

1 health and safety of our streams, lands
2 and people.

3 HEARING OFFICER:

4 Okay. Thank you, Mr.
5 Miles. And please excuse my
6 mispronunciation of names. With a name
7 like Ford, I'm not challenged on them
8 anyway. Okay. The next three speakers
9 will be Karen Feridun?

10 MS. FERIDUN:

11 Yes.

12 HEARING OFFICER:

13 Okay. Feridun, Karen
14 Feridun. And then there will be
15 followed --- she'll be followed by Bryn
16 Hammarstrom and then Joseph Hoffman.
17 Okay. Ms. Feridun, please.

18 MS. FERIDUN:

19 Thank you. My name is
20 Karen Feridun. I'm the founder of
21 Berks Gas Truth and I live in Berks
22 County in Kutztown. The Commissioners
23 are to be commended for the decision to
24 ban high volume hydraulic fracturing
25 throughout the Delaware River basin.

1 The draft regulations
2 document contains a background section
3 that states the use of hydraulic
4 fracturing to extract oil and natural
5 gas from shale formations presents
6 risks, vulnerabilities and impacts to
7 the quality and quantity of surface and
8 groundwater resources that have been
9 documented extensively, including
10 comprehensive reports by the New York
11 State Department of Environmental
12 Conservation and the United States
13 Environmental Protection Agency, among
14 others.

15 These reports identify
16 the risk to water resources associated
17 with each of the steps in the hydraulic
18 fracturing water cycle. The document
19 goes on to discuss those steps that
20 include both water acquisition and the
21 treatment of fracking waste. So it is
22 impossible to understand why the
23 Commission, in the same breath that it
24 bans fracturing for all the right
25 reasons, chooses to regulate water

1 extraction in the processing of
2 fracturing waste.

3 Pennsylvania has
4 experience with fracking that other
5 watershed states do not have. It's
6 been irresponsibly over the state,
7 fracking. Only six studies have been
8 done.

9 Ultimately, as has been
10 the case with bans and moratoriums
11 across the globe, Pennsylvania's
12 experience helped form the decision to
13 ban fracking in New York. Delegations
14 from New York came to Pennsylvania and
15 witnessed the damage firsthand.

16 There are more than 1,000
17 studies on fracturing. Much of the
18 data and the peer reviewed science the
19 Commissioners consulted comes from
20 Pennsylvania.

21 And so Pennsylvanians
22 know that fracking is simply not worth
23 it. They know what it's like to see
24 their private water supply permanently
25 fouled. They know what it's like to

1 see cattle die within an hour of
2 drinking from a contaminated stream.

3 They know what it's like
4 to stand in line at a volunteer water
5 bank every week for a few gallons of
6 clean water, in some cases, for years
7 with no end in sight. They know what
8 it's like to try to sell property with
9 a water buffalo in the front yard and
10 they know what it's like to submit
11 water complaints to state regulators
12 that fall on deaf ears.

13 When the Commission
14 chooses anything short of a ban on
15 fracking, on water extraction and on
16 waste processing, Pennsylvanians know
17 that it does a disservice to every
18 community in the watershed that will
19 quickly be exploited by an industry
20 that has always taken a mile when it
21 has been offered an inch and many times
22 when it hasn't.

23 Pennsylvanians know that
24 the water of the Delaware River Basin
25 for fracking will never return to us as

1 potable water. The water we get back
2 will be in such a highly polluted
3 condition that we'll have no choice but
4 to store it or dispose of it.

5 That is effectively an
6 unsustainable cycle the Delaware River
7 Basin Commission is proposing in the
8 staff regulations. The Commission must
9 remain its position and ban all of it.
10 Thank you.

11 HEARING OFFICER:

12 Thank you. Bryn
13 Hammarstrom would be next, and then
14 Joseph Hoffman and then Stephanie
15 Catarino Wissman. All right. This is
16 Mr. Hammarstrom? Okay. Sorry.

17 MR. HAMMARSTROM:

18 Bryn Hammarstrom. Not
19 --- I'm a member of Pine Creek
20 Headwater Protection Group, actually,
21 Vice President and Treasurer, but I'm
22 not speaking on their behalf, out of
23 Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. I grew up in
24 the Lehigh Valley, specifically near
25 Limeport. I drove down to this hearing