

Senate Urban Affairs and Housing Committee Public Hearing on Housing
Tuesday October 4th, 2011 – 9:30am to 12:00 Noon

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To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Colby Fuser and I have been employed by Halliburton since October 2001. I have enjoyed the ability to work in different rural areas in the continental U.S. In August 2007, I was given the opportunity to help Halliburton open up our sales office in Canonsburg, PA, which is just south of Pittsburgh, PA. It was quite a shock moving from Oklahoma City, OK, to the Pittsburgh area. One of the primary differences was the cost of housing in Pennsylvania. My wife and I actually decided to rent for the first year as we could not find a house that we liked or could afford with the same amenities that we were used to. We finally found a house in Canonsburg and lived there until August 2011. At this time, I was transferred to run the operations for the cementing department out of Muncy, PA. This move was easier as we were already used to Pennsylvania living and understood the market. My wife searched on the internet and looked for about two months for housing that was available in our price range. From our estimate, we had to move from our current home price range and increase \$100,000 to purchase a home comparable to our home in Canonsburg. Then we made an offer on a house that had just been listed on the market two days earlier. All the other houses that we had looked at would have come with some type of compromise, whether it was quality, location, or size. The house we purchased was at a full-price offer. All in all, although renovations are needed, the house is in a great location (Stopper Drive) and the size is what we were looking for.

With the anticipated growth of the industry in Lycoming County, it is imperative that the housing is reasonably priced for quality homes. Unfair housing prices will overinflate the market and may have long-term negative effects. We have additional employees at various levels within the organization who have also had difficulty finding reasonable priced housing.

The most important part of Halliburton is our people, who work and live right here in Lycoming County and across the state. Halliburton has operated in the Northeast Area since 1953, and we have five facilities in Pennsylvania, with approximately 1,200 employees working in the state. About 85% of the employees were hired locally; the remaining employees are experienced personnel who have relocated to the area to assist with our growth. In the Lycoming County area, we employ more than 360 employees and have a very aggressive hiring plan for the next couple of years. Halliburton continues to invest in the Marcellus work and since June 2010, has hired nearly 900 people to work in the Marcellus Shale. The Company's payroll and taxes in Pennsylvania currently total more than \$70 million annually, and in the last

five years, Halliburton and the Halliburton Foundation have donated more than \$500,000 to charities, schools and universities in Pennsylvania.

Halliburton promotes a work-life balance for its people, and we know that a happy home is always beneficial to our employees. That's why we take great concern in making sure that the process our employees go through when they are purchasing a home is a good one. Making sure employees can find a quality home that is reasonably priced, rather than overinflated due to the growth of the industry, is important to long-term sustainability of Halliburton and the community at large in Lycoming County.

Sincerely,

Colby Fuser