David Dow

When I was a co-op student at Drexel University, I participated Delaware River Estuary Comprehensive study which focused on
water pollution between Philadelphia and Wilmington, De. The upper river was pure and had excellent water quality/provided habitat for a variety of wildlife One of the long term goals of this study was to allow anadromous fish species like shad to
migrate up the saline portion of this estuary to breed in the clean freshwaters. Here on Cape Cod we have worked hard to improve water quality to allow sea run brook trout to reach their breeding areas.

You can imagine my dismay when I heard that Pennsylvania was allowing the disposal of oil/gas fracking wastes and excess fluids within the Delaware River Basin. I lived in Louisiana for 9 years and deep well injection of wastes created contamination of our underground drinking water aquifer. I wrote a report on the hazardous chemical situation in Louisiana, while at LSU's Institute of Environmental Quality, so that I well aware of the water and air pollution associated with the oil/gas industry. The
region along the Mississippi River from Baton Rouge to New New Orleans is referred to as "cancer alley) with many citizens getting their drinking water from the MR. You don't want to repeat this mistake in the Delaware River Basin, since a lot of resources (people and $) have gone into cleaning up the pollution zone from Philadelphia and Wilmington and allowing anadromous fish to swim from the bay to Trenton, NJ.

Most of the oil & gas profits go out of state and very few permanent jobs are provided at the local level. One is left with a mess to cleanup after the fracking stops which limits future socioeconomic opportunities on the land. It is easier to prevent water
pollution than clean it up after the fact. I have participated in Superfund cleanups at Bayou Bonfouca in Slidell, La. and Joint Base Cape Cod there in Falmouth and have learned this lesson well (an ounce of prevention is worth of ton of cure).

Thanks for considering these comments.