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Clean water is essential for both household and agricultural use, and treating chemically-contaminated water to make it safe for human use can be extremely expensive. The region's taxpayers must be protected from such potential costs. This requires extensive sampling of water supplies throughout the Delaware River Basin, before fracking permits are issued, to determine baseline values of relevant pollutants. Continued monitoring after fracking operations begin would then identify areas where water quality is impacted by any aspect of fracking, waste disposal, or gas extraction. The corporations that carry out these operations must commit, in advance, to paying the full cost of restoring water supplies to their original condition.