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The DRBC's proposed fracking regulations are a half-measure that won't protect the Delaware River Basin, or the people who rely on it.

The regulations leave the door open to both fracking waste and water withdrawals for fracking, endangering a drinking water source for millions of people. A ban in name only is wrong for the Delaware River Basin, and it's one we can't live with.

The Delaware River is a treasure that belongs to the public, not to the highest bidder. Fracking has no place anywhere near the Delaware River watershed — or anywhere else, for that matter.

The proposed regulations would not adequately protect the Delaware River Basin from the dangers of fracking. This is so, first, because repeated freshwater withdrawals, together with the impact of climate change, risk moving the "salt line", dividing fresh water from the ocean's salt water, dangerously close to Philadelphia's drinking water supply. I am a NYC resident, but I am concerned about every American's drinking water, and I know that NYC's water supply would also be jeopardized by these regulations.

Second, these regulations are woefully inadequate because they would allow discharges of fracking wastewater into streams and rivers. Researchers have found contamination, even after treatment by waste water plants specifically constructed for the purpose, for many miles downstream. They found fracking-related chemicals, including radium, barium, strontium, and chloride, as well as endocrine-disrupting and carcinogenic compounds. My source for this information is the Compendium of Scientific, Medical, and Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of Fracking (Unconventional Gas and Oil Extraction), Fifth Edition.

Substantial evidence shows that drilling and fracking activities, and associated wastewater disposal practices, inherently threaten groundwater and have polluted drinking water sources. The aforementioned Compendium makes this clear, and it is confirmed in the 2016 Final Report of the U.S. EPA on the impacts of fracking on the nation's drinking water.

I urge you to pursue a comprehensive ban on fracking and fracking-related activities and keep our water safe.