The damage being done to the environment by natural gas fracking and transport is not adequately monitored and prevented. Increasing support for this destructive fossil fuel is not in the public's interest. Please do not permit more infrastructure to encourage.

The Environmental Working Group's Dusty Horwitt added, “From Texas to New York to California, regulators at the federal and state level have shown that they are all too willing to overlook serious drilling risks. What is even more troubling about this case is that EPA has allowed the drilling industry to criticize its scientific integrity when, all along, EPA officials had evidence of real drilling pollution. At the very least, these facts make it clear further investigation is needed, not only of Range's activities, but also of EPA's motivations.”

The Department of Energy needs to be a leader in protecting the environment for American citizens as well as reducing greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel use. President Obama made clear his commitment to preserving the planet in his Inaugural Address:

We, the people, still believe that our obligations as Americans are not just to ourselves, but to all posterity. We will respond to the threat of climate change, knowing that the failure to do so would betray our children and future generations. Some may still deny the overwhelming judgment of science, but none can avoid the devastating impact of raging fires, and crippling drought, and more powerful storms. The path towards sustainable energy sources will be long and sometimes difficult. But America cannot resist this transition; we must lead it. We cannot cede to other nations the technology that will power new jobs and new industries - we must claim its promise. That is how we will maintain our economic vitality and our national treasure - our forests and waterways; our croplands and snowcapped peaks. That is how we will preserve our planet, commanded to our care by God. That's what will lend meaning to the creed our fathers once declared.

Thank you for leading the way.

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Christine Heinrichs