

Write DRBC NOW on the proposed frack ban and draft natural gas regulations! Comment period open to March 30, 5pm.

You can submit directly to DRBC here: <http://dockets.drbc.commentinput.com/?id=PGChb>

Submitted by:

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Your Comment here:

My name is Ling Tsou and I reside in New York City. I urge DRBC to issue regulations to completely and permanently ban fracking for natural gas and fracking related activities including water withdrawals and wastewater processing, storage and discharges throughout the Delaware River Watershed.

The Delaware River Basin provides drinking water to 15-17 million people in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware, including the urban areas of New York City and Philadelphia. The irreplaceable resources of the Delaware River Watershed with its important economic benefit to all four states will be gravely jeopardized by fracking and its polluting operations and must be protected for the public and future generations.

Fracking pollutes groundwater, destroying the quality of aquifers for generations to come. The toxic chemicals in fracking fluids will migrate to drinking water aquifers and to the surface. Considering groundwater flow, time, and the corrosive downhole environment created by gas extraction processes, including the lack of durability of the cement sealant and steel well casings, aquifers and surface waters are not sufficiently isolated from the toxic fluids and deep geology pollutants that are distributed by drilling and fracking. After exhaustive study, the State of New York prohibited fracking based on environmental and public health analysis.

Fracking uses enormous volumes of water. Water used for fracking is lost either by being polluted or by being consumed since most of the water injected for fracking is not recovered and is not returned to the source. This withdrawal of water depletes the surface waterway and/or groundwater from where it is taken. Considering that only 1% of the earth's water is drinkable, how we manage water will define our future and the future of the planet.

Substantial damage is caused by the toxic wastewater produced by fracking which contains many dangerous pollutants, including naturally occurring radioactive materials, that cannot be fully removed by treatment and those damages can substantially harm the water quality of our streams and the life in them. The supersized wells, with horizontal well bores up to four miles long use 10-20 million gallons of water per well. This increased use of water for fracking translates to a new glut of wastewater that must go somewhere. The need for more places to get rid of this waste water is a problem becoming so acute that the industry is now targeting the Delaware River Basin, and with these draft regulations, the DRBC is opening the door.

We urge DRBC to completely and permanently close this door. Thank you.