

ENVIRONMENTALISTS FOR BERNIE

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: FRACKING IN OKLAHOMA

As a person who cares deeply about the health and well-being of Oklahoma and its residents, I am concerned about the impact fracking is having on our state. Oklahoma's position on a valuable shale formation has left us vulnerable to natural gas interests and they are taking full advantage of it, ignoring the costly and dangerous externalities that they are levelling against every person in this state. We can all agree that recent increases in the magnitude and frequency of earthquakes go far beyond what is acceptable. Dozens of people have been injured and hundreds of homes and properties have been damaged. As of now, we are helpless to defend our health and our land against the behemoth that is the fossil fuel industry. It has become even more difficult to protect our families and our homes since Governor Mary Fallin passed a bill which denies towns and counties the ability to ban fracking within their localities. Even former Secretary of State Clinton has previously supported the expansion of fracking, and her State Department was one of the most visible supporters of the expansion of domestic fracking in the United States. In spite of this, we have a chance in this Presidential election to make the change necessary to protect our great state. We can come together and support Bernie Sanders, the only candidate that has called for an outright ban on fracking, for President. He is also committed to transitioning industry workers towards new, cleaner jobs so as to ensure that their families are cared for. Bernie has a long-standing commitment to fighting for the environment, achieving a 95% lifetime rating on the national environmental scorecard of the League of Conservation Voters. His score is better than any other presidential candidate and he has gained prominent endorsements from Bill McKibben and "Gasland" filmmaker Josh Fox.

Additionally, the newest polls show that he is the only Democratic candidate projected to win against all Republican challengers in November, while Hillary Clinton loses to each and every candidate. If we are serious about protecting our state and the people who live here, we need to get serious about electing Bernie Sanders as President. need to get serious about electing Bernie Sanders as President.

