

Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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League joins in the call for a comprehensive health assessment prior to fracking

Raleigh- Today, Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League (BREDL) joined over 90 medical professionals and 25 organizations calling on the North Carolina General Assembly and Governor Pat McCrory to require that a health assessment be conducted before any fracking is allowed in North Carolina. A letter requesting the health assessment will be sent to Legislators and the Governor. At the press conference, health care providers spoke of the necessity of the health assessment and others held signs saying, “First Do No Harm,” and “An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure”.

Therese Vick, BREDL community organizer and the North Carolina Healthy, Sustainable Campaign Coordinator said, “Visiting the destruction that comes with fracking on communities is subjecting them to an uncontrolled public health experiment.” Vick went on to say, “Proposed rules currently being discussed by the Mining and Energy Commission will require health care providers to sign confidentiality agreements -essentially gag orders-which will create a bureaucratic nightmare and may delay treatment to those suffering the health problems which will come from this industry.” In addition to the other organizations, several BREDL chapters signed the letter; Person County PRIDE, Cumnock Preservation Association in Lee County and PeeDee WALL in Anson County.

BREDL is a North Carolina based grassroots environmental organization with chapters in seven states. .

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