

The Hanover Township Board of Supervisors held a **Public Hearing** on **Thursday, March 15, 2012** at approximately 6:45 pm at the Municipal Building. Those present were David Duerr-Chairman, James Donohue-Vice Chairman, Herbert Grubbs-Supervisor, Kevin Lemmi-Supervisor, Donald Winkler-Supervisor, Wendy Turrentine-Secretary/Treasurer & Lane Turturice-Solicitor

Call to Order

The purpose of this Conditional Use Hearing to consider the request of Range Resources for the construction of a deep well drilling pads on property owned by Raja Dakshinamurthy.

Mr. Markocic explained the access route would be:

- Route 18 to Purdy Road
- Purdy Road to Curry Road
- There will then be an access road that is approximately 400-500 feet.

The site is approximately 12 acres but due to the location, it allows for a larger well pad with a 10 well capacity.

- This site will be completed in 2 phases; 5 wells per phase.

DEP Permit 1 has been received. No other permits are required for this site.

Mr. Donohue asked if all the leases were completed.

- Mr. Markocic stated that Range Resources goes through the process of Due Diligence which means that records go back 100+ years to determine the land is leased from the proper people.

Mr. Fiola asked if all ten wells would be on the same pad and if the site will be where is currently marked.

- Mr. Markocic stated yes with 30-40 feet between each well. A second pad was possible but was thrown out because all 10 could fit on one. He went on to explain that nothing will be done until all the leases are finalized.

Mr. Grubbs asked how Act 13 would effect how things were done.

- Mr. Markocic said that the communication would not be much different and that Range Resources would still be willing to attend the pre-application meetings and be happy to continue to video and maintain the roadways. He went on to say that they are still required to attend a public meeting as this alleviates concerns and answers questions regarding any proposed site.
- In regards to environmental safety, no substantial changes will be made.
- Act 13 eliminates the necessity of conditional use unless a proposed site is within 500 feet of a residence.
- Mr. Markocic said that the gas industry needs to be treated as any other industry and that the Township will receive impact fees and Range Resources will still repair the roads.

Mr. Duerr questioned the timeline on road repair.

- Mr. Markocic stated that they will fix the roads as they go but they will not be perfect while in use.

Mr. Turturice confirmed that the Pre-Application meeting was held on February 16th.

Mrs. Fiola asked if water testing was required.

- Mr. Markocic stated they are required to test out to a 2500 foot radius from well heads.
- Mr. Duerr asked if the results of these tests are available.
- Mr. Markocic stated yes and the results are given to the residents.
- Mrs. Fiola asked what tests would be done.
- Mr. Markocic said the water testing is done by a 3rd party and he could provide them with that information.

Mr. Duerr asked if flow tests would be conducted.

- Mr. Markocic said that flow tests would not be completed as there are too many factors.

-Mrs. Fiola asked if Aquila will test flow with seismic testing.
-Mr. Markocic said that Aquila could do that but it is not required.
Mrs. Fiola asked what would happen if the water is contaminated.
-Mr. Markocic said that water would be provided until the water source could be repaired or replaced.
-It was explained that turbidity will cause discoloration and can cause sediment to cloud water.
-Although methane migration is rare, if this occurs, the well will be plugged.
-Mrs. Fiola asked if water would still be delivered.
-Mr. Markocic stated yes.
-Mr. Winkler asked what advance residents are given that their water will be tested.
-Mr. Markocic stated that it is beneficial for Range Resources to test the water as it can be a defense for them and clarified that not operations will proceed until all the water is tested in areas surrounded by drill sites. He went on to say that some current water sources already have bacteria and methane present and stated that in Northeast sites, arsenic is present in water sources prior to drilling because of geology in that area.
Mr. Duerr asked what Range Resources would do if murky water is present.
-Mr. Markocic said that water will be provided.
Mr. Winkler said that the roadways are a concern but that the water may be the biggest headache as it can be expensive for people to test their water.
-Mr. Markocic said that they pay a couple thousand dollars to have each source tested. It was explained that the samples are taken to an independent laboratory and that Range Resources is fine with testing everyone's water because it is beneficial for everyone.
Mr. Morra asked how far out from the well site they test the water.
-Mr. Markocic reiterated that it is a 2500 foot radius but that the area can be extended another 500 feet if necessary.
-Mr. Markocic said he understands the fear that disruption could be caused by lateral drilling and gave the following three examples of why that is unlikely.
1. The drilling takes place 6500 feet below the surface and aquifers are around 200 feet so there is approximately 1 mile between the water source and the fracture. The frac is done at 8000 pounds per square inch which will not fracture very far.
2. Basic geology meaning that there has to be equal porosity and permeability in every single layer. Because there are different layers of rock each with different porosity and permeability, there is a chance it could go through the first layer but it would stop at the second or the third.
3. The most common way for contamination to occur is if water is spilled on the surface.
Mr. Morra asked about the possibility of earthquakes.
-Mr. Markocic said that this occurs when underground injections of frac water are forced 10,000 feet underground causing friction within the layers of rock due to the water acting as a lubricant. This process is not permitted in Pennsylvania.
Mrs. Zirkle asked when Devils Den Road will be worked on.
-Mr. Markocic said that it will be fixed this summer.
Mr. Donohue asked when work would be done on the first Paris Sportsman Club site.
-Mr. Markocic stated late Spring or early Summer. They are waiting on the engineer results from the core testing to begin and the approval of the Township engineers for road construction to begin.
Mrs. Fiola asked if a road would be tar and chipped if it had an ash base.
-Mr. Markocic said no because it does not last so they do not contract that service.

Mr. Duerr concluded the Public Hearing at 7:13pm

