

## S. Paula Gallant

History has shown that humans, at great cost to themselves and to the environment, have embraced new technologies with little or no evidence as to the deleterious effects that can result. Only after much time has elapsed have we become aware and knowledgeable about the human cost, and how they can be eliminated or minimized. Such achievements as coal mining for energy (black lung disease) or the discovery of radioactivity (cancers) have resulted in many unnecessary risks to the health and welfare of individuals and communities.

The immediate cost to the areas where fracking occurs are well documented - roads torn up because of heavy trucks, water sources contaminated, people displaced - these are just some of the more easily noticed negative results. Long-term studies have not yet been completed - there has not been time yet since the technology was introduced on a massive scale.

I urge you to consider some of the possible negative impacts to both humans and the environment before allowing fracking in the Delaware River Basin. We cannot be too careful of a water source which has the potential of affecting the health of so many people!