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EVERY aspect of fracking is dirty and destructive wherever it's permitted. The Delaware River Basin is an environmental treasure and is the largest river on the eastern seaboard. This environmentally sensitive area supplies clean drinking water for more than 17 million people. Due to its outstanding natural resources including high water quality and recreational value, large portions of the river have been designated as Wild and Scenic by the Department of Interior. The Delaware River is not just a state treasure, but a national one as well.

To preserve all the benefits we enjoy from the Basin, we must have a complete and permanent ban on any fracking-related activities. It is not enough, unfortunately, to ban only fracking itself. We cannot allow any water to be taken from it for any purpose associated with fracking. Nor can we allow fracking waste to be dumped here.

I strongly urge the Commission to address its duty to protect the drinking water for millions of people. You hold the fate of the Delaware River Basin in your hands. Unless you enact a total ban on any fracking activities, billions of gallons of our drinking water will continue to be taken out of the Delaware River and fracking waste will continue to be dumped into the river. It should be clear that the River Basin is a benefit for public needs, and should never be taken over by private companies to do as they wish. The Delaware belongs to the people, and you are its protectors. Thank you for considering my comments.