

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 7, 2023

Contact: Sarah Carballo, Manager of Communications, FracTracker Alliance, carballo@fractracker.org, 304-266-6531

Shannon Smith, Executive Director, FracTracker Alliance, smith@fractracker.org, 814-449-0659

FracTracker Alliance Opposes Agreement Between Governor Shapiro and CNX

PITTSBURGH, PA — <u>An open letter released today</u> by Shannon Smith, executive director of FracTracker Alliance, opposes an agreement announced in November between Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro and CNX, a major natural gas producer based in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania.

The statement raises numerous concerns about the collaboration, emphasizing the discord between the state's purported environmental responsibility and the affiliation with CNX, specifically focusing on voluntary reporting over mandatory regulations.

In the letter, Smith highlights that the decision also disregards the extensive amount of data already available on the environmental and public health impacts of fracking, as well considerable federal funding to community-led air monitoring initiatives in Pennsylvania.

"The need for greater transparency in methodology, technology, and overall data quality cannot be overlooked," Smith states. "This partnership, with only a minuscule sample size of two CNX wells, fails to address the larger context of the state's numerous oil and gas wells and the associated issues concerning data transparency."

Smith further emphasized concerns about the effectiveness of the partnership and the commitment to holding CNX accountable for their actions.

"In 2021, as Attorney General, you charged CNX with environmental crimes, to which they pleaded no contest," Smith writes in the letter addressed to Governor Shapiro. "What is the explanation for placing your trust in the same company that you rightfully sought to hold accountable for environmental crimes?"



The statement reasons that <u>the partnership between CNX and the Shapiro Administration</u> is fundamentally incompatible with the Governor's promise to "advance commonsense measures that prioritize public health and safety."

FracTracker Alliance, a leading nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the public's right to understand the risks and impacts of oil and gas development, urges Governor Shapiro to address these concerns and take immediate action to ensure the protection of Pennsylvania's environment and communities.

###

FracTracker Alliance is a national 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that studies, maps, and communicates the risks and impacts of oil and gas development to protect our planet and support the renewable energy transformation. For more information, visit www.fractracker.org.