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August 19, 2016

The Honorable Gina McCarthy
Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

The Petroleum Equipment & Services Association (PESA), the national voice of the oilfield service, supply, and manufacturing sector, urges the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to continue to follow scientific findings as its study on the relationship between hydraulic fracturing and drinking water is finalized.

The EPA's draft Assessment report stated the Agency did not find evidence hydraulic fracturing has "led to widespread, systemic impacts on drinking water resources in the United States." During a review by the Science Advisory Board (SAB), no evidence contradicting EPA's finding was produced, in strong contrast to the more than 950 studies, reviews, and scientific assessments supporting EPA's conclusion.

Given that the SAB did not ask EPA to remove or change this topline finding, it should remain in EPA's final Assessment report. It is, as previously noted by PESA in comments to the SAB, "sound, valid, and supported by EPA's comprehensive review, outside expertise, and published scientific research."

Since its development, hydraulic fracturing has been used on more than two million wells in the United States. The process is governed by industry risk management practices and multilayered federal and state regulations. It has been extensively reviewed by multiple state regulators and numerous scientific experts.

PESA's member companies are proud of the role they have played in developing technologies and processes, including hydraulic fracturing, that have allowed the United States to develop oil and gas resources in an environmentally responsible manner. These achievements would not have been possible without a focus on sound science. We urge EPA to continue to maintain similar attention as it works to finalize its Assessment report.

Sincerely,

Leslie Beyer
President