

# Fractured FollowUp Campaign Sample Language

This language can be used to write your own letter to your legislators or other governing bodies you would like to invite to take the Frackland Tour. There are two versions of the language: one focused on a Public Health angle and the other prepared for those who may be more resistant.

## Version A: Public Health Angle Sample Language

I am writing to you as a Pennsylvanian living with the impacts of fracking. If you have not read the series [Fractured: The Body Burden of Living Near Fracking](#), I highly recommend that you prioritize doing so. This series chronicles chemical exposures and health impacts that residents of Pennsylvania are living through daily.

***This study found found chemicals like benzene and butylcyclohexane in drinking water and air samples, and breakdown products for chemicals like ethylbenzene, styrene, and toluene in the bodies of children living near fracking wells at levels up to 91 times as high as the average American and substantially higher than levels seen in the average adult cigarette smoker.***

Additionally, fracking pollutes the air and contaminates precious water sources. Our air and water are vital and life-sustaining resources that we need to protect. While we can produce energy without fossil fuels, we cannot replace water aquifers tainted by fracking or avoid exposure to cancer causing chemicals.

.Policies supported by the majority of Pennsylvanians no longer include dollars going to subsidize entrenched oil and coal interests. They want energy policies that are efficient, sustainable and environmentally sound. This is supported by the PA Attorney General's 2020 Grand Jury recommendations:

- Expand no-drill zones in PA from the required 500 feet to 2,500 feet.
- Require fracking companies to publicly disclose all chemicals before they are used on-site
- Require the regulation of gathering pipelines used to transport unconventional gas
- Accurately assess all air pollutants in a given area
- Require safer transport of contaminated waste from fracking sites
- Conduct a comprehensive health response to the effect to those living near drilling sites
- Limit the ability of PA-DEP employees to be employed in the private sector immediately after leaving the Department.
- Allow the PA Office of Attorney General original criminal jurisdiction over unconventional oil and gas companies

As an elected official, it is your responsibility to protect our constitutional rights and the rights of our neighbors. Our right to clean air and pure water is outlined in Article 1 Section 27 of the PA Constitution. In our state, these rights are being violated every day by fracking.

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**I am asking you to take a tour to see firsthand the impacts that fracking has on residents and communities. Lois Bower-Bjornson, a resident of Washington County PA, offers Frackland Tours where legislators like yourself can join to learn more about how fracking impacts families and see firsthand what it does to communities. You can sign up for a tour by contacting Lois at [lbb@cleanair.org](mailto:lbb@cleanair.org).**

As Bryan states in the fractured series, “Most people think ‘not in my backyard’, and value cheap gas, but what they don’t understand is how (these pollutants) could shift directions at any time and expose them. My water flows directly into the Monongahela, which you drink.” This tour and the information should be helpful in your future legislative decisions.

Link to [a preview of the Fractured Tour](#).

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## Version B: Sample Language for Officials that may be resistant

Dear (title/name),

I am writing to you as a Pennsylvanian living with the impacts of fracking. I rely upon your decisions to protect my constitutional rights to clean air and pure water as outlined in Article 1 Section 27 of the PA constitution. These rights are under attack. Chemicals used in the fracking process are polluting our air and water and making our children sick. Have you seen the suffering of children with rare cancers? Have you talked to their anguished parents, who would do anything to protect their children?

Fracking cannot be done safely near homes and schools. On top of requiring toxic chemicals that contaminate vital resources, fracking causes harmful exposures to radium and other dangerous elements. Some of these impacts are chronicled in the series [\*Fractured: The Body Burden of Living Near Fracking\*](#), where Environmental Health News investigates the burden that living near fracking has on human health. If you have not already read this series, I recommend that you do so immediately. .

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