

My name is Laurie Barr, I am an environmental advocate working with residents of the Village of Cyclone, Keating Twp., McKean County, (Cyclone) Pennsylvania.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a comment.

In Jan 2024, the Department of Environmental Protection approved a Class II-D injection well permit in Cyclone. The well is located in the Bradford Oil Field in the Allegheny River watershed.

The Village of Cyclone hosts the headwaters of Kinzua Creek, a tributary of the Allegheny River. Downstream, the City of Pittsburgh withdraws up to 70 million gallons per day from the Allegheny River. This is an irreplaceable water source.

Many residents of Cyclone are the oil field workers, who worked in the local oil field. They have details about the conditions of the wells, including communication issues related to the injection well and other area wells these date back many decades.

They brought many concerns to the attention of the DEP and elected officials.

During a conference held on Sept 26<sup>th</sup> with DEP and Catalyst, a local resident, [held up a large map](#) from 1937 showing DEP officials the recorded locations of ~1000 historic wells, including wells very near and possibly under Cyclone homes that surround the now permitted injection well. The DEP did not ask for a copy of that 1937 map.

Local volunteers, concerned about the risk of water contamination and home explosions have hunted for, located and reported over 35 additional abandoned wells to DEP recently.

Most of the wells were leaking natural gas. One, leaking oil into Kinzua Creek.

The department is currently investigating the abandoned well reports.

While the DEP investigates the abandoned wells, another investigation is actively underway in Cyclone. On May 24<sup>th</sup> a Cyclone resident reported flammable tap water to DEP.

I am here today to bring this situation to the attention of those who may be able to help.

Residents were told waste injection may begin any day.

Some residents are experiencing health problems because they are now living under these stressful conditions.

No families should be forced by their government to live under the threat of their home blowing up or their water supply becoming unsafe to use.

DEP just recently authorized two new permits to drill and operate wells in Cyclone. This is irresponsible and is threatening the health and safety of Cyclone residents. There needs to be a suspension of all oil and gas well activity in Cyclone, at least until these two investigations are completed.

Thank you again,

Laurie Barr