

1 giddy about natural gas development.
2 We respectfully request that the DRBC
3 bring its opposing treatment of the
4 same natural resource in harmony with
5 the SRBC. Thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER:

7 Thank you, ma'am.

8 On deck would be Larysa
9 Dyrszka, and excuse my awful
10 mispronunciation there. And then
11 let's see here, this is Robert
12 Friedman. Mr. Friedman, please.

13 MR. FRIEDMAN:

14 Thank you very much.

15 HEARING OFFICER:

16 Yes, sir.

17 MR. FRIEDMAN:

18 Good afternoon. Thank
19 you for allowing me to speak today.
20 My name is Rob Friedman. I'm a policy
21 advocate of the Natural Resources
22 Defense Council.

23 I'm here on behalf of
24 NRDC's over 400,000 members living in
25 DRBC member states and 2.4 million

1 members nationwide. I'm here to speak
2 in support of a full ban on fracking
3 in the watershed, one that is
4 inclusive of all aspects of the
5 fracking process, not just drilling,
6 but also the withdrawal of water for
7 fracking elsewhere and wastewater
8 treatment storage and disposal.

9 No aspect of the
10 fracking process belongs here, or for
11 that matter, anywhere. To quote the
12 draft resolution passed on this issue
13 this past September, whereas the
14 combination of hydraulic fracturing
15 with hydraulic horizontal drilling and
16 related activities for extracting
17 natural gas from type shale formations
18 presents risks, vulnerabilities and
19 impacts the surface and groundwater
20 resources across the country.

21 This statement could not
22 be more accurate. We've seen here in
23 Pennsylvania and across the country,
24 that gas drilling and wastewater
25 treatment and storage industrializes

1 our communities. Hundreds of peer
2 reviewed studies state that people
3 living in proximity to drilling and
4 wastewater injection wells are on
5 record, experiencing respiratory
6 issues, pregnancy complications, PTSD,
7 endocrine abnormalities, among other
8 symptoms.

9 While the regs include
10 --- that prohibit that, it is
11 currently incomplete. Specifically,
12 the rigs create a possibility of
13 opening the watershed to storage,
14 treatment and disposal of fracking
15 wastewater and allowing the withdrawal
16 of fresh water for fracking elsewhere.
17 This would be a step backwards.

18 Opening the river basin
19 to any aspect of fracking would
20 imperil the air, water, land and
21 health of our communities for
22 generations to come. Instead of
23 relying on the dirty, dangerous fossil
24 fuels of the past, we must transition
25 and diversify local economies towards

1 an industry that do not destroy our
2 drinking water, pollute our land, and
3 make our loved ones sick.

4 The bottom line is, that
5 no regulations can fully protect our
6 communities and the environment from
7 the dangers of fracking and its
8 associated activities. The science
9 backs that up. Only a full ban on
10 fracking in the watershed is
11 sufficient and it must include all
12 aspects of this dangerous practice
13 including the storage, treatment and
14 disposal of wastewater and the
15 withdrawal of water for fracking
16 elsewhere.

17 Let's not turn our
18 communities into industrial zones. I
19 stand here to ask that the DRBC take a
20 courageous stand for the residents of
21 the states that represent us at this
22 region and for future generations by
23 banning fracking in the Delaware River
24 Basin. Thank you.

25 HEARING OFFICER: