

October 1, 2019

The Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Governor Wolf,

The Department of Health is holding a meeting at the Canon-McMillan High School in Washington County on October 7 to discuss the spike in rare cancers diagnosed in children in the district in recent years. The cases are among the shocking number of rare cancer diagnoses in four counties hard hit by shale gas development in rural southwestern Pennsylvania. The Pittsburgh *Post-Gazette* has reported that at least 67 cases have been diagnosed. In June, more than 100 organizations and many Pennsylvanian residents [asked](#) you to conduct an investigation. You refused. We, the undersigned organizations and individuals, are now calling on you to attend the meeting on October 7 and hear from the families firsthand.

You have a responsibility, both to your constituents who are battling cancer or have lost loved ones and to the parents of all children who need to know what they can do to protect them from becoming cancer patients by the time they are young adults. The best they can do at present, if they can afford it, is to move.

In June, you [responded](#) to our call for an investigation by saying, “We will continue to monitor and study cancer incidents in this area, especially as more data becomes available.” Taking such a passive stance in the face of a public health crisis is not acceptable. You used - as your excuse - a Department of Health [study](#) conducted in conjunction with Colorado’s health department that concluded that the data linking shale gas development and health impacts are inconclusive. The methodologies employed to make that claim have been questioned in a detailed [letter](#) from the Southwest Pennsylvania Environmental Health Project to Dr. Levine that has, to date, received no response.

That letter also challenges your administration’s failure to act because you say causation has not been established. “That does not confer upon us a freedom to ignore the knowledge we already have, or to postpone the action that it appears to demand at a given time,” says an expert quoted in the letter.

To date, you have refused to listen to the science, to tour the area, or to meet with the families who have been directly affected. It is time for you to witness the impacts firsthand and hear directly from the people who have already suffered so much or are living on edge, unsure of

what they can do to avoid being next. They cannot wait years for further study. It is time for you to start taking a proactive stance to protect Pennsylvanians.

Please join us at the public meeting on October 7.

Respectfully,

Christine Barton, Washington, PA
David Barton, Washington, PA
Janice Blanock, Washington, PA
Kurt Blanock, Washington, PA
Kaitlyn Blanock, Washington, PA
Laura Blanock, Washington, PA
Marisa Blayney , Washington, PA
Jody Lackey, Washington, PA
Carla Marratto Cumming, Allegheny, PA
Melissa McGowan, Washington, PA

Organizations and Businesses

350 Bucks County
350 Philadelphia
Allegheny County Clean Air Now
Beaver County Marcellus Awareness Community (BCMAC)
Berks Gas Truth
Better Path Coalition
Breathe Easy Susquehanna County
Bucks County Concerned Citizens Against the Pipelines
Bucks County Sierra Club
Bucks Environmental Action
Camp White Pine
Clinton County Democratic Committee
Concerned Health Professionals of New York
Defend Ohi:yo'
Delaware Riverkeeper Network
Earth Ethics, Inc.
Earthkeeper Health Resources
Food & Water Watch
FracTracker Alliance
FreshWater Accountability Project
Friends of the Loyalsock
Gas Drilling Awareness Coalition of Luzerne County PA
Grassroots Environmental Education
Green Party of Allegheny County

Izaak Walton League of America, Allegheny County chapter
Lancaster Against Pipelines
Marcellus Outreach Butler
MarchOnHarrisburg
Mountain Road Jiu-Jitsu
Neighbors Against The Gas Plants
NoPetroPA
PA Interfaith Power & Light
Patriots From The Oil & Gas Shales
PA Alliance for Clean Water and Air
Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR) Philadelphia / PA
Potter's Farm
Project CoffeeHouse
Protect PT
Put People First! PA
Rabbit Run Farm
Resolution Media Fund
Responsible Drilling Alliance (RDA)
Save Our Streams PA
Schuylkill Pipeline Awareness
Southwest PA Environmental Health Project
Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion (SAPE)
Sustainable Monroeville
SWPA Environmental Health Project
The Center for Coalfield Justice
Unitarian Universalist PA Legislative Advocacy Network (UUPLAN)
Upper Burrell Citizens Against Marcellus Pollution

Individuals:

Debbie Adams, Philadelphia, PA
Susan Ader, Lancaster, PA
Kerri Allen, Allegheny , PA
Peter Antinopoulos, Beaver, PA
Greta Aul, Lancaster, PA
Michael Bagdes-Canning, Butler, PA
Nina Baker, York, PA
Geri Barnes, Washington, PA
Lindsey Barnhart, Allegheny , PA
Kristine Barrett, Allegheny, PA
Tamara Bauer, Allegheny, PA
Terrie Baumgardner, Beaver, PA
Kellie Beach, Washington, PA
Christopher Beaver, Allegheny, PA
Ann Beck, Bucks, PA

Priscilla Becroft, Philadelphia, PA
Mary Bell, Washington, PA
Kirsten Berger, Washington, PA
Barbara Beyer, Chester, PA
Madeline Rae Beyer, Allegheny, PA
Wendy Blanock, Washington, PA
Eric Blanock, Washington, PA
Kala Blefere, Allegheny, PA
Hannah Blinn, Allegheny, PA
Valerie Bloom, Montgomery, PA
Denise Bohn, Washington, PA
Emily Borcz, Butler, PA
Catherine Borges, Bucks, PA
Norman A. Bourg, Fairfax, VA
Mary L. Bourg, Washington, PA

Rebecca Britton, Chester, PA
Cindy Brodbeck, Lancaster, PA
Frank Brofft, Bucks, PA.
Marsha Brofka-Berends, Chester, PA
Lynn Bryant, Washington, PA
Susan Bryce, Bucks, PA
Jacqueline Busalacchi, Denton, TX
David Butler , Philadelphia , PA
Brenda Buzzelli, Washington, PA
Joyce Calvitti, Montgomery, PA
John Campbell, Montgomery, PA
Sharon Carras, Allegheny, PA
Dianne Carroll, Allegheny, PA
Margaret Carrow, Dauphin, PA
David Casker, Cambria, PA
Edward Cavey, Chester, PA
Jessa Chabeau, Allegheny, PA
Lori Chambers, Washington, PA
Tammi Checca, Washington, PA
Jim Ciotti , Washington, PA
Nancy Roecker Coates, Montgomery, PA
Al Cohen, Dauphin, PA
Donna Cohen, Westmoreland, PA
Jenna Colby, Allegheny, PA
David Copper, Augusta, VA
Caroline Cotugno , Bucks, PA
Chelsea Cramer, Lycoming, PA
Dave Cramer, Westmoreland, PA
Jason Crawford, Lancaster, PA
Brinton Culp, Lancaster, PA
Adam Cumming, Allegheny, PA
Regina Curley, Chester, PA
Linda Cushner, Cumberland, PA
Arnold Cushner, Cumberland, PA
Patricia Dachille, Washington, PA
Paola DalleCarbonare, Westchester, NY
K. Danowski, Allegheny, PA
Carol Darr, Westmoreland, PA
Roger Day, Allegheny, PA
Ann de Vitry, Lancaster, PA
Darlene Dech, Allegheny, PA
Claudia Detweiler, Allegheny, PA
Megan Dill, Washington, PA
Megan Dinan, Beaver, PA

Kim Doan, Chester, PA
Karen Drickamer, Adams, PA
Susan Duffey, Washington, PA
Donna Dunn, Allegheny, PA
Allison Duratz, Washington, PA
Robert Edwards, Luzerne, PA
Patricia Eichman, Schuylkill, PA
Karen Elias, Clinton, PA
Kathleen Espamer, Cumberland, PA
Martha Evans, Allegheny, PA
Sherlene Evans, Berks, PA
Sarah Everett, United States, PA
Laura Fake, Berks, PA
Robert Fenstermaker, Lackawanna, PA
Karen Feridun, Berks, PA
Mark Fichman, Allegheny, PA
Margo Fittipaldo, Allegheny, PA
Lesley Fleckenstein, Allegheny, PA
Carol Fleischman M.D., Montgomery, PA
Sandra Folzer, Philadelphia, PA
Valeri Fornagiel, Tioga, PA
Kathy Fox, Northampton, PA
Rosemary Frain, Bucks, PA
Wayne K. Frank, Allegheny, PA
Bob Friedhoffer, Wayne, PA
David Friedman, Allegheny, PA
Sharon Furlong, Bucks, PA
Park Furlong, Bucks, PA
Chris Galanos, Allegheny, PA
Croitiene n. ganMoryn, Marion, FL
Ron Gavalik, Allegheny, PA
Caitlyn Geist, Montgomery, PA
Barry George, Philadelphia, PA
Carolyn Gette, Centre, PA
Marilyn Giorgio-Poole, Westmoreland, PA
Eric Gjertsen, Berks, PA
Lynn Glorieux, Allegheny, PA
Sandra Goodwin, Wyoming, PA
Robert Gordon, Chester, PA
Gillian Graber, Westmoreland, PA
Karen Granche, Elk, PA
Kelly Greaves, Washington, PA
Kassandra Greaves, Washington, PA
Bernard Greenberg, Chester, PA

Susanne Groenendaal, Centre, PA
Ronald Gulla, Washington, PA
Borja Gutierrez, Centre, PA
Marta Guttenberg, Philadelphia, PA
Gretchen Gyrich, Allegheny, PA
Susan Haagen, Centre, PA
Jerry Haimowitz, Berks, PA
Lisa Hammers, Washington, PA
Emily Hammers, Washington, PA
Margaret Hamstead, Allegheny, PA
Louis Hancherick, Butler, PA
Andrew Handwerk, Lehigh, PA
Nancy Harkins, Chester, PA
Kathleen Harr, Bucks, PA
Kristy Hartman, Washington, PA
Lisa Hastings, Philadelphia, PA
Sydney Hausman-Cohen, Philadelphia, PA
Don Hawkins, Allegheny, PA
Bonita Hay, Montgomery, PA
Nancy Hemberger, Berks, PA
Bill Henry, Beaver, PA
Sue Hoag, Allegheny, PA
Tom Hocking, Lebanon, PA
Elisabeth Hoffman, Lancaster, PA
Sarah Hoover, Allegheny, PA
Judith A Horrell, Franklin, PA
Rob Hosken, Allegheny, PA
Joseph Bruce Huber, Westmoreland, PA
Mark Hudson, Allegheny, PA
Edward Hunt, Chester, PA
Heather E. Hunter, Centre, PA
Cynthia Hurney, Allegheny, PA
Christina Iacono, Delaware, PA
Kristine Irwin, Allegheny, PA
Kirsi Jansa, Allegheny, PA
Nora Johnson, Allegheny, PA
Jamie Johnson, Washington, PA
Grant Johnson, Washington, PA
Dyanne Jurin, Montgomery, PA
David Kagan, Lycoming, PA
James Keenan, Delaware, PA
Kate Kennedy, Berks, PA
Ned Ketyer, Washington, PA
Carolyn Kidder, Chester, PA

Melissa Kimak, Allegheny, PA
Brittani Kline, Clinton, PA
Cheryl Knight, Berks, PA
Kathleen Krebs, Allegheny, PA
Karen Kreller, Bucks, PA
Jill Kriesky, Allegheny, PA
Mary Krueger, Chester, PA
Leo Kucewicz, Phoenixville, PA
Craig Kushner, Washington, PA
Ashley Kushner, Washington, PA
Emiley Kushner, Washington, PA
Kelly Kuzemchak, Westmoreland, PA
Juanita LaBella, Allegheny, PA
Lisa Ladd-Kidder, Berks, PA
Deborah Larson, Allegheny, PA
Robin LaSon, Lancaster, PA
Barbara Laxon, McKean, PA
John Lee, Allegheny, PA
Marcia Lehman, Beaver, PA
Shelly Leichty, Washington, PA
Darlene Leslie, Westmoreland, PA
Roberta Lewis, Chester, PA
Patricia Libbey, Philadelphia, PA
Miriam Lindauer, Allegheny, PA
Carol Lippl, Allegheny, PA
Robert Little MD, Dauphin, PA
Ruth Logan, Bucks, PA
Michael Ann Love, Allegheny, PA
Kristian Macoskey, Allegheny, PA
Lisa Madormo, Chester, PA
Joseph Magid, Montgomery, PA
Stephanie Martin, York, PA
Georgia Martin, Chester, PA
Roseann Martorana, Chester, PA
Douglas Mason, Centre, PA
Paige May, Luzerne, PA
Susan McAnally, Philadelphia, PA
Emilie McCarthy, Montgomery, PA
Susan McCarthy, Allegheny, PA
Mary McCloskey, Chester, PA
Brenda McCullough, Bucks, PA
John McDevitt, Chester, PA
Evelina McGuigan, Bucks, PA
Mary McMahan, Philadelphia, PA

Kelsey McNaul, Allegheny, PA
Mari McShane, Allegheny, PA
Matthew Mehalik, Allegheny, PA
Kathleen Meier, Washington, PA
Richard Metz, Montgomery, PA
Brady Miller, Allegheny, PA
Diana Miller, Washington, PA
Claire Mish, Washington, PA
Randy Mollomo, Westmoreland, PA
Beth Moore, Allegheny, PA
Adrienne Morgado, Bucks, PA
Louise Moyer, South Strabane, PA
Cheryl Mullere, Montgomery, PA
Annette Murray, Chester, PA
Joseph U. Murray, Berks, PA
Laura Napier, Bucks, PA
Heather Goodman Nelson, Berks, PA
Gail Neustadt, Allegheny, PA
Kandi Newell, Westmoreland, PA
Pamela Newhouse, Westmoreland, PA
Jennifer Nichols, Delaware, PA
Jason Nolf, Allegheny, PA
Susan Norris, Dauphin, PA
Alexander Noyle, Montgomery, PA
Melia Oddi, Canonsburg, PA
Glenn Olcerst, Allegheny, PA
Patricia Passeltiner, Allegheny, PA
E. Christopher Payne, Northampton, PA
Joan Pelc, Delaware, PA
Marta Pelusi, Allegheny, PA
Emily Petrucci, Delaware, PA
Ann Pinca, Lebanon, PA
Jane Popko, Lebanon, PA
Linda Porter, Bucks, PA
Vincent Prudente, Philadelphia, PA
Sophia Punday, Washington, PA
Diane Quick, Berks, PA
Margaret Quinn, Chester, PA
Frank Quinn, Allegheny, PA
Debby Rabold, Monroe, PA
Rachel Rakovan, Allegheny, PA
Sarah Rankin, Allegheny, PA
Jayne Rapp, Allegheny, PA
Vicki Rapp, Allegheny, PA

Jerry Ravnitzky, Putnam, NY
Eileen Reed, Bucks, PA
Rose and Dan Reeder, Clinton, PA
Miranda Reich, Washington, PA
Kay Reinfried, Lancaster, PA
Abby Resnick, Allegheny, PA
Max Riben, Pike, PA
Raina Rippel, Washington, PA
Heriberto Rodriguez, Otsego, NY
Kara Roggenkamp, Allegheny, PA
Melisa Romano, Delaware, PA
Patti Rose, Berks, PA
Kara Rubio, Allegheny, PA
David Runkle, Philadelphia, PA
Diane Rusch, Washington, PA
Mary Rush, Allegheny, PA
Gary Ryan, Bucks, PA
Elise Salahub, Lebanon, PA
Gina Samosky, Washington, PA
Thomas Samosky, Washington, PA
Chad Sample, Clinton, PA
Christina Samstag, Washington, PA
Arthur Satter, Wayne, PA
Carolyn Schellhorn, Montgomery, PA
Marc Schermer, Allegheny, PA
Linda Schmac, Allegheny, PA
Michelle Schnellbach, Washington, PA
Brett Schultz, Berks, PA
Tanya Seaman, Philadelphia, PA
Betsy Sedney, Allegheny, PA
Lynsie Segeleon, Allegheny, PA
Tim Seitz-Brown, York, PA
Elizabeth Seltzer, Delaware, PA
Julie Shapiro, Philadelphia, PA
Robin Shaw, Westmoreland, PA
Mary Ann Sheldon, Montgomery, PA
Kate Sherman, Allegheny, PA
Jen Siskind, Hartford, CT
Victoria Smedley, Lycoming, PA
Dennis Smiddle, Washington, PA
Debra Smit, Allegheny, PA
Scott Smith, Allegheny, PA
Vicki Smith, Washington, PA
Donna Snyder, Berks, PA

Sofia, Bucks, PA
Patricia Sonne, Lehigh, PA
Cindy Spencer, Allegheny, PA
Christopher Stamm, Berks, PA
Michelle Stawowczyk, Washington, PA
Brenda Steckley, Schuylkill, PA
Sandra Steingraber, Ph.D., Tompkins, NY
Bonnie Stoeckl, Lancaster, PA
Margery Stone, Armstrong, PA
Aleta Streett-Leavy, Butler, PA
Christina Surowiec, Montgomery, PA
Jay Sweeney, Wyoming, PA
Desiree Tarr, Washington, PA
Arlene Taylor, Dauphin, PA
Aubrey Tissue, Allegheny, PA
Steve Todd, Cumberland, PA
Laurie Tomme, Berks, PA
Jay E Treat III, Montgomery, PA
Ann Trondle-Price, Washington, PA
Walter Tsou, Philadelphia, PA
Adrienne Turner, Philadelphia, PA
Phoebe Turner, Chester, PA
Stephanie Ulmer, Allegheny, PA
Barbara VanHorn, Perry, PA

Darlene K. Vila, Allegheny, PA
Corinne Vipperman, Allegheny, PA
Lauren Virgin, Westmoreland, PA
Shirley Wagner, Schuylkill, PA
David Wahl, Washington, PA
John Wahl, Washington, PA
Jennifer Wahl, Allegheny, PA
Jay Walker, Allegheny, PA
Mary Walsh, Allegheny, PA
Garret Wassermann, Allegheny, PA
David Way, Montgomery, PA
Mary Jo Weishampel, Berks, PA
Tracy Weiss, United States, PA
Tracy Weiss, Allegheny, PA
Ann Wenget, Lancaster, PA
Linda Wichmann, Beaver, PA
Sabrina Wojnaroski, Allegheny, PA
Debra Wontor, Pike, PA
Judith Woodruff, Berks, PA
Denise Yocco, Delaware, PA
Sarah Yourd, Allegheny, PA
Leah Zerbe, Schuylkill, PA
Faith Zerbe, Delaware, PA
Tara Zrinski, Northampton, PA

cc: Secretary Rachel Levine, Pennsylvania Department of Health
Secretary Patrick McDonnell, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Members, PA Senate
Members, PA House of Representatives