

Los Padres National Forest
Attn: Jonathan Schwartz
1190 East Ojai Ave.
Ojai, Ca. 93023

Dear Mr. Schwartz,

We are avid hikers, and longtime residents of Fillmore. We have been in the mountains above Fillmore many times fishing overnight and hiking with our children. (Our daughter hiked down Tar Creek with some friends this morning). We are lovers of wildlife and local fauna. We have swum in Sespe pools, bathed in hot springs, and photographed the animals. We have seen much and love our land.

I understand there is a decision for a permit to be issued very soon for new drilling above Fillmore. The only question then being: is the drilling safe?

We have had the Union oil company and other drillers in these hills for a hundred twenty five years. On that side of the discussion it's been said that diagonal drilling or "fracking" has been a common method "up the Sespe" for more than 50 years. We did some research on drilling for oil and were surprised to find that there is no watershed study that proves that such drilling is dangerous to our water sources or that it increases the likelihood of earthquakes. Unfortunately it is an emotional issue that has been put at your doorstep to decide.

As Americans we find it very easy to say "not in my backyard". It's likely that 100% of this type of outcry comes from people who drive cars and pollute our environment in one way or another. It's part of being an American in the 21st century.

We welcome strict watch control from EPA, OSHA, U.S. Department of Energy, our U.S. Forest Service, and our State of California agencies that oversee such activities, but not an end to our attempt to be more energy independent here at home. I have reliable reporting that clearly indicates our American technological practices are the most environmentally sound anywhere. We also understand Seneca Resources has an excellent environmental record and manages its employees both decently and consistently.

As concerned citizens we request the proposal for new controlled drilling be granted.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Faith Janine Rees". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bill Faith and Janine Rees
324 Third Street
Fillmore, Ca. 93015