

# John L. (Jack) Patton

11711 Edgewater Ct. Montgomery, TX 77356-8956

October 1, 2019

Mr. Robert Potts  
Local Coordinator USDA

Subject: Fracking Proposal for Lake Conroe / Sam Houston National Forest

Dear Mr. Potts

I am opposed to the National Forest and Grasslands in Texas (NFGT) obtaining a lease for the exploration of oil and gas in the Lake Conroe / Sam Houston National Forest area. Oil & Gas exploration in a National Forest should not be allowed as this is an area designated for maintaining nature and allowing the citizens to enjoy the peace and tranquility of the forest. Exploration would definitely disrupt the forest eco-system.

The Federal Government has reported that that the United States has its lowest dependence on foreign oil & gas in our history. There are many unpopulated areas where this exploration and fracking might make sense, but not in a National Forest and so close to major population of Houston.

What is most annoying is that notification of a September 26, 2019 Public Meeting was non-existent. I understand only 10 people attended. Major organizations in the area including the San Jacinto River Authority, City of Houston, Montgomery County Commissioners, Texas Parks and Wildlife were not notified of this request by the NFGT.

Please record my protest and recommendation to deny this lease request.

Very truly yours,



John L. (Jack) Patton

Cc: Robert Nichols, Texas State Senator  
Will Metcalf, Texas State Representative  
Jace Houston, San Jacinto River Authority