



## 97<sup>th</sup> Legislature, State of Michigan

May 20, 2014

Permits and Bonding Unit  
Office of Oil, Gas, and Minerals  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 30256  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7756

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing today to ask the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to deny permit application #AI40053 (Wing Well 1-15, NW of intersection of W. Delhi Road and Miller Road) for oil exploration by West Bay Exploration in Scio Township. As proposed, this project would pose several threats to the local environment and would significantly diminish the peaceful quality of life that Scio Township residents currently enjoy.

The detrimental impact that oil drilling would have on both our public health and our natural resources is something that must be considered—even at this early, exploratory stage in the process. Before your agency issues any final decisions regarding widespread oil drilling in Scio Township, we strongly urge the DEQ to carry out a cumulative environmental impact assessment to determine both the short-term and long-term effects this proposal would impose upon our land, water and air.

The area being considered under permit application #AI40053 is within one mile of the Huron River, which provides drinking water to 85 percent of Ann Arbor residents, and within two miles of the Ann Arbor city limits. By allowing this project to move forward the DEQ would be potentially compromising the health and well-being of nearly 150,000 Michigan residents. Oil drilling can have numerous detrimental effects including the release of hazardous substances like silica dust into the environment, harmful changes to ground and surface water quality and quantity, various disturbances associated with natural gas flaring and noise pollution that inevitably comes with heavy truck traffic.

Once again, we ask you to reject permit application #AI40053 in order to protect the vast natural resources that exist in Scio Township as well as the health and well-being of residents living in close proximity to the proposed drilling area. We encourage the DEQ to take the necessary time to ensure that permit applicants are doing everything practicable to minimize impacts on fragile roadways, neighboring property owners and the number of recreation facilities within walking distance of the proposed exploration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebekah Warren".

Rebekah Warren  
State Senator  
18<sup>th</sup> District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gretchen Driskell".

Gretchen Driskell  
State Representative  
52<sup>nd</sup> District

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Irwin".

Jeff Irwin  
State Representative  
53<sup>rd</sup> District