts Medical School
Mardge	Cohen	MD
Joseph	DiFranza	Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, University of Massachusetts
David	Gilchrist	Family Practice, U Mass Memorial Health Care
Robert	Goldberg	Professor, Quantitative Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts Medical School
Aline C.	Gubrium	Associate Professor, Community Health Education, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Mary Ann	Kopydlowski	RN, Boston Healthcare for the Homeless
Mary	Lindholm	University of Massachusetts, Memorial Medical Center
Angela	Nannini	Associate Professor, Northeastern University Bouve College of Health Sciences
Jackie	O'Brien	Holy Family Hospital
Joseph	Odgren	Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, University of Massachusetts

Desree Polevy Newton Wellesley Hospital

Anthony Robbins MD

May-Lorie Saint Laurent Research Study Coordinator, Institute for Community Inclusion

Barry Saver MD, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, University of

Merav Socolovsky University of Massachusetts Medical School

Erica Streit-Kaplan MPH, MSW

Alexander Suvorov Assistant Professor, School of Public Health & Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts

Stephanie Van Dam Whittier Health Network

Laura N. Vanderberg Assistant Professor, Environmental Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Lisa Wexler Associate Professor and Division Director, Community Health Studies,

Florette Willis Health Policy Analyst, CPS

Ezra Wood Assistant Professor, Environmental Health, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Ning Zhang Assistant Professor, Health Policy and Management, University of Massachusetts

Protect New Mexicans' Health from Fracking

Dear Elected Officials,

As doctors, nurses, researchers and other health professionals, we are deeply concerned about fracking and its growing threat to public health and the environment. Fracking operations often use toxic chemicals, generate millions of gallons of wastewater that can be laced with cancer-causing and even radioactive material, and release volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other harmful pollutants into the air we breathe. Each of these fracking threats is increasingly taking its toll, including:

- Fracking and its toxic waste have contaminated drinking water sources from Pennsylvania to New Mexico;
- There is a growing number of documented cases of individuals suffering acute and chronic health effects while living near fracking operations including nausea, rashes, dizziness, headaches and nose bleeds;
- Physicians reviewing medical records in Pennsylvania have called these illnesses "the tip of the iceberg" of fracking impacts on health; and
- A study by researchers at the University of Colorado School of Public Health showed that people living within a half-mile of fracking wells had higher health risks, including cancer.

Given this toll of drilling damage, the prudent and precautionary response would be to halt fracking wherever it's already happening and ban new fracking. But instead, the oil and gas industry is seeking to expand fracking at a frenzied pace, even into areas which provide drinking water for millions of Americans. One such area in New Mexico, Otero Mesa, sits above a large freshwater aquifer. If this aquifer were polluted by toxic fracking waste, the health of hundreds of thousands of New Mexicans could be put at risk.

In light of the foregoing, we urge you to take two immediate steps to protect families and communities on the frontlines of fracking: First, you should call to close the loopholes that make fracking exempt from key provisions of our nation's bedrock environmental and public health laws, including our nation's hazardous waste law, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Second, please heed the recommendation of the Obama Administration's fracking advisory committee and declare sensitive areas – including places that provide drinking water for millions of Americans – as "off-limits" to fracking.

Left unchecked, fracking will soon emerge as one of the greatest environmental health threats we have faced in a generation. We urge you to take action now.

Sincerely,

Jonathan O'Quinn - Nurse, UNM Hospital

Frank Trujillo – Student Nurse, Santa Fe Community College and UNM Hospital

Brandy Rockstroh - Student Nurse, Santa Fe Community College and UNM Hospital

Kendra Crespo-Meeks - Student Nurse, Santa Fe Community College and UNM Hospital

Jennifer Barela – Student Nurse, Santa Fe Community College and UNM Hospital

Joanne Johnston - APRN-CNP, Lovelace Medical Group

M.L. Johnston – RN. CNM Health Care

Emily M. Koplik – Licensed Independent Social Worker, UNM Health Sciences

Laura Finley - MSIII, UNM Health Sciences

Janene L. Canady - RN, UNM Hospital

Kira Herzer – Student Nurse, UNM Health Sciences

Destinee Warrior - Student Nurse, UNM Health Sciences

Hadya Khawaja – Program Specialist, Clinical and Transitional Science Center, UNM Health Sciences

Amanda Bassett - Associate Director, UNM Health Center for Development and Disability

Steven U. Russell - Student Nurse, UNM Hospital

Dr. Bilal Jalil, MD – Resident Physician, UNM Internal Medicine Residency Program

Dr. Thomas F. Byrd, MD – Infectious Diseases, UNM Health Sciences Center

Dr. Christopher Ardnt, MD – Anesthesiologist and Associate Professor, UNM School of Medicine

Jake Vargas – Medical student, UNM School of Medicine

Melissa Borrego – Medical Program Coordinator, UNM School of Medicine

Marissa Chacon – Pharmacy student, UNM College of Pharmacy

Eric Quintana - RN-BC, BSN, NE-BC, UNM Hospital

Dr. Windsong Christina Bautista, MD (MA)

Let's Protect America's Health from Fracking

To President Obama and Ohio's delegation,

As doctors, nurses, researchers and other health professionals, we are deeply concerned about fracking and its growing threat to public health and the environment. Fracking operations often use toxic chemicals, generate millions of gallons of wastewater that can be laced with cancer-causing and even radioactive material, and release volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other harmful pollutants into the air we breathe. Each of these fracking threats is increasingly taking its toll, including:

- Fracking and its toxic waste have contaminated drinking water sources from Pennsylvania to New Mexico;
- There is a growing number of documented cases of individuals suffering acute and chronic health effects while living near fracking operations including nausea, rashes, dizziness, headaches and nose bleeds;
- Physicians reviewing medical records in Pennsylvania have called these illnesses "the tip of the iceberg" of fracking impacts on health; and
- A study by researchers at the University of Colorado School of Public Health showed that people living within a half-mile of fracking wells had higher health risks, including cancer.

Given this toll of drilling damage, the prudent and precautionary response would be to halt fracking wherever it's already happening and ban new fracking. But instead, the oil and gas industry is seeking to expand fracking at a frenzied pace, even into areas which provide drinking water for millions of Americans.

In Ohio fracking waste hits close to home, and our state's laws and regulations are inadequate to the task of protecting Ohio families. Ohio allows waste to be left in open pits, processed in local sewage treatment plants and even spread on roads as a deicer. Waste disposal sites are often located near neighborhoods; threatening air and water quality and putting the health of Ohio families at risk.

In light of the foregoing, we urge you to take two immediate steps to protect families and communities on the frontlines of fracking: First, you should call to close the loopholes that make fracking exempt from key provisions of our nation's bedrock environmental and public health laws, including our nation's hazardous waste law, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Second, please heed the recommendation of your administration's fracking advisory committee and declare sensitive areas – including places that provide drinking water for millions of Americans – as "off-limits" to fracking.

Left unchecked, fracking will soon emerge as one of the greatest environmental health threats we have faced in a generation. We urge you to take action now.

Sincerely,

Erica	Baumker	Clinical Research Coodinator, Ohio State University Medical Center
Mary Ann	Brazier	RN, Private Practice
Darryl	Brush	MD, Ohio State University Medical Center
Rebecca	Clark	South Toledo Pediatric Associates
Keri	Cooper	RN, Ohio State University Medical Center
Imber	Coppinger	MD, Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine
Madeleine	Drust	Research Assistant, Ohio State University Medical Center
Samer	Eldika	MD, Ohio State University Medical Center

Michelle Fennessy RN, Ohio State University Medical Center
Ben Hoffman MD, Ohio State University Medical Center

Darryl B. Hood PhD, OSU College of Public Health

Kayla Keesee RA, Ohio State University Medical Center

Stephanie Lewis Clinical Veterinarian, Ohio State University Medical Center

Charles Lopez RN, Ohio State University Medical Center
Diane Montgomery RN, Ohio State University Medical Center
Mary Ann Murphy RN, Ohio State University Medical Center

Joan Nemann MD, UC Medical School

Eileen Newmann RN, Ohio State University Medical Center

Kelly O'Neill US Army Medic, Ohio State University Medical Center

Matt O'Neill RT, Ohio State University Medical Center

Jennifer Shults MD, Private Practice

Huijuan Song Research Associate, Ohio State University Medical Center
Sarah Thompson Director of Nursing, Ohio State University Medical Center

Nancy Wernz RN, Ohio State University Medical Center

Protect Pennsylvanians' Health from Fracking

Dear Elected Officials.

As doctors, nurses, researchers and other health professionals, we are deeply concerned about fracking's growing threat to public health. Fracking operations often use toxic chemicals, generate millions of gallons of wastewater that can be laced with cancer-causing and even radioactive material, and release asthma-inducing volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other harmful pollutants into the air we breathe. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, there have been at least 161 confirmed cases of drinking contamination due to fracking.

Given this increasing toll of drilling damage, we are calling on you to take action:

- We urge you to close the loopholes that exempt fracking from key provisions of our nation's bedrock environmental and public health laws, including our nation's hazardous waste law, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).
- Lift the existing gag order placed on health professionals in Pennsylvania by Act 13, prohibiting the discussion of the disclosed fracking chemicals impacting their patients or sharping information for research purposes.
- Please empower the Department of Health to monitor, study, evaluate, and regularly report on the short and long term health impacts of fracking across the Commonwealth.

In the long-term, we urge you to do everything in your power to place a moratorium on all new gas drilling permits until we can ensure public health is protected.

Sincerely,

Robert	Allen	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Roger	Argana	Thomas Jefferson Hospital
Mark	Baily	Abington Health Lansdale Hospital
Ardellia	Baxter	Environmental Services Assistant Manager, Jefferson Hospital
Joseph	Belcastro	Formerly Wicks Healthcare & Associates
Diana	Bitar	Jefferson Hospital
Denise	Brey	Abington Health Lansdale Hospital
Kathleen	Bryte	University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Tom	Burbage	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Duane	Campbell	Thomas Jefferson Hospital
Adrianne	Cantor	Main Line Health
Carmen	Carrasquillo	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Stacey	Casper	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Melani	Cheers	Allegheny Health Network
Shauhua	Chen	Abington Health Lansdale Hospital
Beth	Denenberg	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
M.	DiGiovine	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Julian	Eligator	Private Practice
Daniel	Fine	Retired, Physicians for Social Responsibility
Lana	Fishkin	Private Practice

Hiranis G. Garcia MD, Resident Physician, Thomas Jefferson Hospital

Andrea Galloway Jefferson Hospital
Jane Gates MD, Retired

Steven Gewirtzman Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Susan Ghafoor Jefferson Hospital Ion Ghiza Jefferson Hospital

Mira Gohel Health Care Center #3 Philadelphia

N. Graham Thomas Jefferson Hospital

Tyrone Griffin Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Amy Han Jefferson Hospital

Michelle Hardman University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

Darrell Harris Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

Don Henry Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Susan Houseman University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Presbyterian, Endocrinology

Chakeita Houston Penn Presbyterian Medical Center Khair Jalal Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Karen Jenkins Jefferson Hospital

Kate Keenan Clinical Coordinator PA Vascular
Kirstin Keller Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Robert Kolecki Abington Health Lansdale Hospital

Stan Kotala MD, Private Practice, Claysburg Medical Associates

Alysa Krain MD, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania; University of Pennsylvania

Eva Lange Fellow of the American College of Physicians

Gregg Lipschik Pulmonary, Philadelphia Veteran Affairs Medical Center

Jill Lloyd Thomas Jefferson Hospital

Carol Love Germantown Professional Associates, Einstein Community Health Assoc.

Nick Luczejia RN

James Luebbert Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

Haresh M Kirpalani MD, Neonatal, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Mike Marotta Thomas Jefferson Hospital

Stanley Marquis Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

Barb Musselman Abington Health Lansdale Hospital
Steven Nack Abington Health Lansdale Hospital

Mike Nguyen Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

Ben Phillips Thomas Jefferson Hospital

Tahira Rahman Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Rita Randalph Jefferson Hospital

Deepilou Revo Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

Amanda Reynolds Harston Hall Health Care Facility
Laura Rudley Abington Health Lansdale Hospital
Hannah Ryan Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Shirley Ryder Jefferson Medical College

Poune Saberi MD, MPH, Physicians for Social Responsibility

Jillian Sackett Vision Quest and Jefferson University Hospital

Elizabeth Sanchez Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Mike Schripp Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

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