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Congress of the United States

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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

MAJORITY (202) 225-2927
FACSIMILE (202) 225-2525
MINORITY (202) 225-3641

energycommerce.house.gov

July 19, 2010

Mr. Randy Eresman
President & Chief Executive Officer
Encana Corporation
1800, 855 - 2nd Street SW
P.O. Box 2850
Calgary, AB T2P 2S5

Dear Mr. Eresman:

The Subcommittee on Energy and Environment is examining the practice of hydraulic fracturing and its potential impacts on human health and the environment. We request your cooperation in this investigation.

Since February, the Subcommittee has sent letters to 14 oil and gas well service companies requesting information on their hydraulic fracturing practices. In their responses, these companies identified well operators, rather than well service companies, as the entities most likely to maintain data on the proximity of specific wells to underground sources of drinking water. Similarly, the well service companies directed us to the well operators, such as your company, for information on the recovery and disposal of fluids and water that flow back to the surface of wells that have been hydraulically fractured.

To help inform the Subcommittee on these issues, please provide us with the following documents and information:

1. A list of all oil and gas wells for which your company performed or hired another company to perform hydraulic fracturing in 2008 and 2009 and for which that hydraulic fracturing occurred in, near, or above an underground source of drinking water as defined by the Safe Drinking Water Act. For each well, provide the name of the company or companies that performed hydraulic fracturing at that well.

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2. For oil and gas wells that were hydraulically fractured in 2008 and 2009, a list by state and year showing the total volume of flowback and produced water recovered from the wells you operate and an accounting of how your company disposed of or discharged the flowback and produced water.
3. For each state in which you operate, identify the top producing natural gas well or unit of wells that was hydraulically fractured in 2009. For each identified well or unit of wells, provide the following information: the total volume of flowback and produced water recovered from the well or unit; an accounting of how your company disposed of or discharged the flowback and produced water recovered from the well or unit; the name of the company or companies that provided hydraulic fracturing services at the well or unit; and the methods by which your company stored on-site the flowback and produced water recovered from each well or unit.
4. All tests performed to determine the chemical content of flowback and produced water from wells that were hydraulically fractured in 2008 and 2009. Identify documents related to the wells referenced in request #3 above.
5. All company policies, procedures and design standards relating to on-site storage of flowback and produced water.
6. All documents relating to any allegations of harm to human health or the environment caused by hydraulic fracturing at your wells, including from improper on-site storage or spills of fluids recovered from your wells; improper on- or off-site disposal or discharge of recovered fluids; and contamination of drinking water.

Please produce the requested documents by Friday, August 6, 2010. In addition, we ask that you advise the Committee by Monday, July 26, 2010, whether you will comply with this request on a voluntary basis. An attachment to this letter provides additional information about responding to Committee document requests.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Alison Cassady or Molly Gaston with the Committee staff at (202) 226-2424.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman
Chairman



Edward J. Markey
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy
and Environment

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Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Joe Barton
Ranking Member

The Honorable Fred Upton
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy
and Environment