

Michele Tripodi
436 Glendale Rd
Ridgway, PA 15853

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
230 Chestnut St.
Meadville, PA 16335-3494

RECEIVED
JUL 19 2023
Environmental Protection
Northwest Regional Office

Attention: Regional Air Quality Program Manager; Eric A Gustafson

As I am sure you are aware, Diversified Production LLC is attempting via 24-00197A to yet again undermine our air quality with their unlawful business operations on State Game Lands 44. The Air Pollution Control Act prohibits such actions and if the DEP issues the permit for the additional requested 4 engines for electrical generation of cryptocurrency data mining operations, which is a new process, it would be against the law.

I object to the issuance of the permit for several reasons. This company prematurely installed equipment on this site. Diversified Production LLC also has violations at 19 of its other oil and gas sites. This in and of itself should prohibit them from receiving additional permitting. The emissions intensity of Bitcoin mining is larger than that of some countries. The noise disturbance already produced by the prematurely installed engine is incredible. I live not too far from this location and had to do a little research as to where it was coming from. To my surprise our small community in Elk County was being exposed to the cryptocurrency mining operations at a dead well head location on SGL 44. This should have never happened. I was unaware of how I could get involved and prevent this from growing, but now have been directed to contact you. The addition of 4 Waukesha engines would only increase the devastating sound to the local population as well as the animal population. Hunting in this area would diminish. And we all know that when the conservation of the land and animals is neglected that the ecosystem changes. Sound pollution, air pollution, and ground disturbance are only a few of the reasons this application should be rejected. Diversified Production LLC must be held accountable and cease operations.

You must act now and enforce the laws already put in place and demand that Diversified Production LLC remove its operations and leave Elk County. The amount of nitrogen oxides emitted by one of the proposed engines, 12.31 tons per year, is beyond what our local paper mill emits per year. This alone should shut down the project. Not to mention the 3.39 tons per year of other hazardous air pollutants. Your agency must be the influencing factor that saves the Horton Township community and wildlife for future generations on SGL44. If you would like to discuss this in person or decide to hold a public hearing I can be reached at 814-594-6427 or tripodi@windstream.net. I appreciate your time and strongly urge your agency to protect our community for the future.

Regards,


Michele Tripodi