Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/10/2023 4:23:00 PM
First name: David
Last name: Ruen
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Regarding the Newark Exploration Drilling Project
Our property is located approximately 3200 feet from the nearest proposed drilling pad (25055 Upper French Creek Rd) and our neighbors to the west will be approximately 1100 feet away. Frankly, we find it alarming there are no established minimum set-back distances from residential areas or private property for mineral claims or exploration activities. At a bare minimum there should be set-backs similar to those mandated by county government for beef feed lots, hog confinement buildings or dairy operations. With that being said, here are our primary concerns:
*Noise nuisance/disturbance from loud diesel engine drilling rigs and water tankers 24/7
*Well water recharge rates, diminished well output and possible aquifer contamination - currently our recharge rate is only 3-5 gallons per minute and I am very concerned about the potential impact of hundreds - or thousands of drilling cores penetrating through our aquifer zone (it can't be good)
*Travel danger on Upper French Creek Rd with the additional service vehicles, water tankers additive to tourists and locals traveling on this dusty gravel road
Clearly there are many issues being raised with archaeological, cultural and environmental impacts that have not been addressed. No concern for wildlife is evident, as well. In closing, there needs to be a study conducted involving local well drilling experts and state geological experts regarding potential well flow and aquifer concerns. Additionally, should this project get the green light, it must include stipulations that pre-drill well testing and established timelines for repeat well testing is put into place. The potential for lawsuits with the federal governmental agencies over compromised water quality and flow rates from this project is very real.