

## Michael Wilk

As a kayaker and member of the National Canoe Safety Patrol on the Delaware River section from Callicoon to Port Jervis, I witness first hand the beauty, viability and economic development the river provides to the citizens of the US, Pennsylvania and New York. People from urbanized area of the northeast come to this area because of the nature, history, environment and water quality of the Delaware River.

I am also a resident of Monroe County within special protection watersheds.

The gas drilling industry has demonstrated their ability to pollute water and degrade streams in other parts of Pennsylvania. Monroe County is home to some of the best trout fishing in America. Our largely tourism based economy would be detrimentally impacted if shale gas play developers are permitted to install wells and frac in our special protection watersheds. Monroe County is also bordered by a special protection area, the middle Delaware National Scenic River, which offers visitors superb water quality for boating and fishing. It is also home to wildlife ranging from macro invertebrates to fishes to bald eagles and osprey.

Water withdrawals, waste water disposal, and other gas operations will cause irreparable economic and environmental harm to our watershed and river. The food chain of the Delaware river runs straight to our national emblem.

Please do not allow this activity and its negative impacts to degrade the water quality of the river basin, as required by law and insisted upon by the public. Please continue protecting the Eagles and all the other critters that depend on the river and cold clean waters that contribute to its flow.