

Louise Usechak

<http://dockets.drbc.commentinput.com/?id=PGChb>

It would be unconscionable for the DRBC to allow the valuable water resources of the Delaware River Basin to be exported from a watershed which already has overwhelming demands on it and on which up to 17 million people rely for drinking water.

Adding insult to injury, this water would be heavily contaminated and used for an almost entirely consumptive water use outside the watershed. Already there have been times when those needing the water for drinking water purposes have struggled to get enough water from this watershed to fill reservoirs and this is and should be the highest priority.

Secondly, to open up the watershed to allow for the importing of and processing and discharge of what is arguably the most polluted part of the entire hydrofracking process – the wastewater that flows back -- would be to state that the DRBC does not care about public health and negative impacts on the environment and on the food chain.

There is NO process by which the industry can economically and feasibly remove all the contaminants, endocrine disruptors, heavy metals, and radioactive nuclides from this waste stream to even allow for safe discharge of the effluent to surface waters.

I urge you to take into account the increasingly erratic weather patterns that we will have to anticipate in the future, and in all areas over which you have control to prevent any activities associated with hydrofracking to be allowed within the watershed. Studies now completed show overwhelming evidence that there is no safe way to allow this activity and we are letting people be used as guinea pigs elsewhere with heartbreaking results. We look to you to protect this vital and precious water supply and keep the ecosystems which exist in the watershed healthy.

Sincerely,
Louise Usechak