

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/30/2019 6:00:00 AM
First name: Shannon
Last name: Farmer
Organization:
Title:
Comments: From: Shannon Farmer <shannonfarmer@trentu.ca>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2019 10:11 PM
To: Potts, Robert S -FS
Subject: Comment for Fracking Initiative in East Texas
Attachments: Screen Shot 2019-11-30 at 11.50.56 PM.png

Dear Mr. Potts,

I have included my comment card regarding projected fracking in East Texas. The comment card did not leave room for me to fully disclose my concern, but I am afraid that bureaucracy will only include what I've said in that little white box, so I've added it to this email.

However, I would like to further my concerns in an open manner that I hope you will read. What you are asking is not only wrong, but it is shameful. The land, trees, people, and water in East Texas are worth more than the millions (maybe billions?) the Country plans to make over this move.

That is because what you plan to do will inevitably kill the wildlife and inhibit reasonable succession of the ecosystems that will be destroyed in the process of creating these new wells. Additionally, flares will make the air that our children breathe toxic and eventually these youth will grow up wondering why they were never given a fighting chance.

Oh, but they'll have money, right? But what does it matter when they have to spend that money addressing the medical issues they developed as a result of the poisoned water fish, or air?

There is immense potential to explore renewable energy in Texas and it is shameful that you choose this instead- although I am not surprised. Our administration makes decisions for us, but I trust that you have a voice. I hope that you can use your voice.

If you have worked in the forests at any time in your life- as I'm sure you have- then you know the beauty you find in the solitude beneath the trees. I'm sure you're familiar with the value that each one of those commodities has- a value beyond dead wood on the ground.

Please, remember why you chose to enter the field of forestry (unless it was for malice reasons, in that case I realise you are laughing at my words) but on the chance you chose to enter this field based on the same hopes and dreams that I (a young budding ecologists) have also done, please remember.

I looked up to people like you when I was in grade school. Visiting the Texas Forestry Museum and running through the plantations is why I chose this field- because I truly love the trees.

I would like for you to remain an inspiration for people like me, and young kids that still have hopes and dreams, to work in our forests.

Most importantly, I want you to have a say on what this choice may mean for the future of our forests.

If there is dignity left in my voice, I beg you to care.

Thank you for caring,

Shannon

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Shannon Farmer

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