Gertrud Gerlach

My name is Trudy (Gertrud) Gerlach. Although I am from Bradford Co. PA, I spend every weekend in northern Wayne Co. where I enjoy the peace, quiet and unsullied environment of an area that does not have gas drilling and fracking. In my home county the disruption and damage to private wells and the environment nearby has been ongoing for some years now, so Wayne Co. within the Delaware River watershed is an oasis in so many ways. I hope with all my heart that you will keep it that way.

It has been shown (and I have personal evidence of this from Terry Township, Bradford Co.) that fracking harms surface and ground water, air, health and the quality of our natural surroundings. The quality of life deteriorates in areas of drilling and fracking: there is twenty-four hour truck traffic, drilling and fracking noise, strong night lighting, pollution from vehicles and equipment, accidents from trucks driving too fast and carelessly, damage from spills, and contaminated water wells. Fracking uses massive amounts of water, which is lost to the system.

I completely support the revised rules prohibiting high volume hydraulic fracking in the Delaware River Basin. However, I oppose allowing fracking wastewater to be stored, processed or discharge in the Delaware River watershed, and I oppose water from the DR basin being exported for fracking elsewhere. The Delaware River and basin and the watercourses flowing into it are relatively pristine, and a diminishment of the amount and quality of that water would be immensely harmful to the health and wellbeing of all the organisms in it, human and otherwise. I ask for a complete ban on fracking. Also, I oppose Reg. 440.4 (allowing water to be exported for fracking) and I oppose Reg. 440.5 (allowing fracking water to be stored, processed or discharged here). Thank you.