

EPA Hearing Testimony

Thursday 17th October, 2019 14:30

Danielle Evans

Danielle, D-A-N-I-E-L-L-E, Evans, E-V-A-N-S

Thank you for this opportunity.

As a healthcare worker at a local Level I Trauma Center's Emergency Department, I bear witness to increasing numbers of patients arriving due to environmental factors. Moving through the land, I see the degradation of Nature evident throughout the Dakotas, Pennsylvania, New Mexico, Oklahoma, our own North Texas region, and Native American Indian Reservations across the continent, due to fracking.

I am a member of the Dallas Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends - commonly called Quakers - belonging to South Central Yearly Meeting comprised of five States – Arkansas, Louisiana, Southern Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas, for which I serve as representative to Quaker Earthcare Witness' Steering Committee.

From our 'Vision'

“We work to integrate into the beliefs and practices of the Religious Society of Friends the Truth that (God's) Creation is to be respected, protected, and held in reverence in its own right, and the Truth that human aspirations for peace and justice depend upon restoring the earth's ecological integrity.”

Friends Committee on National Legislation Policy Statement reads

“The Earth we share is limited in its capacity to support life and to provide resources for our survival. The environment that has provided sustenance for generations must be protected for generations to come.

We have an obligation, therefore, to be responsible stewards of the Earth, to restore its natural habitat where it has been damaged and to maintain its vitality.

Friends' historic testimonies on simplicity have long stressed that the quality of life does not depend upon immodest consumption.”

The proposed new rule altering the approved, in-place 'New Source Performance Standards' or NSPS for Methane and Volatile Organic Compound Control DOES NOT speak to our obligation. It WILL NOT help to hold true our responsibility to future generations. Escalation of damage, defined as **gross** emissions increases and **significant** 'Leak Detection and Repair' or LDAR responsibility removal, as noted within the proposal MUST BE CURBED. The Natural World and all Life it sustains must be held up. Our ask is that you do as you are charged – PROTECT. In the Light.