HENRY A. WAXMAN, CALIFORNIA
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ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515–6115

Majority (202) 225–2927
Minority (202) 225–3641

February 18, 2010

Mr. Roger Willis
President
Universal Well Services
201 Arch Street
Meadville, PA 16335

Dear Mr. Willis:

The Subcommittee on Energy and Environment is examining the practice of hydraulic fracturing and its potential impacts. We request your cooperation in this investigation.

To help inform the Subcommittee about the chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing process and the potential impacts on human health or the environment, please provide the Committee with the following documents:

1. Documents sufficient to show the number of wells that your company hydraulically fractured in each state, by year, between 2005 and 2009. For natural gas wells, please provide data by year and state on the number of wells fractured to produce shale gas, coalbed methane, and tight sandstone gas in the United States. Please also provide data indicating for each natural gas well whether the fracturing occurred in, near, or below an underground source of drinking water as defined by the Safe Drinking Water Act.

2. Documents sufficient to show the identity and total volume of the products, including the chemicals contained therein, that your company used in hydraulic fracturing in each state, by year, between 2005 and 2009. For natural gas wells, please provide data by year and state on the identity and total volume of the products, including the chemicals contained therein, that your company used to produce shale gas, coalbed methane, and tight sandstone gas in the United States.

3. All documents relating to the health or environmental effects of the products, including the chemicals contained therein, used by your company in hydraulic fracturing.

4. All documents relating to any allegations that the products used by your company in hydraulic fracturing caused harm to human health or the environment.

5. Documents sufficient to show the percentage of hydraulic fracturing fluids your company recovered in each state, by year, between 2005 and 2009, and all documents estimating your company's fluid recovery efficiency.

6. Documents sufficient to show the volume of flowback and produced water, and the chemicals contained therein, generated from your company's hydraulic fracturing operations in each state, by year, between 2005 and 2009, and the methods by which your company disposed of this water in each state, by year, between 2005 and 2009. If you are not responsible for recovery and disposal of flowback and produced water, please provide the Committee with a list of companies that would bear such responsibility.

Please produce the requested documents by Friday, March 5, 2010. In addition, we ask that you advise the Committee by Thursday, February 25, 2010, whether you will comply with this request on a voluntary basis. Attachments to this letter provide additional information about responding to Committee document requests.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Alison Cassady or Stacia Cardille with the Committee staff at (202) 226-2424.

Sincerely,

Henry A. Waxman
Chairman

Edward J. Markey
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy
and Environment

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Joe Barton
Ranking Member

The Honorable Fred Upton
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy
and Environment