

1 many of them in Philadelphia.

2 And this energy source
3 that we're going through all of
4 this for is completely
5 unnecessary. We have a lot of
6 other opportunities for energy.
7 And we have a lot of other
8 opportunities for a healthy way
9 to live and use our water.

10 So I'm not going to use
11 all of my time, so that others
12 can speak. I appreciate the
13 time you've given us. And I
14 urge you to make the right
15 choice and give a regenerative
16 energy plan a chance. Thank
17 you.

18 HEARING OFFICER:

19 The next three speakers
20 would be Joan Farb, then
21 Stephanie Herron, and then
22 Nancy Harkins. Your name is
23 Joan Farb?

24 MS. FARB:

25 Yes.

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HEARING OFFICER:

Ms. Farb, please.

MS. FARB:

I'm Joan Farb. I want to thank the Commission for having these hearings in order that residents like myself can speak about the proposed regulations for 2018.

It is imperative that there is a complete and permanent ban on natural gas drilling, and fracking, and all related activities, which include wastewater processing and discharges from fracking and water withdrawals from drilling and fracking.

Why a ban? Because there are many, many significant scientific studies showing detrimental impacts to public health and to the environment from these processes.

1 For example, the
2 Concerned Health Professionals
3 from New York and the
4 Physicians for Social
5 Responsibility assessed 685
6 peer-reviewed papers on gas
7 drilling and fracking. They
8 found that the majority of
9 these studies shows substantial
10 correlation between fracking
11 and illnesses such as cancer
12 and also pollution in air and
13 water.

14 Also, fracking has used
15 5 million to 10 million gallons
16 of water per well, and
17 presently, there is a trend to
18 an increase to 10 to 20
19 million.

20 This tremendous
21 withdrawal of water would go
22 against the DRBC water code
23 policy of protection and
24 preservation that states the
25 waters of the Delaware River

1 Basin are limited in quality.
2 And the basin is frequently
3 subject to drought warnings and
4 drought declarations due to
5 limited water storage supply
6 and stream flow during periods.

7 Therefore, the policy of
8 the Commission is to discourage
9 the exportation of water from
10 the Delaware River.

11 In addition, a DRBC
12 special protection water
13 regulation covering the entire
14 Delaware River is not allowing
15 any reduction in the quality of
16 the water in any manner.

17 These regulations remind
18 me of Benjamin Franklin who is
19 considered our first
20 conservationist. And he helped
21 created the Philadelphia Water
22 Commission. Franklin once said
23 when the well is dry, we know
24 the worth of water.

25 Thus DRBC, don't let the

1 well go dry for 17 million
2 people in the Delaware River
3 Basin. Ban fracking completely
4 and all related activities.
5 Thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER:

7 Stephanie Herron will be
8 next. And then Nancy Harkins.
9 And then Attorney Kim Ong. And
10 let's see. Ms. Herron, when
11 you are ready.

12 MS. HERRON:

13 Okay. My name is
14 Stephanie Herron. I'm with the
15 Delaware Chapter of the Sierra
16 Club. I am here with some of
17 our volunteers to testify on
18 behalf of our over 8,000
19 members in the state of
20 Delaware.

21 First off, I want to
22 thank you and thank the DRBC
23 for allowing us this
24 opportunity to comment. I also
25 would like to thank the DRBC