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DRBC

To whom it may concern:

Issue:

Too much rainfall causing problems for hydraulic fracturing in New York State.

Details:

It is clear that a drought can have serious implications for the industry and the residents and agriculture of the Delaware River Basin. However, it may be worse if too much rainfall is recorded as well. Hurricane Irene, which devastated portions of the state in 2011 is a prime example of a disaster of the opposite proportion. A drought can force gas industry participants to compete with people for water resources. However, a flood could cause massive contamination of lakes and rivers, farms, fields, grazing lands, and municipal and private water supplies in the state. The industry would claim these are "acts of god" and be largely exempt from cleanup operations. The cleanup efforts will, therefore, fall on taxpayers.

Recommendation:

Until the state specifically requires gas companies to be responsible for all clean-up operations including "acts of god," such activity cannot be allowed in the Delaware River Basin.

Sincerely,