

Dorothy

Cassimatis

3 Featherbed Lane

Hillsborough

NJ

8844

cassimatis@aol.com

Dear Commissioners,

I encourage the Commission to fulfill its mission of protecting the Delaware River Basin by banning all fracking activities in the basin, including allowing fracking wastewater to be discharged into the basin and using water from the basin for fracking elsewhere. My family relies on well water for our water, and the thought that the commission would allow fracking wastewater with toxic materials to poison the aquifer we use is frightening. The Delaware River already falls below acceptable levels in the summer, and allowing the use of water for fracking elsewhere would violate the standards you are charged with meeting. Why would the commission allow such activities, and refuse to protect the basin and our natural resources as it is charged with doing?

The regulations proposed by the DRBC are setting up an unsustainable cycle of sending clean water out of the basin and bringing highly contaminated water into the basin. If we are to successfully combat climate change, we must stop our unsustainable practices and avoid implementing new ones.

The DRBC is considering fracking regulations it is not capable of enforcing. The Commission relies on the watershed states' environmental regulators to carry out enforcement of the rules it sets. State regulatory agencies are chronically understaffed and underfunded. It is unreasonable for the DRBC to place on state regulators the burden of enforcement of dangerous practices like fracking waste processing and extraction of water for fracking operations outside of the basin.

On March 13, leading scientists and physicians released the Compendium of Scientific, Medical, and Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of Fracking, 5th Edition documenting fracking's harm to public health. Please read all of the study's findings. Their conclusion, and mine, is that the only way to truly protect public health is to prohibit fracking and all its associated activities (waste hauling, treatment, disposal). I urge you to ban all of these activities in your final regulations.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Cassimatis