Protecting Communities and Special Places

e-Newsletter October 18, 2013



"The public has been kept in the dark far too long in this process ... It's their land and they have a right to know."

~ Jim Abernathy, PennFuture

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UPCOMING EVENTS



October 19, 2013

The Global Frackdown will unite concerned citizens around the globe to tell elected officials that we want a future lit by clean, renewable energy; not dirty, polluting fossil fuels. The journey to a renewable energy future will not be fueled by shale gas. Take a stand against fracking - find an event near you and join the Frackdown!

More Questions than Answers: The Anadarko Development Plan

By ANN PINCA

It took over nine months for delivery, but after a Right to Know Law request, an appeal, and several rounds of legal arguments and mediation, the Office of Open Records ordered the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to disclose Anadarko Petroleum Corporation's (Anadarko) development plans for the Loyalsock State Forest.

The point of the Right to Know Law request, made by PennFuture, was to learn what development is planned for the <a href="https://hottps:/

Like a joke without a punch line, the redacted 2012 document is mostly irrelevant. And there is nothing humorous about the nine-month stand-off to obtain it and the ridiculously endless blacked-out pages it contains. Those factors seem to indicate the unwillingness of Anadarko and the DCNR to allow the citizens of Pennsylvania to understand what is planned for the popular state forest they own and enjoy.

In a <u>Sun-Gazette article</u>, Mary Wolf, Anadarko's Government Relations Advisor, claimed that the redacted material dealt mainly

A heavily redacted page from the plan released by DCNR.

with seismology matters and mineral levels and depths, but many pages in the plan are heavily blacked out, some completely. These include sometimes bewildering redacted areas on almost all topics: road construction, Click here to find an event near you

Mobilize to defend the Loyalsock!

On **November 1** where will you be?

You are invited to join Marcellus Shale Earth First! for a family-friendly day of action against fracking, which will include speakers, music, hiking, a potluck dinner, and supervised kids' activities. Let's show Anadarko Petroleum Corp. that we're not going to let them frack in the Loyalsock State Forest.

Schedule of the day:

Rally: 1:00-2:45 p.m. at the intersection of Yellow Dog Road and Ellenton Ridge Road, Loyalsock State Forest

Hike: 3:00-5:00 p.m. starting at the same location

Dinner, Discussion & Debrief: 5:30-8:00 p.m. location TBA (nearby)

Look here for more information on the rally

Fall Action Camp

Oct 27 - Nov 3

Marcellus Shale Earth First! invites you to Northeastern Pa. for a week of workshops, trainings, camping, hiking, and a mass forest mobilization on November 1 at the beautiful waters of Rock Run.

Click here for more information

well pads, water impoundments, pipelines, and communications infrastructure. A conceptual development timeline chart is completely blackened, as are seven entire pages in a row in Appendix A. Noticeably absent from the entire document are maps, locations and many specific numbers.

The redaction of so much material in the report only raises more questions. In the State Forest Environmental Review prepared by Anadarko, why choose to mysteriously cover up a few choice sentences just when the discussion turns to water withdrawals and recycling? What does it mean when an entire large block of black appears in the Recreation Sites and Opportunities section after the narrative brings up on-location security? Why black out the entire table of anticipated disturbances that includes numbers of well pads, compressors, impoundments, new roads, and pipelines when this information was given by the DCNR at the June meeting; does it imply that the numbers are different?

The entire Surface Use Agreement is left almost completely unmarked, with the notable exception of one large blackened box that eliminates the entire discussion of the "Slush Pit," defined in the Texas Administrative Code as a "pit used in conjunction with drilling rig for collecting spent drilling fluids; cuttings, sands, and silts; and wash water used for cleaning drill pipe and other equipment at the well site." Why can we know everything else about the surface use agreement except for this most environmentally important question?

Another page from the report.

While the DCNR and Anadarko may have expected concerned environmental groups to "see red" over the highly redacted report, those groups instead may now conjure even darker shades of doubt in terms of transparency with the actual plans for the Clarence Moore lands.

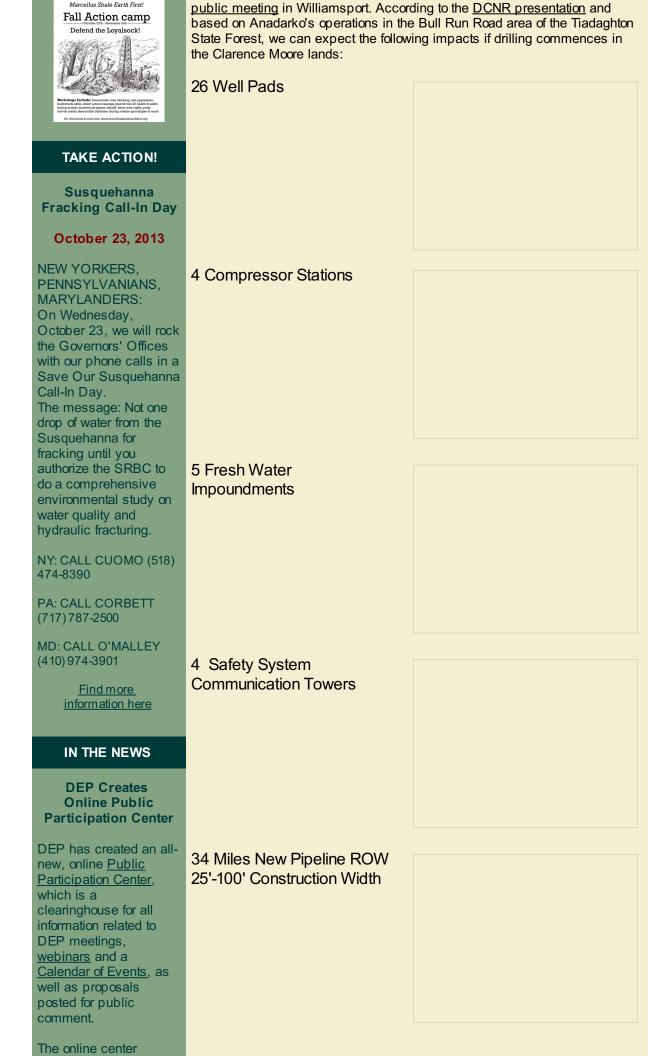
In a <u>State Impact report</u>, DCNR spokeswoman Christina Novak stated that the disclosed plan does not represent a final agreement with Anadarko and has not been formally revised since its submission. Novak said that the DCNR has promised to keep "stakeholder groups" informed of "what happens next" with the Loyalsock State Forest.

We insist that the DCNR includes the public as stakeholders in future communications - and that next time, real information is presented without another nine-month fight to get it.

What Will <2% Percent Disturbance Look Like in the Loyalsock State Forest?

A visit to Anadarko's Operations in the Tiadaghton State Forest

While the <u>Anadarko plan</u> released on Tuesday by the DCNR did not contain many new details, we do have the information provided at the <u>DCNR June 3</u>



includes an educational component where visitors can learn about: technical guidance and policies; the rulemaking process; and the electronic tools available to track permit applications or to be notified of pending authorizations. It also includes a link to the updated Citizen's Guide to DEP Regulations which explains the regulatory process in an easy-to-understand format developed in partnership with the CAC.

Read more here

Join RDA

We welcome your active participation and are in need of help for special events, publicity, research, and other

projects.
Contact us for details.

As a 501(c)(3)
non-profit
organization, RDA
relies on donations
for the important work we
do. In order for
RDA to continue its
valuable education
and advocacy
outreach in 2013,
please consider
a tax-free contribution
to our efforts.

Join Our Mailing List!

15.6 Miles New Roads15.5 Miles RebuiltExisting Roads

All photos by Ann Pinca

Take a complete tour of Anadarko's Operations on Bull Run Road here

www.keepitwildrda.org

Keep It Wild Hike #10: Smith's Knob

Saturday, October 19 11:00 a.m.

Join us to hike a section of the Loyalsock Trail from the Little Bear Ranger's Station to Smith's Knob, with a return via Painter's Run.

This is a strenuous hike on a rocky, rugged trail with an elevation change of approximately 1,100 feet. Your reward is a beautiful view of the Loyalsock Valley from Smith's Knob.

Look here for more information and directions

RDA Newsletter

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Please note: The RDA newsletter includes reporting on a variety of events and activities, which do not necessarily reflect the philosophy of the organization. RDA practices only non-violent action in voicing the organization's beliefs and concerns.

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Donations may also be sent by mail to: Responsible Drilling Alliance, P.O. Box 502, Williamsport, PA 17703

Thank you for your support!



