

## EDITORIALS

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Spectra Energy is committed to operating our pipeline and storage facilities safely, reliably and in compliance with environmental regulations.

Our newest investment locally is the construction at Steckman Ridge LP, which provides more than 12 billion cubic feet of natural gas storage capacity. Spectra Energy has a 50 percent ownership interest in Steckman Ridge and operates the facility.

Throughout the permitting and construction process, Spectra Energy worked closely with state and federal regulators as well as area landowners. We continue to do all we can to keep the community apprised of operational activities at the new facility.

There is a distinction between the Steckman Ridge storage operations and the production process known as "hydraulic fracturing" used to break up shale deposits to extract natural gas. There was no hydraulic fracturing involved when the Steckman Ridge facility was constructed in 2008-09.

We appreciate our neighbors' concerns and work to resolve every issue. Where water quality issues have been raised ("Locals hope to inform others of Clearville natural gas project," March 22), the state Department of Environmental Protection responded and performed well testing and, in some instances, even before the construction of the Steckman Ridge storage facility began. The DEP found no well contamination resulting from Steckman Ridge's construction activities.

Spectra Energy is an infrastructure company that focuses on transporting gas to various markets. Our pipeline system and storage facilities have been in operation for more than 60 years in Pennsylvania, where our investments sustain 200 permanent jobs and 300 contract employees.

As one of the nation's leading providers of natural gas infrastructure, we remain committed to the high performance levels that communities have come to expect from our operations.

Wendy Olson

Spectra Energy Corp.

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