



Observer Reporting Form

Feature Evaluated	Yes	No	Comments
Meeting started on time?	X		
All members present?	X		
Members attentive?	X		
Did members appear to have done their "homework?"			They didn't speak at all
Were members courteous to each other and the public?	X		
Agenda sent/posted 72 hours before?	X		
Agenda items clearly described what was to be discussed?	X		
Adequate opportunity for public input?	X		
Was there an appearance that some action items were discussed in closed rather than open session?		X	
Was background information available to the public?	X		
Facilities adequate? (room size, lighting, ventilation, speakers audible, accessible to handicapped)	X		

Were any issues on the agenda relevant to LWV positions or programs?

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation arranged this hearing for public comments on changes in the regulation of oil and gas operations in Tennessee. None of the proposed regs addressed any rules or requirements for oil and gas companies to extract natural gas by hydraulic fracturing. About 100 citizens attended the meeting, including two staff from TDEC, a few oil and gas operators, and members of the TN Wildlife Association, Sierra Club, LWV , etc to testify on the dangers of hydraulic fracturing and the need for TDEC to implement regulations to protect against water, air and land contamination by fracturing cocktails containing toxic chemicals and by well contamination. About 30 environmentalists, including Barbara Devaney of the LWVN and Mary Headrick, LWV Knoxville, testified, also calling for equal representation on the Oil and Gas Board of environmentalists, scientists and consumers and citizen groups. Oil and Gas Industry representatives questioned the accuracy of the film "Gasland", which has incited strong public reaction against fracking.

Do you recommend League action on any of these issues? Yes. LWV representatives have been invited to meet with TDEC and representatives from The Tennessee Wildlife Association to recommend fracking regulations to be implemented until the EPA issues regulations in approximately 2 years.

Observer: Judy Raines, Mary Headrick, Barbara Devaney Meeting: _TDEC meeting Knoxville Office Date: 2/22/11