

Please note:

If you have received this notice in error, please let us know by sending a reply email with the caption "Remove" in the Subject line. Your name will promptly be removed from our list.

Savage River Watershed Association

**Marcellus Shale Follow-up # 17
February 24, 2013**

Emergency Action Alerts from [CitizenShale](#)

Three Letters of Support Due Monday Feb 25!

Make your voice heard! Help protect Maryland! Support three bills pertaining to shale gas development to be heard in Maryland's Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs (EHEA) Committee on Tuesday. Below are sample letters for each bill. You are encouraged to tailor your letters to your personal experience or situation. You may review detailed information about each bill and get hints about writing effective letters to your legislators on the [Maryland Legislature 2013](#) page of the CitizenShale website. Send each letter separately using this [form](#). Write "support" and the bill number (for example Support SB 601) in the subject line.

1. [Sample Letter 1](#) supporting SB 513 Bans the storage and treatment of fracking wastewater in Maryland
2. [Sample Letter 2](#) supporting SB 601 Legislative Moratorium on Permitting for natural gas well development
3. [Sample Letter 3](#) supporting SB 766 Requires land men (mineral leasing agents) to be registered to do business in Maryland

Copy and send each letter separately using this [form](#). Using the on-line form ensures that your letter will be included in the packet sent to each member of the committee before the hearing.

Attend Tuesday Feb 26 Hearing in Annapolis!

The most important legislative hearing yet on whether Maryland should develop its shale gas will happen in Annapolis on Tuesday, Feb. 26. If you care about your voice being heard, now is the time to raise it.

A bill to impose a highly restrictive moratorium - the strongest law of any state with shale gas reserves - will be debated in the Senate's Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs committee. The hearing is set to begin at 1 p.m. in the Senate office building.

This is the third consecutive year that western Marylanders have joined a statewide coalition trying to enact landmark legislation to impose strict controls on hydraulic fracturing. Previously, those efforts died in EHEA, chaired by Sen. Joan Carter Conway (D-Baltimore City).

Mizeur's bill, sponsored in the Senate by Baltimore County Sen. Bobby Zirkin, would prevent fracking until a state commission's scientific studies are completed and state regulators certify the process poses no unacceptable risks to humans or the environment. Maryland is in the national spotlight, and the industry fears a critical precedent - deep public involvement in shale gas development - being set if the law passes. Sen. Conway

again refusing to allow a vote by her 11-person committee would again prevent such a bill from reaching the Senate floor for a vote by the entire chamber.

As President Barack Obama said during his State of the Union address, Americans see a democracy broken by special interests. In this case, it's the oil and gas industry in Maryland. CitizenShale representatives and others attending the hearing on Tuesday will deliver a message to Sen. Conway and her committee: "We want and deserve a vote."

Anyone from western Maryland wishing to speak at the committee needs to register in advance, but you do not have to register just to attend the hearing and take part in a coordinated call to allow a vote. Please contact CitizenShale President Eric Robison at 301.533.3291, or board member Nadine Grabania at 301.746.4287, to have your name added to the growing list. Please wear a red shirt if you have one (but still come if you don't!). Car-pooling options are available, and every effort will be made to involve all those wishing to attend. **Please, we need a vote and we need your help.**

~~~~~  
**Savage River Watershed Association, Inc.**  
**PO Box 355, Frostburg, MD 21532**  
**301-689-7156**  
[srwadirector@gmail.com](mailto:srwadirector@gmail.com)

*SRWA is a group of local landowners and other citizens dedicated to preserving and enhancing the rural nature and natural resources of the Savage River watershed by assisting interested landowners and public land managers with environmental stewardship efforts and educational outreach.*

*Board Members: Kenny Braitman, Annie Bristow, John Fritts,  
Ed Gates, Carol McDaniel, Liz McDowell, Rich Raesly, Tom Wolfe*

*SRWA is a 501c3 non-profit charitable organization. Please consider joining or making a donation. For more information visit our web site at [www.savageriverwatershed.org](http://www.savageriverwatershed.org)*