In Re: April 21, 2011 meeting with DEQ
Office of Geological Survey and the
Oil & Gas Industry and Services Industry

Dear Governor Snyder:

The Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited (MITU) is writing this letter in response to the meeting on Thursday April 21, 2011 between the DEQ Office of Geological Survey (OGS) and the Oil & Gas Industry and Services Industry to discuss the disclosure of chemicals utilized during the fracking process. It is the Council’s understanding that the OGS has the flexibility to require, under current regulations, full disclosure of all chemical ingredients mixed with the fracking solution prior to this mixture being pumped into the ground. Research from several sources has indicated that fracking fluids contain many toxic chemicals such as hydrochloric acid, ethylene glycol, alcohol and benzene. All of which are harmful or carcinogenic to humans. In light of these findings we request that the OGS require the following:

- Prior to any fracking activities there should be a full disclosure of the type and amount of chemicals that are being utilized in the fracking process.
- Disclosure of the quantity of water to be used during the fracking process.
- The companies involved should monitor and disclose the volume of recovered fracking fluids (water, sand and chemicals) that flow back to the surface.
- The companies involved should monitor the disposal of recovered fracking waste water.
- There should be a mandate that water withdrawals for fracking are subject to the same regulations applied to other large water users.
- All of this information should easily accessed by the public on the DEQ website.

We have an obligation to protect and preserve Michigan’s fresh water. It is a precious and limited resource.

Sincerely,

Thomas Buhr
Chairman, MITU Oil & Gas Subcommittee

CC: MDEQ Director Dan Wyant; MDEQ OGS Division Chief Harold Fitch