June 26, 2020

The Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Governor Wolf,

In light of the damning evidence cited in the Grand Jury report of systemic failures by our Department of Environmental Protection and Department of Health to protect Pennsylvanians from shale gas development, we call on you to demand the resignations of Secretary Patrick McDonnell and Secretary Rachel Levine. Unfortunately, the contents of the report that will shock the public are well known to the affected Pennsylvanians and advocates who have been reporting these problems for years. You have not responded to them. That must change.

When the Attorney General announced the charges against Range Resources and Cabot Oil & Gas, we called on you to halt further permitting of shale gas activities in the Commonwealth. We noted that both companies were continuing to receive permits despite being charged with felonies and misdemeanors. You did not respond to our letter of June 17. Given the evidence provided by the Grand Jury in its report on the state’s failures, we call on you to ban fracking outright.

We have tried numerous times unsuccessfully to arrange a meeting with you. Our members are among the directly impacted people of our state. Among them are people who testified before the Grand Jury. The fact that you have ignored our attempts is unconscionable. We call on you to meet with us.

You have an obligation to act in the best interest of the people you serve. Today’s report is a terrible reflection on your administration and those of your predecessors. You have the power to set in motion the changes we so desperately need. Use it.

Respectfully,

The Better Path Coalition
Planning Group
Karen Feridun, Berks Gas Truth
Rachel Mark, Better Path Coalition
Arianne Elinich, Bucks County Concerned Citizens Against the Pipelines
Sharon Furlong, Bucks Environmental Action
Ellen Gerhart, Camp White Pine
Tim Spiese, Lancaster Against Pipelines
Ann Pinca, Lebanon Pipeline Awareness
Michael Bagdes-Canning, Marcellus Outreach Butler
Diane Sipe, Marcellus Outreach Butler
Tammy Murphy, Physicians for Social Responsibility PA
Barbara Jarmoska, Project CoffeeHouse