202 Lawton Road

Marietta, OH 45750

gbanziger497@gmail.com

740-434-3354

Senator Frank Hoagland

One Capitol Square, First Floor 134

Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Senator Hoagland:

 I would respectfully ask that you halt (or at least put a hold) the “nominations” (i.e., requests for permits) to conduct high-pressure hydraulic fracturing (fracking) adjacent to our state parks and other public lands in Ohio.

 I have attached an article that cites scientifically based studies on the effects of fracking. These effects include health consequences for those living near these sites, the release of methane gas (a strong source of greenhouse gas emissions) which is exacerbating climate change, as evidenced in the extreme weather experienced all around the country, and national security (DoD officials cite climate change as a risk to national security). One of the biggest effects of increased fracking in eastern Ohio (near Salt Fork State Park and Wolf Run State Park) will be much greater amounts of brine waste. Much of this brine waste is placed in injection wells in Washington County, where I live, which leads the state in the amount of brine waste injected under its lands.

 The Ohio Oil & Gas Land Management Commisssion is responsible for approving these nominations after legislation allowing fracking public lands was passed in both houses (in a measure cloaked as a poultry bill with no public hearings) and signed by the governor. Many of us have expressed our opposition to fracking on public lands, and we desperately need the support of our state legislators.

 Thank you for your service to our country as a Navy Seal.

Sincerely yours,

George Banziger, Ph.D.

Encl: