

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/26/2014 12:00:00 AM

First name: Heather

Last name: Merenda

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Mr. Schwartz:

I am a resident of Fillmore. Fillmore is 100% dependent on groundwater where the Sespe reaches the Santa Clara River. This is just upstream of the proposed project. The chemicals used in fracking is simply another industrial process and the complete lack of understanding of how groundwater flows should make the risk of approving this project completely unacceptable. You don't have the staff or the technical expertise to monitor the field if they are approved, and will just say thanks for submitting the report. If anything goes wrong, the entire City of Fillmore will be without drinking water. Fillmore is just beginning to recover from a devastating economic downturn. We don't have the wherewithal to withstand contamination of our only drinking water supply. In other areas where everything has gone wrong unexpectedly despite "analysis" and "review", this has put communities in impossible situations. The companies never tell the whole truth when something goes wrong, they hide it to manage their liability and costs. I see nothing in your document or in this firm that would protect us. These are business people, they want to make money. That's their only goal. They will install the least cost "protection" for us, if something goes wrong, at best their lawyers will force us to sign something that says they'll cover our costs for clean water as long as we don't sue them. At worst, they will walk away leaving our community sickened and devastated.

The Sespe Creek is one of the last natural treasures of a watershed left in a natural state in southern California, and provides habitat and clean water to many people and creatures, including steel head trout. We protested the master plan because this is the kind of nonsense we expected. We were assured that this kind of development would not happen, it would be protective. I know that, as an agency, you have to assess the legal applications that come through. As a disadvantaged community, this is an environmental justice as well. Our community doesn't have the ability to attend workshops, most people work long weeks and days and barely have time to keep food on the table.

Do not approve this application. If you do, you are approving contaminated the drinking water of a disadvantaged community. Please do not approve the application. They will not be prepared to protect the drinking water needs of the City of Fillmore and will walk away when things go wrong because they want to make a profit, not protect those who depend on the Sespe.

Sincerely

Heather Merenda

Fillmore resident

805-524-9261